

anniversary when President John Adams signed into law an act establishing the Library of Congress, and appropriating the huge sum of \$5,000 for the purchase of the books. The celebration will include a free concert on the Capitol grounds, and other events inside the Library.

Mr. Speaker, I support this measure, I urge my colleagues to do the same, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is a genuine pleasure for me to rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 279.

As my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio, mentioned, it authorizes the use of the Capitol Plaza on April 24 for events commemorating the bicentennial of the Library of Congress.

This institution is America's national library, the oldest Federal cultural institution. It is the largest collection of information in the history of the world. We are hopeful that this event will highlight the important role that this library and all libraries play in our democratic society.

As the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) mentioned, the Library of Congress started with the magnificent sum of \$5,000 authorized under the act, signed into law by President John Adams. But by 1812, the collection had grown to a phenomenal 3,076 books. However, during the war of 1812, the library, along with other prominent Washington buildings, was burned and the collection was lost.

In 1850, Thomas Jefferson, who then had the largest personal library in America, sold his personal collection to the library for a modest sum, a few thousand more than that. It was very important not only because it helped restart the Library of Congress, but it changed the nature of the collection. Prior to that, the Library of Congress was very narrowly focused in terms of legal and historical topics, but because Thomas Jefferson was truly a renaissance man and had a wide sweep of volumes in a number of different languages that he had collected in his travels and service to our country, it included material on literature, and the nature of the library thus was fundamentally changed.

I am proud to say that due to the diligence of our outstanding staff and a little bit of luck, many of the original Jefferson volumes are still present, available in the rare book room for viewing. I am proud to say that it was a lot of fun just a week ago to view them once again.

Today's collection contains 119 million other items, books, photographs, maps, music, movies, manuscripts, microfilm, all viewed as the world's premier collection of knowledge. Of course, it is housed in the flagship building, I think the most magnificent in our Nation's capital, the Jefferson Building, which we recently celebrated its centennial in 1997 and its painstaking and loving restoration.

We are here today to celebrate the potential on April 24 for a long series of events which shall include the unveiling of commemorative coins and stamps, the opening of a major exhibit on Thomas Jefferson, and a national birthday party consisting of free musical performances open to the public.

I support this resolution, and I urge my colleagues, in joining me, to celebrate it in renewing our commitment to this important institution.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 279 to authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 200th birthday celebration of the Library of Congress.

This public event will be held on April 24. The daylong celebration will include musical performances and the opening of a major Library of Congress exhibition on Thomas Jefferson.

As with all events held on the Capitol Grounds this event will be free and open to the public. The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board will determine the conditions under which the event will be held.

On April 24, 2000, the Library of Congress celebrates its bicentennial commemoration. The Library was established as the fledgling legislature of the new Republic prepared to move from Philadelphia to the new capital city of Washington. On April 24, 1800, President John Adams signed into law an act that appropriated \$5,000 to purchase "such books as may be necessary for the use of Congress." The first books, ordered from London, arrived in 1801 and were stored in the U.S. Capitol, the Library's first home. The collection consisted of 740 volumes and three maps.

A year later, President Thomas Jefferson signed the first law defining the role and functions of the new institution. This measure created the post of the Librarian of Congress and gave Congress, through a Joint Committee on the Library, the authority to establish the Library's budget and its rules and regulations. From the beginning, however, the institution was more than just a legislative library. The 1802 act permitted the President and Vice President to borrow books; a privilege that, in the next three decades, was extended to most government agencies and the judiciary.

President Jefferson, a man who stated he could not live without books, was a key architect to the Library that we know today. Jefferson took a keen interest in the Library and its collection while he was President of the United States from 1801–1809. Throughout his presidency, Jefferson personally recommended books for the Library and he appointed its first two Librarians.

In 1814, the British army invaded the city of Washington and burned the Capitol, including the 3,000-volume Library of Congress. In response, Jefferson, then retired at Monticello, sold his personal library, the largest and finest in the country, to Congress to "recommence" its library. The 6,487-volume library that Jefferson sold to Congress, not only included twice as many books as the destroyed Library, it expanded the scope of the Library far beyond the bounds of a legislative library devoted primarily to legal, economic, or historical works. The "new" Library contained books on architecture, the arts, science, literature, and geography. It contained books in French, Spanish, German, Latin, Greek, and one three-volume

statistical work in Russian. Anticipating the argument that his collection might be too comprehensive, Jefferson argued that: "There is, in fact, no subject to which a Member of Congress may not have occasion to refer." As today's Librarian of Congress, Dr. James Billington, recently pointed out: "That statement has guided the collecting policies of the Library of Congress to this day and is one of the main reasons why the institution's collections have a breadth and depth unmatched by any other repository."

Today's Library contains nearly 119 million books, maps, manuscripts, photographs, sound recording, and motion pictures. It has more than 18 million books, 30,000 newspapers, 4.5 million maps, and 12 million photographs on its 530 miles of bookshelves. The Library collects materials in more than 460 languages and has acquisition offices throughout the world, from Rio de Janeiro to New Delhi.

There have been 13 Librarians of Congress since its inception, and each Librarian has faced unique challenges. Throughout the 1990's and into the new century, the challenge is adapting the Library to the digital age. As it has throughout its history, the Library leads the way. The Library has enhanced public access to the Library through the National Digital Library. The Library's THOMAS system of legislative information serves Congress and the public each day.

We join Dr. Billington in acknowledging how libraries have influenced our lives, and we celebrate with him one of America's true national treasures, the Library of Congress.

I urge all Members to support adoption of this resolution.

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I urge the passage of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 279, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS RESTORATION ACT OF 2000

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4052) to preserve certain reporting requirements under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4052

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Transportation and Infrastructure Reports Restoration Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS REGARDING WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) EXEMPTIONS FROM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.—Section 313(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1323(a)).

(2) HEALTH HAZARDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION.—Section 501(d) of Public Law 91-515 (42 U.S.C. 4394(d)).

(3) REVIEW OF REMEDIAL ACTIONS AT CERTAIN FACILITIES TO ENSURE PROTECTION OF HUMAN HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.—Section 121(c) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9621(c)).

(4) DESIRABILITY OF ADJUSTING OIL POLLUTION LIABILITY LIMITS.—Section 1004(d)(3) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(d)(3)).

(5) WORK OF RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS.—Section 204 of the Water Resources Planning Act (42 U.S.C. 1962b-3(2)).

(6) AGENCY COMPLIANCE WITH COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES ACT.—Section 7 of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3506).

(7) COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT.—Section 316(a) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1462(a)).

(8) GREAT LAKES RESOURCES ON WHICH RESEARCH IS NEEDED.—Section 118(d)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(d)(2)).

(9) ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COSTS FOR FACILITIES SUBJECT TO BASE CLOSURE LAWS.—Section 2827(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (105 Stat. 1551).

(10) COMPLIANCE WITH ANNEX V OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS.—Section 2201 of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 (33 U.S.C. 1913).

(11) COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FUND.—Section 308(b)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1456a(b)(3)).

(12) RESULTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING ACTIVITIES.—Section 104B(j)(4)(B) of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1414b(j)(4)(B)).

(13) ATSDR RESULTS ON HEALTH ASSESSMENTS.—Section 104(i)(10) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9604(i)(10)).

(14) NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—Section 320(j)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(j)(2)).

(15) MONITORING FOR COASTAL WATERS.—Section 112(m)(5) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412(m)(5)).

(16) COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR LONG ISLAND SOUND.—Section 119(c)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1269(c)(7)).

(17) IMPLEMENTATION OF GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY AGREEMENT OF 1978.—Section 118(c)(10) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(10)).

(18) EFFECTS OF POLLUTION ON NATION'S ESTUARIES.—Section 104(n)(3) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1254(n)(3)).

(19) NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND COSTS OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL.—Section 516 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1375).

(20) REGULATION OF OCEAN DUMPING.—Section 112 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1421).

(21) ESTUARINE MONITORING PROGRAM OF ORGANOTIN.—Section 7(a) of the Organotin Antifouling Paint Control Act of 1988 (33 U.S.C. 2406(a)).

(22) PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTING CERCLA.—Section 301(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9651(h)).

(23) STATUS OF WATER QUALITY IN UNITED STATES LAKES.—Section 314(a)(3) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1324(a)(3)).

(24) STATE REPORTS ON WATER QUALITY OF ALL NAVIGABLE WATERS.—Section 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1315(b)).

(25) LAKE WATER QUALITY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Section 314(d)(3) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1324(d)(3)).

(26) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REPORTS (TVA).—Section 9(a) of the Tennessee Valley Authority Act of 1933 (16 U.S.C. 831h(a)).

(27) LEVEL B PLAN ON ALL RIVER BASINS.—Section 209(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1289(b)).

(28) REPORTS ON CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO RELATING TO PROCUREMENT FROM VIOLATORS OF WATER QUALITY STANDARDS.—Section 508(e) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1368(e)).

SEC. 3. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS REGARDING SURFACE TRANSPORTATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 111(j) of title 49, United States Code.

(2) CURRENT PERFORMANCE AND CONDITION OF PUBLIC MASS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.—Section 308(e) of title 49, United States Code.

(3) STATE ENFORCEMENT OF VEHICLE WEIGHT LIMITATIONS.—Section 123(c) of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1978 (23 U.S.C. 141 note; 92 Stat. 2701).

(4) STATE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING HIGHWAY HAZARD ELIMINATION AND HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSING PROGRAMS.—Section 130(g) of title 23, United States Code.

(b) STATE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING HIGHWAY HAZARD ELIMINATION AND HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSING PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 130(g) of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(g) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

“(1) STATE REPORTS.—Each State shall report to the Secretary not later than December 30 of each year on the progress being made to implement the railway-highway crossings program authorized by this section and to implement safety improvement projects for hazard elimination authorized by section 152 and the effectiveness of such improvements. Each State report shall contain an assessment of the cost of, and safety benefits derived from, the various means and methods used to mitigate or eliminate hazards and to improve railway-highway crossings and the previous and subsequent accident experience at improved locations.

“(2) SECRETARY'S REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives not later than April 1 of each year, on the progress being made by the States in implementing projects to improve railway-highway crossings and in implementing the

hazard elimination program (including any projects for pavement marking). The report shall include, but not be limited to, the number of projects undertaken, their distribution by cost range, road system, nature of treatment, means and methods used, and the previous and subsequent accident experience at improved locations. In addition, the Secretary's report shall analyze and evaluate each State program, identify any State found not to be in compliance with the schedule of improvements required by subsection (d) and section 152(a), and include recommendations for future implementation of the railroad highway crossings and hazard elimination programs.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 152 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (g) and by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (g).

(c) CURRENT PERFORMANCE AND CONDITION OF PUBLIC MASS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.—Section 308(e) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking “in March 1998, and in March of each even numbered year thereafter,” and inserting “, together with each infrastructure investment needs report made under section 502(g) of title 23.”.

SEC. 4. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS REGARDING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) ANNUAL REVIEW OF FEDERAL AND STATE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RELIEF PROGRAMS.—Section 313 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5156).

(2) AMOUNT OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.—Section 503(b)(3) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5193(b)(3)).

SEC. 5. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) LEASING OF HOUSING FACILITIES NEAR COAST GUARD INSTALLATIONS.—Section 475(e) of title 14, United States Code.

(2) COAST GUARD OPERATIONS AND EXPENDITURES.—Section 651 of title 14, United States Code.

(3) SUMMARY OF MARINE CASUALTIES REPORTED DURING PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.—Section 6307(c) of title 46, United States Code.

(4) USER FEE ACTIVITIES AND AMOUNTS.—Section 664 of title 14, United States Code.

(5) CONDITIONS OF PUBLIC PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES.—Section 308(c) of title 49, United States Code.

(6) ACTIVITIES OF FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION.—Section 208 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 App. U.S.C. 1118).

(7) ACTIVITIES OF INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON OIL POLLUTION RESEARCH.—Section 7001(e) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2761(e)).

SEC. 6. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) ACTIVITIES UNDER PUBLIC WORKS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1965.—Section 603 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3213).

(2) ACTIVITIES UNDER APPALACHIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1965.—Section

gional development act of 1965.—Section 304 of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 (40 U.S.C. App. 304).

SEC. 7. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO RAILROADS.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD ACTIVITIES.—Section 1117 of title 49, United States Code.

(2) NTSB LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS AND BUDGET ESTIMATES.—Section 1113(c) of title 49, United States Code.

(3) NTSB RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESPONSES.—Section 1135(d) of title 49, United States Code.

(4) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 704 of title 49, United States Code.

(5) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 703(f) and (g) of title 49, United States Code.

(6) NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 4 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 154).

(7) RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 7(b)(6) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231f(b)(6)).

(8) RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT.—Section 22(a)(1) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231u(a)(1)).

(9) ACTUARIAL STATUS OF RAILROAD RETIREMENT SYSTEM.—Section 502 of the Railroad Retirement Solvency Act of 1983 (45 U.S.C. 321f-1).

(10) AMTRAK REPORTS AND AUDITS.—Section 24315 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 8. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) CONSERVATION IN FEDERAL FACILITIES.—Section 403(a)(2) of the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 8373(a)(2)).

(2) ACTIVITIES OF ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD.—Section 7(b) of Public Law 90-480 (42 U.S.C. 4157(b)), commonly known as the "Architectural Barriers Act of 1968".

SEC. 9. PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO AVIATION.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) TRANSPORTATION SECURITY.—Section 44938(a) of title 49, United States Code.

(2) SCREENING OF FOREIGN AIR CARRIER AND AIRPORT SECURITY.—Section 44938(b) of title 49, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4052 would restore certain reporting requirements for agencies under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure that would otherwise be

eliminated as part of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995.

Section 3003 of that Act eliminated thousands of reports that had been required by the Congress and were referenced in a communication from the Clerk of the House dated January 5, 1993. The 1995 Act had provided for a sunset date of December 21, 1999. Section 236 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act for year 2000 extended this deadline until May 15 of 2000.

While the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act will reduce unnecessary paperwork and reduce agency expenditure, it would also inadvertently delete the requirement for certain reports that the committee believes are necessary in executing its oversight responsibilities.

H.R. 4052 corrects this by providing that the 1995 Act does not apply to specified reports. This will affect a small percentage of the total number of reporting requirements eliminated by the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act. The number of reports restored by this bill is a paltry 61.

The bill does not address prospectuses or 11-b reports submitted to the Committee by the General Services Administration under the Public Buildings Act of 1959, since these reports do not fall under the definition of reports to be eliminated. The Committee received correspondence from the GSA stating that these reports will continue to be submitted.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, I urge its adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as was mentioned by my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio, H.R. 4052 is a bill to restore transportation reports that were to automatically sunset on May 15 pursuant to the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995, as amended.

The Reports Sunset Act eliminated all annual or periodic reports listed in the 1993 report of the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Some of those reports, such as the President's annual budget, are tremendously important and should not be eliminated.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, on a bipartisan basis, reviewed the reports that fall within our committee's jurisdiction and determined which bills are necessary to maintain. This bill ensures that those important reports will not sunset.

These include a series of reports on such important items as water; air pollution; the safety, condition, and performance of our Nation's roads, highways, transit systems, bridges, and airports.

I strongly support the passage of H.R. 4052, and want to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), the ranking member, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), and the

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for developing and passing this bipartisan legislation.

I note in passing that this, as reflected by our colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), that there is in fact a better way of doing this, to take the sunset provisions and have them triggered by a proactive set of positive events, so that we are not in a position of unilaterally sunsetting provisions that really should not be, but instead, having sort of performance indicators of why we want things to disappear, and that they would do so automatically when it is appropriate.

I look forward to pursuing this concept with our committee and staff to see if there is not a way to avoid going through this process in the future.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4052. This bill restores reports that "sunset" on May 15, 2000, pursuant to the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995, as amended. The Reports Sunset Act eliminated all annual or periodic reports listed in the 1993 Report of the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Some of these reports, such as the President's annual budget, are tremendously important and should not be eliminated.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, on a bipartisan basis, has reviewed the reports that fall within our Committee's jurisdiction and determined which reports are necessary to maintain. This bill ensures that those important reports will not sunset.

I thank Chairman SHUSTER and all of our Subcommittee Chairmen and Ranking Members for working together to develop this bill. I urge all Members to support H.R. 4052.

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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 Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4052.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FRANK J. BATTISTI AND NATHANIEL R. JONES FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1359) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse to be constructed at 10 East Commerce Street in Youngstown, Ohio, as the "Frank J. Battisti and Nathaniel R. Jones Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1359

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,