

So I again express my heartfelt condolences, and encourage all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. 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 Michigan (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 313.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REVISING CERTAIN GRANTS FOR CONTINUUM OF CARE ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3699) to revise certain grants for continuum of care assistance for homeless individual and families.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3699

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

SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Notice of Funding Availability for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs for fiscal year 2001, or any action taken in furtherance of such Notice, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall not award a grant pursuant to such Notice to Liberty Center for the Homeless Incorporated in excess of \$459,600. If an award has been made to such Center in excess of such amount before the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall modify the award and distribute the amounts in excess of \$459,600 to other applicants from the Jacksonville, Florida, Continuum of Care in the order listed in the project priority chart contained in their application.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 3699.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3699 is a simple technical correction to the continuum of care application submitted by the Jacksonville, Florida, local government and nonprofit organizations in response to the annual application process for homeless assistance funding administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Because of an error in the submitted application, and the interpretation of the HUD Reform Act that would prohibit HUD personnel from amending the application to make the corrections, statutory language is necessary. This bill will merely change the dollar amount to be distributed to the Liberty Center for the Homeless, Incorporated, to reflect an annual amount as opposed to a 10-year amount inadvertently included in the application.

Enactment of this bill and the technical correction will allow the city of Jacksonville and its nonprofit organizations to receive its entire homeless funding under Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

While it appears that this is a very minor technical problem, its impact has brought significant disruptions to the efforts of very worthy nonprofit organizations and the city of Jacksonville to coordinate and provide needed services to homeless individuals and families.

□ 1530

I want to thank the Department of Housing and Urban Development for their assistance in resolving this issue. More importantly, however, I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) for bringing this issue to the attention of the Committee on Financial Services so that we can provide a legislative resolution.

This bill is noncontroversial and has support from the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. ROUKEMA) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, as well as the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE), chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Financial Services.

I urge all Members to support H.R. 3699.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW).

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3699. As has been stated, it simply corrects an administrative and clerical error in a grant application. This legislation corrects a horrible wrong that would inadvertently defund numerous projects in Jacksonville, Florida. This legislation simply turns back the clock to the date that the 11 members of the coalition sat down together and submitted a consolidated continuum-of-care application to help Jacksonville's homeless outreach projects. It does not authorize

any additional funding. It only restores the original intent of the homeless coalition's continuum-of-care application allowing funding to be restored to all existing projects and to begin funding for new projects.

Let me again repeat, this legislation will not cost the taxpayers any additional funds; and it will not change the original grant award amount. I want to thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) for joining me as an original cosponsor of this legislation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 3699.

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I want to apologize for being a little late, but I am pleased to learn that some of the colleagues who preceded us were more concise than I had anticipated. Perhaps I am being too pessimistic about their ability.

I agree very much with what the gentleman from Florida has just said. Let me say as the ranking minority member on the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity that this is an issue that was brought to my attention early and persistently and persuasively by the gentlewoman from Florida whom the gentleman from Florida has graciously mentioned. I know they worked together on this. She pointed out that this was a matter, as has been explained, that would cost the government nothing; it was simply correcting an error.

I should say this, Mr. Speaker. As a member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, I hope that the chairman will agree that we can take up legislation that would make this sort of bill unnecessary, that is, there needs to be a capacity at HUD to correct errors of this sort. People make errors. I have had a couple of other cases that were brought to me by Members where errors were made. We have one that I hope will be coming down the pike. I know the minority and majority staffs are working with people from Indiana to try and straighten out one from Indianapolis.

I think a little history is helpful. We had terrible scandals at HUD in the early 80s. When a former member of this body, Jack Kemp, became the Secretary of HUD under the Presidency of George Bush, we worked together, the then Democratic majority in the Congress and Jack Kemp, to tighten up the rules so that the kind of abuses that had happened in the 80s would not happen again. But we appear to have overtightened. We were worried about the abuse of discretion; and we, as sometimes is the case, went too far in the other direction.

So I look forward to working with Secretary Martinez and with the majority on the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity so that we can restore some common sense, I think we have done a good deal of trying to get rid of the corruption, and the legislation of this sort would not be necessary.

Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that this legislation is being passed for two reasons: first, because it will give some relief to the people of Jacksonville; and, secondly, because I will not now have three conversations a day with my good friend from Jacksonville, Florida (Ms. BROWN), who has been simply indefatigable in working for her constituents on this subject.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) since it will no longer be mine.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) so much for his leadership and help in this matter that greatly affects the people of Jacksonville. I also want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW) for his hard work in helping to bring this bill to the floor.

I cannot begin to explain how important this legislation is to the homeless service providers in our hometown of Jacksonville, Florida. Unless this legislation is passed and signed into law, two long-time agencies will stop serving their clients and terminate 16 jobs.

On February 28, the Quest program, which provides psychiatric medication management to over 200 clients, and Goodwill Industries, which last year placed 534 homeless clients in jobs, will end their service. There are also eight other major providers that will be forced to make the same hard decision. This legislation is the only thing that will prevent hundreds of homeless clients from being returned to the streets. Let me repeat this. This is the only thing that will stand in the way of hundreds of homeless clients being returned to the streets. I hope the Senate and the President will quickly get this legislation passed and signed into law. These folks have a tough job to do, and we need to put them back to work.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3699.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMENDING NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION REGARDING NATIONAL CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 326) commending the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for their efforts to remind parents and care givers to use child safety seats and seat belts when transporting children in vehicles and for sponsoring National Child Passenger Safety Week.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 326

Whereas great progress has been made in increasing the use of child safety seats in vehicles, which has reduced the number of deaths of children involved in traffic accidents, but much more remains to be done;

Whereas more than half of all children killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2000 were completely unrestrained;

Whereas motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children ages 4 to 14;

Whereas child safety seats reduce fatal injury by 71 percent for infants and by 54 percent for toddlers in passenger cars; and

Whereas the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration sponsors National Child Passenger Safety Week, February 10 through 16, 2002, to help remind parents and care givers that all children should be placed in child safety seats every time they ride in a car or truck: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress commends the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for its efforts to remind parents and care givers to use child safety seats and seat belts when transporting children in vehicles and for sponsoring National Child Passenger Safety Week, February 10 through 16, 2002.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BORSKI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI).

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge strong support for this timely resolution. This non-controversial resolution praises the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for its efforts to remind parents and care givers to use child safety seats and seat belts. It is fitting that the House consider this resolution this week. February 10 through 16 is National Child Passenger Safety Week. In fact, our action today is what National Child Passenger Safety Week is all about, raising public awareness for this important issue.

On June 27, 2001, nearly 8 months ago, the House passed the extension of the Child Passenger Protection Education Grant program, H.R. 691, offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR). While this legislation is yet to be considered by the other body, the program was fully funded this budget year. This valuable program actually prevents deaths and injuries to chil-

dren. It educates parents as to the proper installation of child restraints, and it trains child passenger safety personnel concerning child restraint use. The gentleman from Minnesota has crafted good legislation, and it would be fitting for its consideration and passage by the other body this week during National Child Passenger Safety Week.

As necessary as the resources H.R. 691 will provide to the States, the job of raising public awareness is important. With motor vehicle crashes being the leading cause of death for children between the ages of 4 to 14, more must be done. Private involvement must be an active component in a successful campaign.

With that in mind, I would like to highlight a relatively new program, that by the Chrysler Motor Corporation, called Fit for a Kid. In this program, a parent can bring their car, regardless of its make, to a participating dealer to learn how to properly fit their child seat. This program, and others like it, are critical elements aimed to raise awareness and increase child protection knowledge.

Federal funds coupled with awareness campaigns, both complemented by fitting stations, will be vital as we work toward reducing child fatalities. I would like to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) for his well-timed resolution and ask that my colleagues support the passage of House Concurrent Resolution 326.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in the last 25 years, the Nation has made significant gains in child passenger safety. Since then, more than 4,800 children's lives have been saved because of child restraint systems. While the fatality rate for children has decreased steadily, due to population increases and a doubling of highway miles traveled, the number of deaths has not dropped as rapidly. In the year 2000 alone, 2,343 children under the age of 14 were killed and 291,000 were injured in highway crashes. This is a record we can and must improve upon.

Without doubt, the single most effective way to protect our children in the event of a crash is to ensure that all children are buckled up in appropriate restraint systems on every trip. Children aged 2 to 5 who use seat belts rather than child safety seats are 3½ times more likely to be injured in a crash and four times more likely to receive a significant head injury. That is why it is important to remind parents that all children should be placed in child safety seats, booster seats, or seat belts every time they ride in a car or truck. That is why I strongly support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, we can do more. Federal grant in aid programs are available to help States reduce the toll of death and