

helpful they have been, \$1 billion for Turkey which their ambassador says is a unilateral act on the part of the United States of America. They have not asked for it and they do not want it, but we are going to give them that billion. We are going to borrow it, and give it to them.

Billions to rebuild Iraq including 6,000 schools. Universal health care is going to be implemented in Iraq. We already have a request for a proposal online from the United States Government to provide that.

What about here at home? What about our schools? What about the 44 million Americans that do not have health care? Not a penny of emergency spending in this bill for them. And then finally we have of course port security, first responders. Where are the funds we need to defend our country and where is the money the airline workers have been waiting for? For 18 months we promised them they would get money next week, 18 months ago.

“PORKER OF THE WEEK” AWARD

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, Boston's Big Dig and Virginia's Mixing Bowl are characterized by cost overruns and boggled timelines. The Big Dig in Boston has turned into one of our biggest boondoggles. The project which already costs more than twice as much as it did to build the Panama Canal was estimated in 1985 to cost \$2.6 billion. Eighteen years later the project still is not completed and the costs are more than \$14 billion and are expected to go to \$18 billion. So also the cost projections for the Mixing Bowl have tripled with the latest estimate approaching \$1 billion. Lax oversight and consistently low estimates of cost and money have also hampered the completion date which was slated for 2007. That slipped.

These projects represent huge investments by State, local, and the Federal governments, and Americans have the right to expect Federal projects to be well managed and completed on time and on budget. Because the Federal Highway Administration has done little to stem the runaway spending on these two projects, it gets my “porker of the week” award.

TRIBUTE TO KAREN L. ROBINSON

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very good friend of mine and Costa Mesa's mayor, Karen L. Robinson. Mayor Robinson was recently appointed as a judge of the Orange County Superior Court, making her the first black woman appointed to our county bench.

Robinson currently supervises five attorneys as the litigation counsel coordinator for the California State University System, and she also serves as a judge pro tempore, presiding over small-claims cases for the county's municipal and superior courts.

Robinson's appointment as a judge is not the first time that she has made history. In 2000 she was named to the Costa Mesa City Council and in 2002 was named mayor. Both are firsts for an African American in that city in Orange County.

I would like to congratulate Robinson on her outstanding achievements and all of her contributions to our community, and I know that she will have even more successes in her career, and I wish her the best.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE NAVAL RESERVE

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, seven carriers and air wings are deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom. I want to focus on a Carrier Reserve Squadron being assigned to Carrier Air Wing Eight aboard the USS *Roosevelt*. The Squadron is Strike Fighter 201, VFA-201, flying the F-18 Hornet. They are part of the 11th Carrier Air Wing, Carrier Air Wing Reserve 20, headquartered in Atlanta.

This is the first naval reserve F-18 squadron ever mobilized aboard a carrier with an active duty wing, and 201's combat record demonstrates the capability of our reserve air crews. Since October VFA-201 mobilized over 100 Reservists transitioning to the F/A-18 Alpha Plus and deployed aboard USS *Theodore Roosevelt* in January.

Every aviator has crews and combat experience of over 1,000 flight hours, many logging more than 2,000 hours in type. Reservists of 201 provide leadership to the wing in strike planning, flight execution, and carrier operations. Their experience in operations around the world and in adversary tactics aid Air Wing readiness. This reserve squadron's boarding rate and landing grades exceeded all other active duty Air Wing Eight squadrons.

Early in the morning of March 23, the “hunters” of VFA-201 made history carrying out our initial strikes and destroyed a communications complex south of Baghdad. The pilots, sailors, and jets are performing magnificently. Morale is high and they are continuing to operate Air Wing Eight in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Naval Reserve TACAIR is alive, underbudget, and on target. This success story is what our Naval Air Reserve squadrons bring to the table in time of war: experience, peacetime active duty support, and surge capability. The Reservists are our best and brightest. They form the backbone of a low-cost military insurance policy America needs.

ADDRESSING HOMELAND SECURITY

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership today is bringing up a spending bill primarily to pay for the war, and I certainly understand it and will support it; but they have precluded the Democrats from adding and actually addressing in a better way the issue of homeland security. We know that after 9-11 we have to do a lot more to protect problems at home, whether it be water utilities or railroad opportunities or our ports and cargo coming into ports. And what the Democrats have been saying over and over again is that this bill that comes up today, and basically the Republican leadership in general are not doing enough to look at the problem of homeland security.

We were told that we could not bring up an amendment that would have added money to pay for these various functions here at home. They should have allowed us here to do this. It is not fair to not let the Democrats who are a minority, but not a minority by much, to have the opportunity to debate and bring up a bill that would put more money to address these problems whether it is tunnels, whether it is your local water supply, whether it is helping with grants for local firefighters or police so that they can better respond and understand what to do in case of a biological or chemical attack. This is what my constituents are telling me that they are very concerned about. Of course they are concerned about the war, and we have to finance the war operations against Iraq. But we also have to be concerned about what happens here. I saw what happened in the aftermath of the attack on the World Trade Center. We are not prepared. Let the Democrats bring up that amendment and address the problem of homeland security more effectively.

FISCAL YEAR 2003 SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING BILL

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I have come before the American people today to express my deep concern over the situation affecting our domestic airlines. Today we will be voting to appropriate a supplemental budget. Within this budget there will be much needed, in fact, critical funding for our troops who are currently engaged in combat with Iraq. This funding bill will also include payments to our domestic airlines to help fund security measures in response to the September 11 attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I support both components of this supplemental spending

bill. However, Mr. Speaker, it has become hard to understand that in these times of economic hardship why airline industry executives would take millions of dollars in bonuses while each of the companies is laying off large portions of its workforce while mired in billions of dollars of red ink. The airline industry must exercise fiscal restraint. I would hope that all of these companies would tighten their belts especially if we are going to ask the taxpayers of this country to help carry the burden of their business.

SECURITY FOR OUR PORTS

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, unfortunately, the Democrats will not be allowed to offer an amendment that would dramatically increase the security of this Nation from terrorist activities, and that is an amendment to provide for the nuclear detection of nuclear devices that might be put into containers in ports overseas. We have 6 million containers a year that come to the United States. The CIA has told us, the intelligence agencies have told us that this is one of the prime ways to deliver nuclear material by a terrorist. The Hart-Rudman Commission that warned us of 9-11 prior to 9-11 has warned us that this is the main way in which a terrorist would have an opportunity to deliver a nuclear device. But what do we do? We wait until the containers get to the port of San Francisco, to the port of Oakland, to the port of New Jersey, to the port of Miami to then check them.

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It is too late if they get inside of our ports.

If a nuclear device went off in one of our ports, it would not only devastate hundreds of thousands of lives, it would not only devastate the city, it would devastate the world economy.

The Democratic amendment should have been allowed so we can check these containers before they leave Asia, before they leave Europe, before they leave Africa. That is security for the Nation.

RECOGNIZING TEXAS WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY AND THE TEXAS WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME EXHIBIT IN HUBBARD HALL

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Texas Women's University and Chancellor Ann Stuart on the grand opening of the Texas Women's Hall of Fame exhibit in Hubbard Hall in Denton, Texas.

The Texas Governor's Commission for Women created the Texas Women's

Hall of Fame in 1984 to honor the State's most outstanding women. The Hall of Fame recognizes Texas women who have obtained significant personal or professional achievements, including former first ladies, teachers, athletes and astronauts.

There have been 114 women inducted into the Hall of Fame and this exhibit will honor these outstanding ladies and their extraordinary accomplishments. Photographs and biographies of the inductees line the walls of Texas Women's Hall of Fame to inspire future generations in this prestigious group.

One of the original inductees is Dr. Mary Evelyn Blagg Huey, my former neighbor and former Texas Women's University president and the second woman to become president of a State university in Texas. This year's inductees were: Ann Williams, Texas Women's University regent and founder of the Dallas Black Dance Theater; Johnnie Marie Benson, a health care advocate; Karen Hughes, advisor to George W. Bush; and Sister Angela Murdaugh.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Ann Stuart and this year's inductees for their service to the community and to the fine State of Texas.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1559, EMERGENCY WARTIME SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 172 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 172

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1559) making emergency wartime supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except

one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Last night, the Committee on Rules met and granted an open rule to H.R. 1559, the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2003.

Mr. Speaker, this is a fair and open rule for a very important bill. It cannot get any better than that.

The rule allows any Member to offer any amendment to the bill as long as their amendment complies with the normal Rules of the House.

I am very pleased the House is trying to move H.R. 1559 quickly, because I know the importance of this bill to the men and women in our military. I also want to congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), the ranking member, for resisting most efforts to add extraneous provisions.

This bill is too important for our troops for it to get bogged down with nonappropriations issues.

I agree with the President that the United States has been at war since September 11, 2001. After our Nation was attacked, America made a decision: We will not wait for our enemies to strike before we act against them. We are not going to permit terrorists and terrorist states to plot and plan and grow in strength while we do nothing.

This emergency wartime supplemental appropriations provides the tools and the resources for our military to wage an aggressive war against Saddam Hussein while at the same time preparing our homeland.

Over the past 15 days we have seen the brutal and cruel nature of a dying regime. In areas still under its control, the regime continues its rule by terror. Prisoners of war have been brutalized and executed. Iraqis who refuse to fight for the regime are being murdered. Some in the Iraqi military have pretended to surrender and then opened fire on coalition forces that were willing to show them mercy.

We owe a great deal of gratitude and respect to our servicemen and women who are currently in harm's way. My thoughts and prayers are with them and their families during this time of war, and I want to thank them for their courage and bravery on the battlefield.

This war budget will meet America's needs directly arising from Operation Iraqi Freedom and our ongoing war