

Fort McHenry, Maryland, which later became the Star-Spangled Banner, our national anthem.

The Park Service recommended the creation of such a commission in a 2004 study. Its membership would be drawn from citizens from historically significant States, from National Park Service officials, historical experts, and other individuals selected by congressional leadership.

Because we are fast approaching the bicentennial of the War of 1812, I am pleased the House has taken up this legislation. I hope that the Senate will do so as well and the measure can be signed into law in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, many refer to the War of 1812 as the “second war of independence.” When the war began, our fragile experiment in democracy was still in its early stages, and the Nation found itself under attack from one of the most powerful countries in the world. Many wondered whether a democracy could hold together through the trials of war. The War of 1812 proved that it could, and set the stage for the spread of democracy around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman WAXMAN and Chairman DAVIS for bringing this measure to the floor. I hope all of my colleagues will support the bill, which will help ensure a fitting celebration of the War of 1812 and the Star-Spangled Banner bicentennial.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I thank Mr. SARBAKES for introducing this very important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative for all Americans to know our early American history. Soon after the War of Independence and American independence, the new struggling United States had to go to war again with England to keep its independence.

Sometimes the War of 1812 is referred to as the forgotten war in American history. It is referred to as the “second American War of Independence.” Be that as it may, we went to war with England a second time because the British kidnapped American sailors on the high seas and made them involuntary servants in the British Navy.

When the British invaded the United States during the War of 1812, they burned this city, Washington. They used Thomas Jefferson’s books to burn this Capitol. They burned the White House. The President had to flee in the darkness of a torrential rainstorm. The United States future looked bleak.

So after capturing Washington, DC, the British headed north to finish the United States off in Baltimore. During a heated sea battle, the British bombarded Fort McHenry, defending the harbor of Baltimore. But the fort commander stood defiant, refused to surrender, and hoisted a massive American flag over the fort.

Mr. Speaker, this is no small flag. It is 30 feet by 42 feet in size. Such a flag could be seen for miles and miles away from Fort McHenry. An American lawyer named Francis Scott Key was onboard a British ship during the battle. He was there seeking the release of an American captive. After watching the night battle and seeing the glorious U.S. flag at sunrise, he wrote a poem, later turned into a song called the Star-Spangled Banner to honor this American victory.

This national anthem of ours is played at sports games and ceremonies and events across the Nation every day. In fact, I think the first time it was played at a sporting event was at a Chicago White Sox game in the early 1900s. Chairman DAVIS could correct me if that is incorrect.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that Americans understand what the anthem stands for and why it was written. I totally support H.R. 1389. This bill will create a commission to plan activities, programs and observances of history events surrounding this War of 1812. I am proud of how the United States as a new democracy developed into a great Nation during this time. This war and Francis Scott Key should be celebrated and honored and recognized.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, the British left the United States permanently after the battle of Fort McHenry and after Andrew Jackson and his boys defeated the British at the Battle of New Orleans.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the majority has offered an amendment that I think improves this bill. I support the amendment and would encourage others to join me in supporting H.R. 1389, establishing the Star-Spangled and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission.

I applaud the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBAKES) for his introduction of this bill, and I would urge passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 1389, as amended, and I want to commend the gentleman from Maryland for introducing this legislation and for bringing to our attention the importance of the War of 1812, the importance of our Star-Spangled Banner.

I also take this opportunity to commend my elementary school teachers, especially Mrs. Beadie King, who taught in a one-room school, who was so good that she could teach about the Star-Spangled Banner and you could feel shivers kind of going up and down your back. I am so pleased that I can still at times feel those and recognize perhaps what Francis Scott Key may have been thinking and what he may have been feeling when he looked up and saw that the flag was still standing.

So I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBAKES) again for introducing this legislation and urge its passage.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1389, the Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation, which is of great importance to my constituents in Northern New York. Thus, I greatly appreciate the work the Gentleman from Maryland, Mr. SARBAKES, the Gentleman from California, Mr. WAXMAN, and the Gentleman from Virginia, Mr. DAVIS, have done to bring H.R. 1389 to the House floor.

I represent New York’s 23rd Congressional District, which encompasses most of Northern New York. From Lake Champlain in the east, my District runs along the St. Lawrence River and our nation’s Northern border to Lake Ontario in the west. The District encompasses territory that played an important role in our nation’s early history; much of it was literally on the front lines of the War of 1812.

During the War of 1812, my District was not only the site of skirmishes but also the significant Battles of Plattsburgh and Sackets Harbor. In fact, 193 years ago on September 11, 1814, Commodore Thomas McDonough repulsed a British invasion led by Sir George Provost at Plattsburgh Bay on Lake Champlain. McDonough’s victory was significant because it ended a grave threat and gave impetus to then-ongoing peace negotiations. Likewise, but earlier during the war and on the other side of the District, Brigadier General Jacob Brown stopped a British invasion led by Sir George Provost and Commodore James Yeo at Sackets Harbor. Of note, Sackets Harbor was the United States’ main shipbuilding naval base on Lake Ontario.

In addition to providing a mechanism to properly remember and honor these and other significant events in our nation’s history, H.R. 1389 is also important to my constituents because of its potential to help increase tourism. Tourism is an important component of the economy in New York’s 23rd District and is a cornerstone of efforts to further much-needed economic development. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1389 today and I look forward to working further to enact this legislation.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1389, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WOODROW WILSON PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1664) to authorize grants for contributions toward the establishment of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1664

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

SECTION 1. GRANTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WOODROW WILSON PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY.

(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Subject to subsections (b), (c), and (d), the Archivist of the National Archives and Records Administration may make grants to contribute funds for the establishment in Staunton, Virginia, of a library to preserve and make available materials related to the life of President Woodrow Wilson and to provide interpretive and educational services that communicate the meaning of the life of Woodrow Wilson.

(b) LIMITATION.—A grant may be made under subsection (a) only from funds appropriated to the Archivist specifically for that purpose.

(c) CONDITIONS ON GRANTS.—

(1) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—A grant under subsection (a) may not be made until such time as the entity selected to receive the grant certifies to the Archivist that funds have been raised from non-Federal sources for use to establish the library in an amount equal to at least double the amount of the grant.

(2) RELATION TO OTHER WOODROW WILSON SITES AND MUSEUMS.—The Archivist shall further condition a grant under subsection (a) on the agreement of the grant recipient to operate the resulting library in cooperation with other Federal and non-Federal historic sites, parks, and museums that represent significant locations or events in the life of Woodrow Wilson. Cooperative efforts to promote and interpret the life of Woodrow Wilson may include the use of cooperative agreements, cross references, cross promotion, and shared exhibits.

(d) PROHIBITION OF CONTRIBUTION OF OPERATING FUNDS.—Grant amounts may not be used for the maintenance or operation of the library.

(e) NON-FEDERAL OPERATION.—The Archivist shall have no involvement in the actual operation of the library, except at the request of the non-Federal entity responsible for the operation of the library.

(f) AUTHORITY THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2011.—The Archivist may not use the authority provided under subsection (a) after September 30, 2011.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 1664, a bill to authorize grants

for contributions toward the establishment of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library. H.R. 1664 was introduced by Representative BOB GOODLATTE on March 23, 2007. This legislation was reported from the Oversight Committee on July 19, 2007, by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, as a statesman, scholar and President, Woodrow Wilson faced an economic crisis and a world war while serving the country as Commander in Chief. Historians believe that World War I and President Wilson's leadership radically altered the role of diplomacy as a tool of foreign policy, a policy that established a new path for America's role in promoting democracies throughout the world. His vision helped shape the powers and responsibilities of the executive branch in times of war.

H.R. 1664, the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library Authorization Act, will allow the National Archives to provide grants for the establishment of a Presidential library to provide educational services to honor the life of former President Woodrow Wilson.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, Representative BOB GOODLATTE, for introducing this legislation, and urge swift passage.

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois and the gentlewoman from Illinois for their assistance with this legislation, as well as Mr. WAXMAN, the chairman of the Government Reform Committee, and my colleague from Virginia, Congressman TOM DAVIS, all of whom have been a great help in moving this legislation forward.

I rise in support of H.R. 1664, the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library Authorization Act, which will authorize grants from the National Archives for the establishment of a Presidential library to provide educational and interpretive service to honor the life of Woodrow Wilson.

As a statesman, scholar and President, Woodrow Wilson faced economic crisis, democratic decay and a world war. Presidential historians agree that World War I and President Wilson's leadership radically altered the role of diplomacy as a tool of foreign policy, a policy that established a new path for America's role in promoting democracies throughout the world. So, too, did Wilson's high-minded ideals craft a legacy that shaped the powers and responsibilities of the executive branch in times of war.

Mr. Speaker, as a professor and president of Princeton University, Wilson created a more selective and accountable system for higher education. By instituting curriculum reform, Wilson revolutionized the roles of teachers and

students and quickly made Princeton one of the most renowned universities in the world. Due to Wilson's legacy at Princeton, I am pleased to have the support of current Princeton President Shirley Tilghman as we establish this library.

H.R. 1664 gives the National Archives the authority to make pass-through grants for the establishment of the Presidential library in Stanton, Virginia, Woodrow Wilson's birthplace, and does not create a new program. In addition, to ensure that this is a public-private partnership, this legislation mandates that no grant shall be available for the establishment of this library until a private entity has raised at least twice the amount to be allocated by the Archives. Quite frankly, more Federal public-private programs should operate in this manner.

Finally, and to ensure that the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library is not part of the Presidential Library System, this legislation states that the Federal Government shall have no role or responsibility for the operation of the library.

I am also pleased to have the support of several other presidential sites throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, known as the birthplace of Presidents, including Monticello, Poplar Forest, Montpelier, Ash Lawn, and Mount Vernon.

Mr. Speaker, in order to increase the awareness and understanding of the life, principles and accomplishments of the 28th President of the United States, I ask that you join me in supporting this legislation. I want to thank House leadership for scheduling this bill today. The cosponsors include the entire Virginia delegation. I am also grateful to the staff of the Government Reform Committee and the Office of Legislative Counsel for their assistance in crafting this bill.

As a reminder to my colleagues, this legislation is identical to a bill the House passed by a voice vote in the 109th Congress but was not considered in the Senate. At this time, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, during President Franklin D. Roosevelt's second term of office, he decided there should be a way to preserve and maintain official records and artifacts from his Presidency and the Presidency of future generations. Until his Presidency, many historic documents had been damaged, ruined or unaccounted for over the years.

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President Roosevelt realized the need for preserving these valuable pieces of history and sought a way to make them available to the public.

There are currently 12 Presidential libraries, including the Nixon Presidential Materials. Each is funded through private donations, and upon

completion of the library is turned over to the National Archives. These libraries are essentially museums and centers for learning about these Presidents and their terms in office. H.R. 1664 authorizes funding for the establishment of a Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library in his birthplace of Staunton, Virginia. It also states the National Archives and Records Administration will provide a matching grant towards the establishment of the library. The library will coordinate its efforts with other Woodrow Wilson museums to share exhibits and educational services.

The Presidency of Woodrow Wilson is known for many achievements, among them are establishing the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Reserve. He served his second term during World War I and worked with European nations on peace negotiations, including the Treaty of Versailles and the creation of the League of Nations.

It is critical we preserve the Presidential papers, historical records, and other artifacts of Woodrow Wilson's Presidency as we do with the previous 11 Presidents. These libraries offer citizens the opportunity to learn, study and appreciate an important period of American history. I urge my colleagues to support the passage. I applaud the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) for introducing this bill and urge passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, if my history serves me right, President Woodrow Wilson did not hold an elected public office prior to becoming President of the United States of America, which I think is indeed a feat in and of itself. So I want to commend the gentleman from Virginia for his introduction of this legislation, and urge its support.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1664.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2007

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3540) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3540

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 "Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF TAXES FUNDING AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) FUEL TAXES.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4081(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "September 30, 2007" and inserting "December 31, 2007".

(b) TICKET TAXES.—

(1) PERSONS.—Clause (ii) of section 4261(j)(1)(A) of such Code is amended by striking "September 30, 2007" and inserting "December 31, 2007".

(2) PROPERTY.—Clause (ii) of section 4271(d)(1)(A) of such Code is amended by striking "September 30, 2007" and inserting "December 31, 2007".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2007.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 9502(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking "October 1, 2007" and inserting "January 1, 2008", and

(2) by inserting "or the Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2007" before the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (A).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2) of section 9502(f) of such Code is amended by striking "October 1, 2007" and inserting "January 1, 2008".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2007.

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 48103 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting ";" and"; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

"(5) \$918,750,000 for the 3-month period beginning October 1, 2007."

(2) OBLIGATION OF AMOUNTS.—Sums made available pursuant to the amendment made by paragraph (1) may be obligated at any time through September 30, 2008, and shall remain available until expended.

(b) PROJECT GRANT AUTHORITY.—Section 47104(c) of such title is amended by striking "September 30, 2007," and inserting "December 31, 2007".

SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO LIMIT THIRD PARTY LIABILITY OF AIR CARRIERS ARISING OUT OF ACTS OF TERRORISM.

Section 44303(b) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "December 31, 2006" and inserting "December 31, 2007".

SEC. 6. FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION OPERATIONS.

Section 106(k)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (C);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting ";" and"; and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

"(E) such sums as may be necessary for the 3-month period beginning October 1, 2007".

SEC. 7. AIR NAVIGATION FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.

Section 48101(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting ";" and"; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

"(5) such sums as may be necessary for the 3-month period beginning October 1, 2007".

SEC. 8. RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 48102(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (11)(L);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (12)(L) and inserting ";" and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(13) such sums as may be necessary for the 3-month period beginning October 1, 2007".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3540.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3540 extends the financing and spending authority of the Airport and Airway trust fund.

The trust fund taxes and spending authority are scheduled to expire on October 1, 2007. H.R. 3540 extends these taxes at current rates for 3 months. H.R. 3540 was unanimously reported out of the Ways and Means Committee with bipartisan support. This bill will keep the Airport and Airway trust fund taxes and operations in place until the long-term FAA Reauthorization Act is signed into law.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE—SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

H.R. 3540

Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2007—As ordered reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means on September 18, 2007

Summary: H.R. 3540 would extend, through the end of calendar year 2007, the existing taxes that are dedicated to the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and are set to expire on September 30, 2007. The Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) estimates that enacting H.R. 3540 would have no effect on revenues relative to the current baseline projection for taxes dedicated to the trust fund.

The bill also would extend, through the end of calendar year 2007, the authority to expend amounts from the trust fund (including interest) for major programs administered by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). CBO estimates that implementing the bill would increase discretionary spending by \$3.1 billion over the 2008–2012 period by authorizing appropriation of revenues expected to be collected during