

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Two minutes.

Mr. OBERSTAR. I yield myself the balance of my time again to express my great appreciation to the gentleman from Florida for the splendid cooperation, bipartisan participation, for the efforts made here in this body and with the other body on moving them along to bring the technical corrections to a conclusion.

I also want to note for the record the gentleman from Florida joined with me in the appeal, in fact, he initiated the request to the Secretary of Transportation, Ms. Peters, last October, for a meeting in our committee offices with the Governor of Virginia, the Commissioner of Transportation for Virginia, the Northern Virginia bipartisan Republican and Democratic House delegation, with Senator WARNER's staff and FTA Administrator Simpson to discuss this Dulles Metrorail project, to bring to the attention of the administration that this is a bipartisan initiative, that we are together on supporting it, and to move it ahead. Now we are there. I thank the gentleman for his consistency and constancy on that initiative.

I concur also with the gentleman's remarks. These are technical corrections. There are 485 of them. Some of them, a good many of them, are just misspellings that needed to be technically corrected. There was some wording that the Federal Highway Administration wanted clarification on, that the Federal Transit Administration asked us to provide clarifying language on, and we do that in this legislation.

□ 1330

There were other projects where Members found that a project had been designated and was not exactly what their constituents were anticipating, they wanted to change it, dollar for dollar, no increasing, no additional spending. It is appropriate.

As former Chairman Bud Shuster was fond of saying: We Members of Congress are not potted plants. We are not there to just stand and look on benignly while the executive branch implements the legislation that we vote for. We are the ones who are accountable to raise the revenues; we are the ones who are accountable to put the policies in place, and we have a say in how they are carried out. And that is what we do with these Member high-priority projects.

So I urge all Members to support this legislation as an affirmation of the role of the people's body in setting transportation policy.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, today the House is considering H.R. 1195, a bill to make technical corrections to the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Included in this bill is an important technical correction to a previously authorized high-priority project (HPP) which would increase vehicle crossing capacity over the Mississippi River and provide congestion relief for many of my constituents in Anoka County.

Development associated with population growth in the northwestern portion of the Twin Cities metro region has significantly increased traffic volume along the Highway 101, Highway 169, and 1-94 corridors. These increases currently cause significant delays at corridor crossings over the Mississippi River during the rush hours. Congestion experienced along these existing corridors will increase markedly as the area continues to grow.

Unfortunately, H.R. 1195 includes an error in the language referring to this project, mislabeling US 169 as US 160. In the past, typo mistakes have held up funding previously authorized by the House. I hope that my statement will serve to clarify this typo now and in the future as this important project moves forward.

Mr. OBERSTAR. 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 Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1195.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. OBERSTAR. 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.

#### AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 308) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

#### H. CON. RES. 308

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),*

#### SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary (in this resolution referred to as the "sponsor") shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, the 27th annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service (in this resolution referred to as the "event"), on the Capitol Grounds, in order to honor the law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty during 2007.

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on May 15, 2008, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

#### SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

#### SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment, as may be required for the event.

#### SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARNEY. 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. Con. Res. 308.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 308 authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 27th National Peace Officers' Memorial Service. Statistics from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund indicate that, in 2007, 181 officers died in the line of duty, and they will be honored at this year's memorial service.

On average, in the United States a peace officer is killed every 53 hours. Sadly, these numbers make 2007 one of the deadliest years for peace officers. Five officers were women. Forty States plus the District of Columbia experienced officer fatalities in 2007; 13 States had five or more fatalities.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week.

The first official Memorial Service took place on May 15, 1982, at which 91 law enforcement officers were honored. Over the past 27 years, the Memorial Service has honored over 3,000 law enforcement officers from around our Nation. Today, the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on Capitol Hill has become one in a series of well-attended events during Police Week.

Activities on the Capitol Grounds conducted under H. Con. Res. 308 will be coordinated with the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, will be free

and open to the public. I support this resolution and urge its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

House Concurrent Resolution 308 authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service to be held Thursday, May 15, 2008, as was pointed out. The National Peace Officers' Memorial Service will pay tribute to the 191 officers killed in the line of duty during 2007 and years prior.

Since 1962, this ceremony, sponsored by the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary, has honored fallen Federal, State, and local officers and their families.

This year will be the 28th time the memorial service has been held on the grounds of the Capitol. The events of National Police Week lead up to the annual Peace Officers' Memorial Service with honors for the fallen officers.

This year, National Police Week will run from Sunday, May 11, through Saturday, May 17, with events around the country and here in Washington, D.C. The families and colleagues of officers killed in duty will gather to remember and honor the men and women who protect our communities.

One of the fallen officers who will be recognized this year is Deputy Sheriff Charles Cook from Missouri. Deputy Cook served the Buchanan County Sheriffs Office honorably for 3 years before his death in the line of duty. It is entirely appropriate to honor on the floor of the House the service and sacrifice of Deputy Cook and the other officers who have lost their lives serving and protecting our communities and our country.

The service and the other events of National Police Week are valuable reminders of the sacrifices of many of our Nation's police officers and their families. I encourage my colleagues to attend the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, to pay tribute to the fallen officers, and recognize the individuals nationwide who put their lives at risk every day for the safety of our communities. I support the measure and would encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 308, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 27th National Peace Officers' Memorial Service. More than 150 Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 2007 will be honored at this Memorial Service. According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 181 officers died in the line of duty in 2007. Five officers were women. Forty States and the District of Columbia experienced officer fatalities in 2007. Thirteen States had five or more fatalities.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the week in which that date falls as "Police Week". The first official memorial service took place on May 15, 1982, at which 91 law enforcement

officers were honored. Over the past 27 years, the Memorial Service has honored more than 3,000 law enforcement officers from around our nation. Today, the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on Capitol Hill has become one in a series of well attended events during Police Week.

Activities on the Capitol Grounds conducted under H. Con. Res. 308 will be coordinated with the Architect of the Capitol, will be free, and open to the public.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 308.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 308, which authorizes the use of the Capitol grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

Peace officers, the sworn, public-sector officers entrusted with law enforcement authority and the power of arrest, risk their lives daily to protect our nation. These individuals, who are responsible for safeguarding the rights and freedoms we enjoy as Americans, are true heroes.

Peace Officers Memorial Day honors those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the safety and security of their communities and our nation. Created by Public Law 87-726, signed by President Kennedy in 1962, this day gives us the opportunity to acknowledge and pay our respects to those who, through their courageous deeds, have fallen in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, May 15, 2008, our nation will come together to honor, remember and record those law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty during the year of 2007. Mr. Speaker, one of the names of the fallen heroes added to the list last year was Officer Rodney J. Johnson of the Houston Police Department. Officer Johnson, a 12 year veteran of the Houston Police Department, was killed September 21, 2006, while taking a suspect in custody during a traffic stop. He leaves to honor his memory his beloved wife, Houston Police Department Officer Joslyn Johnson, and five teen-age children; three daughters and two sons, ages 14 to 19.

Officer Rodney Johnson was born in Houston and served in the U.S. Army as a military police officer until being honorably discharged in 1990. He then went to work as a corrections officer for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and then as a jail attendant. He graduated from the Houston police academy in 1994.

As a member of the department's Southeast Gang Task Force, Officer Rodney Johnson earned two Lifesaving Awards and one Medal of Valor from the state of Texas. In January 1998, Officer Rodney Johnson rescued a physically challenged driver trapped in rising floodwaters in January 1998 and later that year he rescued mentally challenged people trapped inside of a burning house.

Officer Rodney Johnson, who stood 6 feet 5 inches tall and weighed nearly 300 pounds, served on his union's board of directors. As Hans Marticiuc, the president of Officer Johnson's union stated, "he was big and he was intimidating-looking, but he was as gentle as a baby bear."

Although the number of officers killed in the line of duty has declined in recent years, the fact that one officer is killed every two-and-a-half days in our country is a sober reminder that protecting our communities and safe-

guarding our democracy come at a heavy price. Last year, the total number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty was represented by 17,917 names engraved on the Memorial, representing officers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, US territories, and federal law enforcement and military police agencies.

This resolution permits the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary to sponsor a free public event, the 27th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, on the Capitol grounds on May 15, 2008. This service will honor the law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty during 2007 who have died in the line of duty, as well as the 800,000 officers who continue to serve in Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.

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

Mr. CARNEY. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 308.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CARNEY. 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.

#### SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN DAY

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 444) supporting the goals and ideals of National Aviation Maintenance Technician Day, honoring the invaluable contributions of Charles Edward Taylor, regarded as the father of aviation maintenance, and recognizing the essential role of aviation maintenance technicians in ensuring the safety and security of civil and military aircraft.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 444

Whereas the safety of the flying public is ensured and the integrity of the aircraft airworthiness is personally guaranteed by individuals who comprise the professional aviation maintenance technician workforce;

Whereas the professional aviation maintenance technician is a key member of the United States military in protecting America through a strong armed forces aviation infrastructure;

Whereas the duties of aviation maintenance technicians are critical to United States homeland security and an integral component of the Nation's aerospace industry;