

The bill before us is important to my home State, as Texas has one of the most extensive surface transportation networks in the world. Texas has more than 10,000 miles of rail track; more than 300,000 miles of roadway and more than 50,000 bridges—more than any other state in the Nation. Our transportation network is bursting at the seams, and failure to enact this bill render a significant blow to transportation construction and maintenance jobs across my State. We simply cannot allow this to happen. In the absence of passage of H.R. 6532, the State of Texas stands to lose \$859 million in funding and a projected loss of 30,000 good-paying jobs.

The state has identified a funding gap of \$86 billion between available resources and what is needed to achieve an acceptable level of mobility by 2030. By the year 2030, TXDOT predicts the state's population is expected to increase by 64 percent. My State cannot afford a lapse in receiving its share of Federal highway funding made available by SAFETEA-LU.

In the absence of bold and decisive action by this body in the next highway bill authorization, stagnant transportation policy and inadequate funding will cripple our country. It is past time for government at all levels to make investment in transportation infrastructure an urgent priority.

Madam Speaker I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6532, Highway Trust Fund Restoration as it provides the funding necessary to replenish the Highway Trust Fund and avoid significant cuts in federal highway funding to the States.

Forecasts indicate a shortfall of several billion dollars to the Highway Trust Fund in fiscal year 2009 due to lower-than-expected gas tax revenue. According to the Federal Highway Administration, the estimated miles traveled on U.S. public roads has dropped 30 billion miles from November through April 2007–08 compared to the same period in 2006–07. This is the first year-to-year reduction since 1979. As Americans drive less and purchase less fuel, the Highway Trust Fund's shortfall will continue to worsen.

As a result of this shortfall, States are facing funding cuts of approximately 34 percent or nearly \$14 billion in highway funds. This would include cuts of \$70,473,422 in my State of North Dakota, threatening approximately 2,452 jobs. If this shortfall is not addressed, countless bridge and tunnel projects, reconstruction of streets, traffic signals, lighting and safety initiatives will be postponed.

I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 6532 which would address these impending cuts by crediting the Highway Trust Fund's Highway Account with the \$8 billion taken away from the Highway Account's balance in 1998, and therefore helping the Highway Trust Fund avoid insolvency.

The Highway Trust Fund Restoration is a good bill that will provide States with the resources they need to continue to provide improvements to America's highways. It deserves all members' votes on the House floor.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr.

LEWIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6532.

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. MCCRERY. Madam 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.

#### HONORING AND COMMEMORATING ACTS OF HEROISM OF THE LATE DETECTIVE JOHN MICHAEL GIBSON AND PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JACOB JOSEPH CHESTNUT OF THE CAPITOL POLICE ON JULY 24, 1998

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1360) honoring and commemorating the selfless acts of heroism displayed by the late Detective John Michael Gibson and Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut of the United States Capitol Police on July 24, 1998.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 1360

Whereas Detective Gibson, born March 29, 1956, was killed in the line of duty while protecting the office complex of the House Majority Whip;

Whereas Private First Class Chestnut, born April 28, 1940, was killed in the line of duty while guarding the Document Room Door entrance of the Capitol;

Whereas Detective Gibson and Private First Class Chestnut were the first police officers to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol;

Whereas Private First Class Chestnut was the first African-American to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol;

Whereas Detective Gibson was married to Evelyn and was the father of three children;

Whereas Private First Class Chestnut was married to Wen Ling and was the father of five children; and

Whereas 10 years have passed since Detective Gibson and Private First Class Chestnut sacrificed their lives to protect the lives of hundreds of tourists, staff, and Members of Congress on July 24, 1998: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors and commemorates the selfless acts of heroism displayed by the late Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut and Detective John Michael Gibson of the United States Capitol Police on July 24, 1998; and

(2) expresses its condolences to the wives, children, and other family members of Private First Class Chestnut and Detective Gibson on the 10 year anniversary of their passing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1130

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, 10 years ago on July 24, 1998, a gunman entered the Capitol and shot to death two Capitol Police officers, Detective John Gibson and Private First Class Jacob Chestnut. As they lay in honor in the rotunda, Congress and the whole community mourned the loss of the men who gave their lives defending the Capitol.

Madam Speaker, we continue to mourn the loss of these fine, dedicated members of our Capitol community. At the 10th anniversary of that tragic day, we commemorate the passing of Private Chestnut and Detective Gibson. We honor their memories and once again offer the House's condolences to their widows and to their families.

I thank our colleague from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS) for introducing this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of H. Res. 1360, which would honor and commemorate the selfless acts of heroism displayed by the late Detective John Michael Gibson and Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut of the United States Capitol Police.

It is hard to believe that it has already been 10 years since the tragic chain of events that took the lives of two heroes, Jacob Joseph Chestnut and John Gibson, who were killed in the line of duty when a deranged gunman stormed this very building on July 24, 1998. And how well I remember that day. I had just left the Capitol, gone to the airport to fly back to Michigan, and as I entered the airport building, I saw on TV the ambulances, the gentlemen being carried out, and what a sad event that was.

Jacob Joseph Chestnut, who was affectionately known as "J.J.," was an 18-year veteran of the Capitol Police force, just months away from retirement. A husband and father of five and a Vietnam vet, Chestnut was remembered at the time of his passing to have been extremely proud to be able to continue to serve his country by working in the United States Capitol. After a 20-year career in the Air Force, he carried his discipline and military training with him to Congress when he joined the Capitol Police in 1980, but

was also known for his big smile and warm demeanor.

John Gibson, who was stationed outside the office of then House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, was also a husband and father of three and an 18-year veteran of the Capitol Police. He was a die-hard fan of all of Boston's sports teams and often requested a copy of the Boston Globe from the whip's office to see how his teams had done. He had become extremely close to Representative DeLay's staff and in the end saved their lives through his selfless act of heroism. He was remembered for tirelessly accompanying the Congressman even when the day would stretch into night, until his job was done.

This bill is only a small tribute to those two exceptional men who gave their lives in defense of their country. We owe them a great debt, and in honoring their memory, we honor all those Capitol Police officers who routinely put themselves in harm's way to protect us each day.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1360.

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

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, once again I thank the gentlewoman from Maryland for introducing this resolution remembering these brave officers and their families. It is important that we remember their sacrifice, and I urge an "aye" vote.

Madam 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. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1360.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 3295. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, and the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide that the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, shall appoint administrative patent judges and administrative trademark judges, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3890) "An Act to amend the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 to impose import sanctions on Burmese gemstones, expand the number of individuals against whom the visa ban is applicable, expand the blocking of assets and

other prohibited activities, and for other purposes."

#### EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO THE CAPITOL POLICE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 645) expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the House of Representatives to the professionalism and dedication of the United States Capitol Police, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 645

Whereas the United States Capitol Police force consists of over 1,600 officers who are dedicated to the protection and security of the Capitol Complex and its employees and visitors;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police continually sacrifice to provide safety and security to the Members, staff, and nearly 3 million visitors each year to the Capitol Complex;

Whereas the officers of the United States Capitol Police face the danger of physical and verbal assaults and continue to provide courteous, responsible, and diligent services in an unbiased and nonpartisan manner;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police face many threats to their safety and must remain constantly alert for suspicious actions or for any failure to respond to requests and instructions;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police are on the front lines of the War on Terrorism and remain on constant alert against unauthorized access to Capitol buildings, terrorism, and other threats to the Capitol Complex;

Whereas Capitol Police officers stationed throughout the Capitol Complex act in a professional manner and treat Members, staff, and visitors with dignity and respect;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police consistently apply security and safety measures to all, including Members of Congress; and

Whereas the United States Capitol Police is one of the best trained, most highly respected law enforcement agencies in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its gratitude and appreciation for the professional manner in which the United States Capitol Police carry out their diverse missions;

(2) expresses appreciation for the dedication United States Capitol Police officers display in protecting the Capitol Complex; and

(3) commends the United States Capitol Police for their continued courage and professionalism in protecting the Capitol Complex and its employees and visitors.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative

days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous matter on the resolution now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to offer this motion. The Capitol Police earn and deserve our gratitude every day of the year as they work hard under unique and trying circumstances. They are constantly here, even when we are not, making the Capitol complex and all who work in and visit these hallowed halls safe.

Under the leadership of Chief Phillip Morse and his team, with the support of officers represented by Matt Tighe of the Fraternal Order of Police, and of civilians led by Karen Gray-Thomas of the Teamsters unit, the Capitol Police work wonders, enabling us to conduct our business without worry. Beyond their day-to-day shifts, the Capitol Police routinely demonstrate their dedication, as recently when 600 officers reported one weekend to cope with a political demonstration.

The Capitol Police perform such feats daily, without comment or complaint. It is an honor to chair the subcommittee that oversees this fine organization and to support them as they discharge their mission every day of the year.

I thank the gentleman from Florida for introducing this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 645, which expresses the gratitude and appreciation of the House of Representatives for the professionalism and dedication of the United States Capitol Police.

As long ago as 1801, when John Goldman, the Capitol's first watchman, was appointed, there have been brave men and women charged with risking their own lives to protect Members of Congress. With the passage of time, the threat to the Congress has evolved, and with it so too have the Capitol Police become a world-class law enforcement body.

Over the years the development of the Internet and various telecommunications devices that have proved revolutionary to all Americans have had the unintended consequence of providing new ways for criminals to communicate with each other in order to plan more elaborate attacks. As their attacks have become more sophisticated, the Capitol Police have had to adjust their protocols and skills to stay a step ahead of the perpetrators.

As discussed with the previous resolution, tomorrow is the 10th anniversary of a tragic accident that took the