

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I am requesting as part of H.R. 3288, the Transportation/Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act of 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Airport Investment Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Burlington—Alamance County Regional Airport

Address of Requesting Entity: 3441 North Aviation Drive, Burlington, NC 27215

Description of Request: This project will lengthen the existing runway so that it may support larger aircraft and improve the safety of the runway. It will also increase the airport's economic viability in the area.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 1553 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699

Description of Request: The purpose of this project is to implement the crossing safety improvement recommendations from the East Guilford County Traffic Separation Study (TSS) between Franklin Boulevard and Wagner Bend Road on the North Carolina Railroad, Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor and Greensboro. This project is part of the NC Department of Transportation's effort to reduce the occurrence of accidents at railroad crossings.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, on July 23, 2009, I did not cast a vote on an amendment to H.R. 3288, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Had I been present for the vote on H. Amdt. 384 (rollcall 631), I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO DR. ALMA MONTGOMERY BLACKMON

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dr. Alma Montgomery Blackmon of Huntsville, an educator and mentor of fond memory to all she encountered. Dr. Blackmon passed away in June at the age of 87.

Dr. Blackmon had an unrivaled blend of passion for students, education and music. All three of these areas played vital roles in her life's purpose. She was born and raised in Washington, DC, where she began her distinguished career as an educator. Her love for music blossomed as a child when she served as an organist for her church at age 10. Her love for music never faded, and she instilled a zeal for music in her students throughout her 42-year career as an instructor. She was a scholar, a musician and a community activist whose impact will not be forgotten, and she is deeply missed by all who knew her.

Dr. Blackmon had a way with people that made personal interactions with her as harmonious as the music she played. Her influence will continue to flourish for generations to come through the love of music that her former students now share. On behalf of the Tennessee Valley, I respectfully rise in honor to pay tribute to a champion of American values.

HONORING MELISSA COLLINS FOR RECEIVING A PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Melissa Collins, an elementary school teacher from my district who will be honored by President Obama with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for her work mentoring students.

This is an honor awarded to teachers who do an exceptional job at mentoring students in the areas of mathematics and science. She is one of 100 educators who will receive a \$10,000 award from the White House on behalf of the National Science Foundation, which she will use a portion of to help her continue to teach her students.

Melissa teaches second grade students at John P. Freeman Optional School in my hometown of Memphis, Tennessee. While teaching others, this accomplished teacher is also working on improving her own education

by studying for a doctorate degree at the University of Southern Mississippi.

During a time in this country where math and science teachers are scarce, Melissa Collins exhibits the teaching skills necessary to inspire our children to learn. Melissa is a leader at the elementary school. The school principal sends new teachers to her classroom in order to observe her teaching style.

In 2008, John P. Freeman Optional School was awarded the No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award, which recognizes academically superior schools across the nation. It is beyond a doubt that Melissa helped John P. Freeman School achieve this great honor.

I want to commend and congratulate Melissa Collins on this great achievement.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Transportation-HUD Appropriations Act of 2010. This bipartisan bill appropriates a total of \$123.1 billion to fund the transportation, infrastructure, housing assistance and development and transportation security priorities of the American people. The bill includes urgently needed federal funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for which the entire Washington area delegation has long advocated.

WMATA plays a major role in supporting the federal government. By some accounts, as many as 50 percent of peak hour riders are federal employees or contractors. Last year, Congress authorized \$1.5 billion in dedicated Federal funding over 10 years for capital improvements and preventive maintenance. The legislation required the local jurisdictions to amend the WMATA compact to commit to providing matching funding, create an office of Inspector General, and enable the appointment of Federal representation on the WMATA Board. In late June, the delegation introduced companion resolutions to ratify the compact amendments.

The tragic derailment on June 22nd highlighted the importance of securing a stable and dedicated funding source for Metro modernization efforts. This bill makes the first installment of Congress' 10-year \$1.5 billion commitment by providing \$150 million in new funding for grants to WMATA for the DC Metro to address safety deficiencies and to help maintain and expand the capital's subway system. This \$150 million will help WMATA make urgent safety improvements and I thank Chairman OLVER for his attention to this critical need.

The bill also includes \$4 billion for high-speed passenger rail projects, \$10.5 billion for

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

mass transit, \$41.1 billion for highways, and \$47 billion for the Housing and Urban Development Department.

HUD oversees the administration of many of the nation's housing assistance programs including many important community-development programs like the Community Development Block Grants program which will receive \$4.2 billion under the bill. The bill also provides \$151 million for grants under the Economic Development Initiative to finance targeted economic investments, and \$18 million for the Neighborhood Initiative Program to improve blighted or distressed areas in our neighborhoods.

The bill appropriates \$1.9 billion for HUD homeless-assistance programs and \$8.7 billion for the Section 8 program. This program is used by local housing authorities to provide rental subsidies to landlords who rent to low-income families.

Additionally, as more Americans turn to public transit, the bill invests \$10.48 billion in the Federal Transit Administration, including \$1.83 billion for new construction and \$8.34 billion for formula grants to improve existing systems.

This bill makes critical transportation investments that will put Americans to work while also helping repair crumbling highways and bridges, improve public transit, and modernize air travel. I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of the bill.

HONORING ALBERT COSYNS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Albert "Al" Cosyns upon being honored as the Madera Chamber of Commerce 2009 Senior Farmer of the Year. Mr. Cosyns was recognized at the annual Senior Farmer Dinner on Thursday, July 23, 2009.

Mr. Al Cosyns was born on March 12, 1925 in Southern California. After farming in Orange County, California for sixteen years, he decided to head north. He hitched his bean harvester to his truck and made his way over the Grapevine, finding his home in the heart of California, Madera. For fifty years, Mr. Cosyns has raised a variety of crops and has been finding ways to adapt to the new cropping patterns necessary to the longevity of a farming operation. Over the years they have farmed almonds, alfalfa, black-eyed beans, lima beans, barley, cotton, corn, grapes, wheat, safflower, soybeans, oats, sugar beets and sudan. Today, the Cosyns Farm is currently located on 2500 acres; with almonds and grapes at the heart of the operation.

Mr. Cosyns' priorities have always been his ranch, his family and his community. Mr. Cosyns has always been active in the farming community and has served on a number of boards, including the Bonita Soil Conservation Board, the Sugar Beet Board and he has been a member of the Madera County Farm Bureau for forty-five years. He has also served as a 4-H Youth Advisor and is a supporter of the 4-H and Future Farmers of America Livestock Auction at the Madera and Chowchilla Fairs. Mr. Cosyns is the co-founder of the Madera Agricultural Youth Association (MAYA), an or-

ganization that supports youth in agriculture and provides scholarships to students entering college and pursuing a degree in a field related to agriculture. There are now four generations of the Cosyns family in Madera and Mr. Cosyns enjoys passing his knowledge and joy of agriculture on to the newest generation, his great-grandchildren. Mr. Cosyns along with his sons, Allan and Rick, and his grandchildren, continue the farming tradition with their strong leadership in the community.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Albert Cosyns upon being named the Madera Chamber of Commerce 2009 Senior Farmer of the Year. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Cosyns many years of continued success.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3288, FY2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Department of Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

Requesting Entity: Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, 1732 72nd Street West, Billings, Montana 59106

Description: \$100,000 in federal funding will enable the Ranch to renovate several specialized learning and training rooms, as well as bring the building up to an acceptable standard for housing programs for at-risk youth.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Department of Housing & Urban Development—Neighborhood Initiative
Requesting Entity: Rocky Mountain Development Council, Inc., P.O. Box 1717, Helena, MT 59624

Description: \$200,000 in federal funding will enable the Rocky Mountain Development Council, in partnership with the City of Helena, to address a significant shortage of quality affordable housing through the redevelopment of a former iron foundry and 2.4 acre Brownfield site.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Department of Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiative

Requesting Entity: City of Shelby, 112 1st Street, South, Shelby, MT

Description: \$200,000 in federal funding will enable the City of Shelby to renovate its historic downtown with the goal of attracting downtown business development and creating new local jobs.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Department of Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiative

Requesting Entity: Great Falls Development Authority, 300 Central Ave. Suite 406, Great Falls, MT 59401

Description: \$300,000 in federal funds for the Great Falls Development Authority will enable Cascade County, Montana to extend existing water, sewer, and storm drains, as well as rail lines and roads into a proposed heavy industrial area. The newly-developed area will attract business development and economic diversity to the area.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiatives

Requesting Entity: Pantry Partners Food Bank, Inc. P.O. Box 806, Stevensville, MT 59870-0806

Description: The Pantry Partners Food Bank serves approximately 200 families each month in the Stevensville area. \$200,000 in federal funding will allow the Pantry Partners Food Bank to construct a larger facility and to replace outdated equipment that is crucial to ensuring the safety of their food items.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Federal Highway Administration—Surface Transportation Priorities

Requesting Entity: Great Falls Development Authority, 300 Central Ave. Suite 406, Great Falls, MT 59401

Description: \$500,000 in federal funding will enable the reconstruction of Black Eagle Road in Cascade County. It is important that this deteriorating roadway be repaved to address safety concerns and to attract business traffic to the Great Falls region.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiatives

Requesting Entity: City of Billings, P.O. Box 1178, Billings, MT 59103

Description: \$323,000 in federal funding for the City of Billings' Business Consortium Project for the Homeless will be used for the purchase or renovation of a building in downtown Billings, with the intent to provide housing and services in the upper-levels for homeless individuals or families, and to provide for a storefront business on the lower level.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiatives

Requesting Entity: Billings Food Bank, Inc. P.O. Box 1158, Billings, MT 59103

Description: \$450,000 in federal funds will enable the Billings Food Bank to continue construction of a new facility with offices, a warehouse, commercial kitchens and classroom facilities to better serve and educate needy families in the Billings-area.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3128

Account: Federal Highway Administration—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)

Requesting Entity: Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, 800 South Main Street, Anaconda, MT 59711

Description: \$500,000 in federal funds will allow Anaconda-Deer Lodge County to reconstruct Highway 274, a treacherous 26-mile winding road that connects the Northern and Southern ends of the County. Reconstruction measures include rebuilding the road bed, widening the existing highway, and removing dangerous curves and switchbacks to address growing safety concerns.

Requesting Member: Rep. REHBERG