

If the Budget Resolution is applied over the six-year period from fiscal years 2010 to 2015, the Resolution assumes a base allocation of \$324 billion for highway, highway safety, and transit programs, including \$312 billion of contract authority. Importantly, this allocation restores \$82 billion over the six-year period of highway contract authority that had been cut from the Congressional Budget Office baseline, which assumed fiscal year 2009 rescissions would recur in all future years.

In addition, the Resolution establishes a Reserve Fund to allow this base allocation of \$324 billion to be adjusted upward as necessary to accommodate higher funding levels to the extent they can be supported by the Highway Trust Fund.

The Resolution also assumes the Airport Improvement Program is funded at \$4.0 billion in FY 2010, \$4.1 billion in FY 2011, and \$4.2 billion in FY 2012, consistent with H.R. 915, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009, as ordered reported by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on March 5, 2009. This is an increase of \$840 million over the baseline funding level for this program over the three-year period from FY 2010–2012.

The Resolution rejects the Office of Management and Budget's proposal to change how programs funded by contract authority are treated for budget scoring purposes. This proposal, had it been adopted, would have converted the mandatory contract authority that currently funds our highway, highway safety, transit and airport grant programs to a simple authorization of appropriations for budget scoring purposes. I am pleased that the Budget Resolution continues to recognize the unique nature of trust-funded programs by rejecting this ill-advised proposal.

A TRIBUTE TO HUMENA BUTE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Humena Bute, an educator and youth advocate.

Ms. Humena Bute worked for the NYC Department of Education from 1970 until her early retirement in 1995. While employed with the Department of Education she advanced to Special Education Records Manager in School District 19. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Community and Human Services from Empire State College in 1997. She applied for and received a per-diem substitute teacher certificate in 1998, and has worked in various NYC schools in Brooklyn to present.

In 2000, Ms. Bute became a member of the Brooklyn Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Inc (NANBPWC). She became a Life Member in 2005. During the past eight years Ms. Bute has held the office of Recording Secretary, Vice President (Membership Chair) and has voluntarily served on the Battered Women's Shelter project, the Thanksgiving Basket Committee and the Founders Day Celebration Committees from 2003–2005. Ms. Bute received an Appreciation Award from The Brooklyn Club president in 2002. In 2007 Ms. Bute received the Membership Chair of

the Year Award from National Director of Membership of NANBPWC Inc. She has recently been appointed to serve as Membership Director of the Northeast District of NANBPWC Inc.

From 1997 to 2000 Ms. Bute was given the opportunity to work with at-risk youths as an Educational Specialist for Mental Health Juvenile Justice Diversion project in Brooklyn N.Y. She was also a recruiter for Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program in various High Schools in Brooklyn N.Y.

In 2004, Ms. Bute became a member of the Stuyvesant Heights Lions Club and in 2006 she received the Lion of the Year award from the club president. In 2007 Ms. Bute was nominated as Club President and still holds that title to this day. She is also a Board Member of the Bridge Street Child Development Day Care in Brooklyn NY. Ms. Bute has recently joined the American College of Counselors.

Ms. Bute is a mother of two children, Felicia Allen and the late Gregory Bute and three loving grandchildren Jason Allen, Geninne Allen and Shanay Bute. Ms. Bute regards her many accomplishments and children as gifts from God.

OMNIBUS PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 146, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. The rivers, mountains, parks and forests of the United States are a fundamental part of our national heritage, and it is crucial that these resources are protected for future generations to enjoy.

The majority of the bills in this monumental legislation had been considered and enjoyed strong bipartisan support in previous Congresses, and the passage of these provisions for public land management, forest preservation, and other crucial conservation measures is long overdue. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the work of Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID, Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI, the bill's sponsor Senator JEFF BINGAMAN, and Representative NICK RAHALL in keeping this legislation moving forward.

I would also like to congratulate my friend Congresswoman LOUISE SLAUGHTER for the inclusion of her provision on the Women's Rights National Historic Park in this important legislation. It is fitting that, as we work to protect the landmarks that help to make this country great, we commemorate the central role women have played in our Nation's history.

On July 19, 1848, a group of women activists including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Mary Ann M'Clintock organized the first Women's Rights Convention at Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York. The document produced at the Convention, entitled the Declaration of Sentiments, articulated the then radical idea that certain rights accrued to women, such as the freedom to own property and the right to an education. That meeting

spearheaded a 72-year struggle for women's suffrage, ending with the ratification of the 19th amendment on August 18, 1920.

This provision in the Omnibus Public Lands Act would pay tribute to a milestone event in the women's rights movement by allowing for the construction of a trail in the Women's Rights Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York, and permitting the establishment of a network of historical sites relevant to women's history.

The park would serve as a physical reminder of women's historical contributions to equality of rights and opportunity, values which are central to the legacy of the United States. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating these accomplishments by ensuring that the landmarks of the women's rights movement are remembered and preserved.

FEDERAL LAND ASSISTANCE, MANAGEMENT AND ENHANCE- MENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 1404) to authorize a supplemental funding source for catastrophic emergency wildland fire suppression activities on Department of the Interior and National Forest System lands, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy, and for other purposes:

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 1404, the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act and I salute Chairman RAHALL for bringing this important bill to the floor today.

Last year a series of wildfires devastated counties across California, including Santa Cruz County in my Congressional District. The fires burned 1.4 billion acres of land across the State and cost over \$1 billion to contain. Experts expect a similarly difficult fire season in California this year. Over the past decade wildland fires have increased in size and quantity, and projections indicate that this trend will continue due to climate change, drought, and other factors.

The skyrocketing costs of fighting wildland fires have forced the Forest Service and Department of Interior to "borrow" funds from non-fire programs, distracting these agencies from their core missions. Wildland fire activities now account for 48 percent of the Forest Service budget and more than 10 percent of the Interior Department budget.

This bill will create the FLAME Fund to help cover the costs of fighting fires after the money appropriated by the federal government runs out. Agencies may use this fund only if the Secretary of Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture deems the fire large enough or dangerous enough to warrant using the fund.

The FLAME Act requires the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to submit a report to Congress containing a comprehensive wildland fire management strategy. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) found

that the federal land management agencies lack such a plan and the USDA Inspector General found that the Forest Service lacks any system to ensure that the highest priority fuel reduction projects are being funded first. This report by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture will address the recommendations made by both GAO and the USDA Inspector General.

To ensure that the money is going to where it is most needed, the bill requires that yearly reports be made available to the public on the use of the FLAME Fund. It also requires the Secretaries to conduct a review of wildland fire incidents that result in expenses greater than \$10,000,000 and requires the Secretaries to notify Congress whenever the FLAME Fund drops to a level estimated to cover just two months worth of expenditures.

The FLAME Act establishes a wildfire grant program within each department that will assist communities in preparing for wildfires. Grants will go towards purchasing firefighting equipment and training programs for local firefighters. The money will also be used for education and public awareness of wildfires and to development community wildfire protection plans.

This bill is necessary so that agencies no longer have to move funding around to make up for the increased costs of wildfire suppression programs. The fund will provide a safety net in the event of catastrophic fires, such as those that occurred in California last year. It will also ensure that the Federal Government has an effective and comprehensive plan for wildland fire management.

I'm proud to support this bill and I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 25, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for Rollcall No. 151.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 151—"yes"—Providing for the consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 146, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act.

A TRIBUTE TO LINDA BRADLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Linda Bradley, a champion of Nursing and health and wellness promotion.

Linda Bradley was born in Brooklyn, New York to Lola Balance and the late Jerry Balance. Linda is the oldest of four siblings, her brother and sisters are Denise, Michelle and Jerry, Jr. She is wife of Calvin Bradley, mother of four children Nicole, Calvin III, Michael and Johnathan and grandmother of Amir. Linda was always a curious child and now is very active in her community.

After graduation from Canarsie H.S., Linda indulged her desire for inquiry and obtained a degree in Medical Laboratory Technology in Applied Science from N.Y.C Community College. Linda went on to obtain an A.A.S. and a B.S.N. in Nursing. Linda continued her education and earned a dual degree; she earned a Master's of Science in Nursing and a Masters of Public Health and received the Outstanding Community Leadership Award from Hunter College.

She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society, American Public Health Association and Public Health Association of NYC. She held P.T.A. positions in her children's school, is an active member of A.C.O.R.N. and was one of three women who were instrumental in the development of a Kwanzaa community event. She has held positions as Director of Nursing at a licensed agency, Patient Service Manager at Hillside Manor LTHHCP and a staff nurse and then a community outreach nurse for St. Johns Episcopal Hospital. Linda currently works at the Visiting Nurse Service of New York Lombardi Program as a Manager of Clinical Support Services in the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. Linda has been an NYU adjunct clinical faculty for the clinical rotation in the Community Health course since 2007. Linda has dedicated her life to nursing, health and wellness which shows through her professional and community activities.

Linda believes that through faith in God and healthy choices people can prevent a multitude of diseases. In her promotion of the profession of nursing, and belief that there are young, intelligent and vibrant minds within her community, she has participated in a community career day, appeared on a Brooklyn cable show and mentored two young women who are now R.N.'s. Linda is the current Health Ministry Director at Solid Rock S.D.A. church, who promotes ongoing health emphasis activities. Linda has assisted in the administration of NIH/Loma Linda Health Study II surveys from 2004–2007 at Solid Rock Church. She has taught as a Sabbath School teacher in the youth division for more than 20 years and is active with the Adventurer's and youth at the church and in the community.

Linda believes that she is a living testimony of God's blessing and healing power and is very committed to nurturing the spirit, mind and body of every person she comes in contact with. Linda believes in excellence and that knowledge is power and whatever knowledge she has is to be shared. Linda has often described the essence of her being as "one who shares" in every aspect of her life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BORDER SECURITY SEARCH ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2009

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to call attention to the Border Security Search Accountability Act of 2009, which I will be introducing in the House today.

With the support of 16 bipartisan, original cosponsors, the bill will call on the Department

of Homeland Security to establish strict guidelines for Customs and Border Patrol, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement's electronic device seizure policy.

It is important to ensure that Customs and Border agents have the tools necessary to go after potential terrorists.

This bill allows for the appropriate search, review, retention and sharing of information on an individual's electronic device as it is necessary for security purposes.

Equally important is the need to protect the rights of travelers, and especially American citizens.

My legislation ensures that when an individual's property is seized at a point of entry, there is a well-defined procedure in place that will protect their privacy and electronic data, especially the doctor-patient and attorney-client privileges.

This legislation also requires the Department of Homeland Security to post information about individuals' rights related to border searches in visible areas near the search points, so that individuals will understand their rights if their property is seized.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF MEADOWLARK LEMON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, born in Lexington, South Carolina, Meadowlark Lemon came from humble beginnings only to follow his love of basketball and entertaining to tremendous success as a member of the widely popular Harlem Globetrotters. The "Clown Prince of Basketball" as he is known has given of his time to not only entertain on the court but to serve his community off the court. Through his ministry program, Meadowlark Lemon is helping young people prepare for their future, learn the tools necessary to get a job, and have the confidence to compete and be successful in their own lives.

Role-models like Meadowlark Lemon play a vital role in our community because they embody the can-do spirit of the American Dream. They show the youth of today that no matter the circumstances, their lives are precious and filled with potential to make their hopes a reality. Meadowlark Lemon's story is a perfect example of someone who did just that and has chosen to give back to others.

I am grateful for his service and commend Meadowlark Lemon on his lifetime of success.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND EARTH HOUR MOVEMENT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of Earth Hour 2009, sponsored by the World