

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1137

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2008

Mr. OBERSTAR (for himself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SPACE, Mr. SIRES, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. FILNER, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. COSTELLO, and Mr. CAPUANO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week, and for other purposes.

Whereas public works infrastructure, facilities, and services have far-reaching effects on the United States economy and the Nation's competitiveness in the world marketplace;

Whereas public works infrastructure, facilities, and services play a pivotal role in the health, safety, and quality of life of communities throughout the United States;

Whereas public works infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the skill and dedication of public works professionals, including engineers and administrators, representing State and local governments throughout the United States;

Whereas public works professionals design, build, operate, maintain, and protect the transportation systems, water supply infrastructure, sewage and refuse disposal systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities that are vital to the citizens, communities, and commerce of the United States;

Whereas the Corps of Engineers, in partnership with public port authorities, provides navigational improvements that link United States producers and customers with national and international markets;

Whereas the public waterways, including locks and dams constructed, operated, and maintained by the Corps of Engineers, provide a safe, energy efficient, and cost effective means of transporting goods and services;

Whereas the Corps of Engineers, in partnership with local public entities, provides levees, reservoirs, and other structural and nonstructural flood damage reduction measures that protect millions of families, homes, and businesses;

Whereas highway investment by all levels of government supported a total of 2,140,000 jobs in 2007;

Whereas every \$1 invested in public transportation generates as much as \$6 in economic returns to the Nation's economy;

Whereas the capital asset program of the General Services Administration is authorized annually to provide Federal

employees with necessary office space, courts of law, and other special purpose facilities;

Whereas since 1972 the Nation has invested more than \$250,000,000,000 in wastewater infrastructure facilities to establish a system that includes 16,000 publicly owned wastewater treatment plants, 100,000 major pumping stations, 600,000 miles of sanitary sewers, and 200,000 miles of storm sewers;

Whereas the Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is charged with the safe and secure movement of almost 1,000,000 daily shipments of hazardous materials by all modes of transportation and oversees the safety and security of 2,300,000 miles of gas and hazardous liquid pipelines, which account for 64 percent of the energy commodities consumed in the United States;

Whereas the National Railroad Passenger Corporation annually provides more than 25,000,000 people with intercity rail service;

Whereas 8 airfield projects are under construction, including 3 new runways, 2 airfield reconfigurations, 1 runway extension, 1 end around taxiway, and 1 center taxiway, providing some of the busiest airports in the Nation with the potential to accommodate more than 400,000 additional annual operations and improve airport safety and efficiency while decreasing the average delay per operation at these airports by almost 2 minutes;

Whereas in the report of the Department of Transportation entitled “2006 Status of the Nation’s Highways, Bridges, and Transit: Conditions & Performance”, the Department confirms that investment in the Nation’s highway,

bridge, and transit infrastructure has not kept up with growing demands on the system;

Whereas the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission report estimates that the United States needs to invest up to \$340,000,000,000 annually for the next 50 years to upgrade the Nation's existing transportation network to a good state of repair and to build the more advanced facilities the Nation will require to remain competitive; and

Whereas public works professionals are observing National Public Works Week from May 18 through 24, 2008: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
3 Public Works Week;

4 (2) recognizes and celebrates the important
5 contributions that public works professionals make
6 every day to improve the public infrastructure of the
7 United States and the communities that those pro-
8 fessionals serve; and

9 (3) urges citizens and communities throughout
10 the United States to join with representatives of the
11 Federal Government in activities and ceremonies
12 that are designed to pay tribute to the public works
13 professionals of the Nation and to recognize the sub-
14 stantial contributions that public works professionals
15 make to the Nation.

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