an elementary school vice principal and principal, then made his way to the district office, holding three assistant superintendent posts. In 1982, he was chosen to be the Superintendent of San Bernardino City Schools, and in an era where superintendents of urban school districts come and go in as little as three or four years, Dr. Roberts dedicated 17 years of vision and commitment to the children in our community.

Dr. Roberts' list of achievements is practically endless. He is the true definition of an educator and a leader. During his tenure, Dr. Roberts led the district to become recognized across the state for developing and implementing outstanding programs in desegregation, student achievement and performance at grade level, school and student safety, and an assessment/accountability system for all K–12 principals and schools. His long list of honors and awards include the University of Redlands Excellence in Teaching Award, a San Bernardino County Schools Distinguished Service Award, the Golden Apple Award, a Living Legend Recognition Award, and a Citizen of Achievement Award from the League of Women Voters.

Yet what distinguishes Dr. Roberts is not his long list of awards, but his spirit of kindness, professionalism and fairness, and his clear dedication to children and to the community. He is deeply admired and respected by many, especially teachers, throughout the city. Dr. Roberts has been an inspiration and guiding force through good times and bad for the City of San Bernardino. He has seen the city through desegregation, working hard for racial equality; through economic downturns and base closures; and through ever-changing demographics that add new challenges for the school system. He has been a steady presence for students and their families and has always given his best to our community.

Dr. Roberts' stewardship has set an outstanding example and we are proud that he is our constituent. When he retires this month he will be sorely missed, yet his legacy will undoubtedly remain for years. We consider ourselves lucky to have worked with Dr. Roberts and extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for his years of remarkable service and our best wishes for the future.

AVIATION INVESTMENT AND REFORM ACT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union has under consideration the bill (H.R. 1000) to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1000.

Although I support the reauthorization of the FAA and the Airport Improvement Program, I find the manipulation of the current budget structure in this bill detrimental to the fiscally sound budget process the Republicans have been fighting for, and have achieved, as the majority party.

Why do we want to take a step backwards, back to when this House was governed by a tax and spend policy, in a misguided attempt to drastically inflate a federal agency's budget?

Where is the Republican agenda—the agenda to make the federal government smaller, leaner, more efficient?

It is disappointing to see the bill come before the House today under the slogan of ''unlocking the Aviation Trust Fund.'' Federal trust funds are not your run-of-the-mill trust fund that can be compared to a family or business trust fund. These federal trust funds are authorizations for appropriations, and this has always been the intent since their creation.

But, don't take my word for it. Let me quote a CRS report:

> Whatever their intended purposes, federal trust funds are basically record-keeping devices that account for the spending authority available for certain programs. Although frequently thought of as holding financial assets, they do not.

I repeat: trust funds do not hold financial assets; there is not money in them.

The report goes on to say:

> Simply stated, as long as a trust fund has a balance, the Treasury Department has authority to keep issuing checks for the program, but balances do not provide the treasury with the cash to cover these checks.

So if it's the right policy to take trust funds off-budget, where is the cash going to come from to cover the checks written on the trust fund balances? Are we going to cut funding for our schools, for law enforcement, for environmental programs, for our Veterans? Are we going to increase the debt, raise taxes? I hope not.

And we are not talking about a few dollars. There are over 100 federal trust funds, and this bill deals with only one. But, at the end of FY1997, these trust funds had a combined ''virtual balance'' of $1.520 trillion—that's one and a half trillion dollars! If we are going to unlock our trust funds because this money was intended for specific purposes, we need to find $1½ trillion to put real money into these funds.

In addition, we simply cannot govern a nation by compartmentalizing our budget through dedicated funding streams. Revenue streams must be spent on the nation's priorities as a whole. You can't run a business by restricting cash flows to expenses directly attributable to their related sales. Can GM effectively compete in the world market if the money they received from selling shock absorbers couldn't be used for maintenance of brake manufacturing equipment? No. GM can't, and neither can the federal government.

We need to take a step back and understand where this road leads us. I understand the supporters of this measure see guaranteed money every year. Wouldn't this be nice if everyone had a guaranteed stream of cash flowing into their coffers every October First? But, that is not the way to run a fiscally responsible government.

Republicans have governed our nation's tax dollars with restraint and have given the taxpayer some of this money back with tax cuts. Let's not sabotage 4 and a half years of work. We should be looking at ways of streamlining federal agencies, not bloating their budgets by creating a mandatory account and increasing the taxes for this account.