

year, I strongly supported the airport security bill because I believed then—as I do now—that we must protect the public from a repetition of terrorist hijackings. One key part of that is to have baggage screened to safeguard against explosives being smuggled aboard airplanes in checked luggage.

But today I voted to extend the baggage screening deadline established in the airport security bill because it doesn't make sense to me to mandate a deadline that clearly is impossible for a quarter of airports in this country to meet. It has been clear for some time that although 75% of airports would be able to meet the December 31st deadline, 25% of this country's largest airports would not. Denver International Airport (DIA) is among those airports still waiting for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to approve its security plan.

DLA has developed its own plan that would employ a baggage-screening system that costs approximately \$85 million to implement, versus \$130 million for the system currently approved for use in the U.S. The bill before us today allows TSA to incrementally address individual airport requirements like DIA and accommodate new technology improvements.

I am a cosponsor of legislation that would extend the deadline because I believe DIA will be able to provide a better, more cost-effective baggage screening system than the current TSA-approved model given a bit more time. So I am pleased that this bill includes an extension on the baggage screening system.

In summary, I am pleased that this bill echoes the overall approach of the Hart-Rudman report recommendations. I am also pleased that the bill includes important Science Committee contributions, such as the one establishing an Undersecretary for Science and Technology in the new department, as well as provisions I offered in the Science Committee markup requiring the new department and NIST to engage in a systematic review and upgrading of voluntary consensus standards. I believe it is important that the bill includes a provision reaffirming the Posse Comitatus Act, which prohibits the use of the armed forces for civil law enforcement. And it is important that the bill prohibits the government from implementing the proposed "Operation TIPS," an Orwellian program under which designated citizens would be trained to look for and report suspicious behavior on the part of their fellow citizens.

Despite the problems in the bill, I am voting for it today because I remain committed to a strong, effective Department of Homeland Security. I am hopeful that the problematic issues I highlighted and other concerns will be successfully addressed in the conference committee.

IN HONOR OF TORII KEDAR
HUNTER

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 2002

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, on July 9th, 2002, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin nine of the Nation's top professional baseball players walked onto the field at Miller Park as the starting lineup for the American League's team at Major

League Baseball's 73rd All-Star Game. Among them, in centerfield, was Torii Hunter of the Minnesota Twins. The crowd's eyes were fixed on him because he is known to be a show stopper, but my eyes were fixed upon him because he is from Pine Bluff, AR, in the heart of my own district.

In the first inning with two outs and nobody on base in a scoreless game, the crowd was aching for some action. Soon San Francisco's Barry Bonds stepped up to the plate. Hunter took a few steps back. With a 3-0 count, Bonds lashed a fast-ball deep into center field. Hunter raced to the back wall, waited, and timed his jump perfectly to catch the ball well above the fence. The crowd erupted into applause.

After the game Hunter said "I grew up in Arkansas and the All-Star Game is one everybody got to watch on TV. I just want to make the people of my hometown proud. To make a catch against a Hall of Famer on national TV, this is one I'll always remember."

Some might have been surprised by Torii Hunter's outstanding performance at the All Star game, but his teammates certainly were not. Hunter's breakout performance in 2001 was one of the main reasons the Minnesota Twins battled for first place until the final weeks of the season. A first-round draft pick in 1993, Hunter has been one of the better defensive center fielders in baseball for several seasons but he became an offensive threat last season, hitting 27 home runs, 32 doubles, and knocking in 92 runs. His defense in center field didn't suffer either; he was awarded his first Gold Glove Award during the 2001 season.

Hunter's impressive career got its start in South Arkansas. Hunter is a 1993 graduate of Pine Bluff High School where he played baseball, basketball, football and track. He was named first team All-State his junior and senior seasons and played on the South squad in the 1992 Junior Olympics. Hunter was selected to the High School National Team by USA Today, the All American Team by Baseball America, and was named Gatorade's Arkansas Player of the Year in 1993.

Mr. Hunter is not only an amazing athlete, but an amazing husband, father and volunteer. He and his wife, Katrina Hall Hunter, have one son, Torii Jr. Hunter also designates his time and effort in support of Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Through his inspiring career, and his selfless actions, Torii Hunter has indeed made the people of his hometown proud.

HONORING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF
NORTH CAROLINIANS

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 2002

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of some fellow North Carolinians who, during the recent District Work Period, brought great honor to our State.

Shortly after we returned to our respective Districts, North Carolina lost one of its most famous athletes, Enos "Country" Slaughter. Born in Roxboro, just south of the Virginia State line, Country went on to star for the St.

Louis Cardinals baseball team during their hey day's of the 1940's. Known as one of the "Gashouse Gang," Country batted .300 for his career and had almost as many triples (148) as he had home runs (169). His most memorable moment came in the 1946 World Series, when he rounded the bases from first on a routine single to score the Series winning run. The "Mad Dash"—as it came to be known—may have been his finest moment on the field, but often forgotten and much more appreciated by his fellow Americans was his service to our country in World War II during the height of his career. Country was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1985 and returned annually for the induction ceremonies until his health prevented his attendance this year. Former teammate Marty Marion called Slaughter, "... a good old country boy who just loved to play baseball." Country will be sorely missed.

About the same time Enos was called home, a new generation of North Carolina baseball players were reaching the pinnacle of youth sports—The Little League World Series.

During the months of July and August, a talented group of 11 and 12 year olds from the Southwest Forsyth County Little League swept through the North Carolina Little League Tournament, defeating Greenville to become State Champions. Then, at the Southeast Regional Championship, the All-Stars ran their winning streak to 13 by tearing through the competition in Florida and defeating the Virginia State Champions to earn their tickets to Williamsport, Pennsylvania. They are only the third team in North Carolina to reach the World Series in the event's fifty-six year history.

Upon reaching Williamsport, Southwest was thrust into the international spotlight, living side-by-side with Venezuelans, Saudi's, and Russians, as well as Californians and Texans. In the pool play competition, Southwest put up a valiant effort in each of its three games, the third of which was a loss to eventual world champions Louisville, Kentucky. Even though the won-loss record does not reflect it, the talent and effort put forth by these young men far exceeded the expectations of coaches and parents and in the category of sportsmanship, Southwest is an undisputed champion. These 13 "Boys of Summer" now share a bond that will be with them for the rest of their lives—and stories of their on-field heroics from the Summer of 2002 will grow with each passing year into legends like those of Country Slaughter's "Mad Dash."

Of course the success of Southwest would not be possible without the unwavering support of parents, who sacrificed hours of family and work time to shuttle the players to and from practices and tournaments; of coaches, who also sacrificed time away from their families and jobs to teach these young men about baseball, and more importantly, the things the game teaches us about life and our responsibility to others, be they teammates, classmates, family members or society as a whole. Also, league organizers and sponsors, who for the past three decades have given the children of Southwest Forsyth county a place to spend their Springs and Summers in a competitive, safe and constructive atmosphere to learn our Nation's pastime. Each of these young men, have, at one time during this memorable ride, given the people of Forsyth County and North Carolina something to cheer about, so it would be only fitting to recognize all of them: