

AVIATION

Clean Airport Bus Pilot Program. Directs the Secretary of Transportation to establish a pilot grants award program for the acquisition of buses powered by alternative fuels and low-sulfur diesel fuel at public airports through airport bus replacement and fleet expansion grants. Grants are to be used to purchase buses powered by alternative fuels and low-sulfur diesel fuel to be used as part of the airport fleet for a minimum of 5 years and, to the extent possible, grants are to be awarded to ensure a broad geographic distribution with no State receiving more than 10 percent of the available grant funding. The bill authorizes \$200 million over 5 years for this grant program.

Clean Aircraft Engines. Authorizes the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to establish a public-private research partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, research universities, and members of the aero-propulsion industry to develop a clean ground demonstrator engine utilizing technologies developed by NASA and to focus on the development and certification of environmentally friendly manufacturing technologies, materials, and overhaul and repair. The bill authorizes such sums as may be necessary for the establishment of this public-private partnership.

WATER RESOURCES

Marine Efficiency. Authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to establish a public-private research partnership with the Federal Government, vessel operators, ports, terminal operators, shipyards, and equipment suppliers to develop and demonstrate technologies that increase fuel economy, reduce emissions, and lower costs of marine transportation and increase the efficiency of intermodal transfers. The bill authorizes such sums as may be necessary for the establishment of this public-private partnership.

Improving Hydropower Capabilities. Directs the Secretary of the Army to study the potential for reduced fossil fuel consumption through an increase in U.S. hydropower capabilities at dams owned or operated by the Corps of Engineers.

Encouragement of Prohibitions on Great Lakes Off-Shore Drilling. Contains a finding by Congress that environmental dangers associated with off-shore drilling in the Great Lakes for oil and gas outweigh the potential benefits of such drilling and encourages the Great Lake states to continue to prohibit off-shore drilling for oil and gas where such prohibitions already exist and to enact a prohibition of such drilling where one does not yet exist.

RECOGNITION OF THE OAK PARK
BUSINESS EDUCATION ALLIANCE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Oak Park Business and Education Alliance (OPBEA) at their Annual Community Awards Luncheon on Friday, March 28th at Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills.

The Oak Park Business and Education Alliance is a non-profit organization of educators, businesses and government entities. This or-

ganization marshalls important segments of the community to focus on increasing educational opportunities for Oak Park students. Since its inception in 1993, they have become an invaluable asset to the community.

On Friday, this fine organization will honor a community activist, Mike Tobin, and a community institution, Oakland Community College.

Mike Tobin, President of Mike Building Company of Farmington, learned his trade from his father who from the beginning concentrated on building homes that would open the residential market to more families. That practice continues today because Mr. Tobin's his first love is the single family affordable home. He shares the enjoyment of first-time buyers when they realize they have become "homeowners." Aside from his love of building, and his commitment to the future of the building industry and the workforce of tomorrow, Mr. Tobin is a recognized leader in the community and a devoted supporter of many charities and institutions, including the OPBEA.

Oakland Community College (OCC) established in 1964, began with 2 campuses and was proud of its initial enrollment of 3860 students. Today, they have grown to more than 27,000 students covering 5 campuses in Oakland County. OCC is an invaluable resource for the community, the region and the State as they provide a wide range of affordable services and educational opportunities to students of all ages. OCC is an active participant in the OPBEA Board as a connecting link between education and employment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mike Tobin, Oakland Community College and the Oak Park Business and Education Alliance and wish them success in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE AND JEANNE
BECKLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Steve and Jeanne Beckley of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. The Beckleys are dedicated members of the Glenwood Springs community, and it is my honor to pay tribute to their accomplishments before this body of Congress and this great nation.

Steve and Jeanne are the owners of Glenwood Caverns, a landmark tourist attraction in the Glenwood Springs area. Recently, they have expanded the caves into a year-round attraction, beginning construction of an aerial tramway to be completed this spring, which will allow visitors to access the site from Iron Mountain. Their contributions to tourism in Glenwood Springs will help to bring even more visitors to the area. For their efforts, the Beckleys were recognized as Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association's Citizens of the Year for 2002.

Mr. Speaker, it is with honor that I commend Steve and Jeanne Beckley before this body of Congress and this great nation for their efforts in the Glenwood Springs community. Their contributions have greatly benefited the people of Glenwood Springs and I am honored to

have this opportunity to represent such fine Coloradans. I wish both Steve and Jeanne the best of luck with all of their future endeavors.

FISCAL WINDS OF WAR

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues this March 27, 2003, editorial from the Omaha World Herald. The editorial rightly praises the other body for its vote to reduce the President's proposed tax cut in the budget resolution in the face of the cost of the war in Iraq.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Mar. 27, 2003]

FISCAL WINDS OF WAR

Cutting taxes in an effort to reinvigorate a sputtery economy is an idea that has merit, and the Bush administration can be praised for pursuing the effort. But the U.S. Senate, in its surprise vote on Tuesday, got it right: \$726 billion was simply too much in the face of an open-ended and obviously costly war with Iraq.

The Senate, in a stance it reconfirmed yesterday, voted to reduce the tax cut (as part of a \$2.2 trillion budget) to \$350 billion, still a substantial tax reduction. Next comes the haggling between House and Senate, since the House-approved version would give President Bush the full \$726 billion cut he sought.

By the best available evidence, the administration lost track of its vote tally in the Senate. It asked for an initial \$75 billion for the war in Iraq, evidently confident that it would win both that and the full tax reduction. But the Senate, by a narrow margin, opted for prudence. The majority rightly saw the \$75 billion as a down payment—enough to sustain the effort for six months, with more bills to come later and yet more after that as the effort gets under way to reconstruct Iraq.

Bush's reluctance until this week to put even a tentative price tag on the Iraq war and aftermath has raised a question in our minds: Is the administration concerned that domestic support for the war will fade if the average American is asked to sacrifice something?

If so, we would hope to disabuse the White House of such a notion. Several recent polls suggest that 70 to 75 percent of Americans support this effort to dislodge the evils of Saddam Hussein. We believe that if it takes giving up (at least for now) part of a proposed tax cut to undergird the fight financially, most Americans are ready to do that.

We are reminded of World War II, when Americans willingly observed meatless days, endured gasoline rationing, drove on bald tires and so on to bolster the war effort. We have no reason to believe that today's citizens are made of less stern stuff.

Congress should unhesitatingly give the president the war funding he is asking for. His tax-cut plan can be revisited later. Meanwhile, as a people we're in this fight and had better pay for it. (Don't forget the hyperinflation that resulted from President Lyndon Johnson's insistence on conducting the Vietnam war on the cuff.)

Congress has a duty here, too. Whatever tax-cut figure it ends up with, it should make good on its word: Spend the difference on the war, and if there's any left, shore up the Social Security system. Any other use of the funds constitutes a breach of promise.