

House Committee on International Relations on September 4, 2003, and an estimate for H.J. Res. 63 as ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on September 10, 2003. All three versions of this legislation would amend the Compact of Free Association. The versions approved by the Committees on International Relations and the Judiciary are identical. In contrast, the version of H.J. Res. 63 approved by the Committee on Resources would provide significantly more funding for RMI and FSM. Our estimates for the different versions of the legislation reflect those differences.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Matthew Pickford (226-2860) and Donna Wong (226-2820); Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Sarah Puro (225-3220); and Impact on the Private Sector: Paige Piper/Bach (226-2940).

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
COMMANDER LORIN C. SELBY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Commander Lorin C. Selby has completed his tour in the Navy's House Liaison Office; and

Whereas, Commander Lorin C. Selby has demonstrated a commitment to meeting challenges with dedication, confidence, and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Commander Lorin C. Selby will continue in his service to the United States of America as Commanding Officer of the USS *Greeneville*; and

Whereas, in this post Commander Lorin C. Selby will protect our great nation and play an important role in the War on Terrorism;

Therefore, I am honored to join with Members of Congress and Congressional Staff in recognizing a true patriot, Commander Lorin C. Selby.

PUT AMERICANS BACK TO WORK:
PASS THE REBUILD AMERICA ACT

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, on September 1, we celebrated Labor Day, a day to honor America's working men and women. On that same day, America's most respected journalist, Walter Cronkite, wrote a newspaper column reminding us all of the millions of Americans who are unemployed and the need to put them back to work.

Mr. Cronkite recalled how public investment in our national infrastructure, through programs such as the Works Progress Administration, once created jobs by building new public facilities: highways, bridges, airports, libraries, schools, courthouses, even New York's Lincoln Tunnel and the Overseas Highway linking the Florida Keys.

"The W.P.A. built what in many ways is the America we know today," Mr. Cronkite wrote.

I salute Mr. Cronkite for once again reminding us who we are, where we came from and

how we got here. I further commend him for recognizing that the same approach that helped America recover from the worst economic disaster in its history, the Great Depression, can and will work today.

Mr. Speaker, a few short weeks ago, I joined the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. COSTELLO, and the rest of my Democratic colleagues on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, in introducing H.R. 2615, the Rebuild America Act of 2003. This bill is designed to put Americans back to work now—within 90 days of the bill's enactment. It invests \$50 billion in our national economy by building and improving roads, bridges and transit systems, expanding airport capacity and enhancing safety, rebuilding wastewater systems and treatment plants, upgrading beds for high-speed service and many other projects.

Over the 10-year life of this bill we can generate \$310 billion in economic activity and, most importantly, create 2.3 million jobs.

The Rebuild America Act is built for speed. It gives priority to projects that are ready for construction, thereby creating jobs immediately and giving our economy a quick jumpstart. Mr. Speaker, if we were to enact this bill by the end of September, we could be putting Americans to work by Christmas.

And next Labor Day, Mr. Cronkite can write about all the new jobs we created.

I call upon my colleagues to bring up and pass the Rebuild America Act without any further delay, and I commend to you all the complete text of Mr. Cronkite's column, as published in the *Sioux City Journal*, and I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a summary of the Rebuild America Act:

LITTLE TO CELEBRATE FOR UNEMPLOYED

So Labor Day comes again. Many will celebrate this annual recognition of the dignity of our American labor force.

But there is little to celebrate for 9 million Americans on the unemployment rolls and somewhere around 1 million others, our invisible unemployed, who we are told have yielded to soul-searing despondency and no longer even seek work. Maybe we should make them visible. We could put yellow ribbons on their homes in the same manner we recognize our heroes, for those civilians who, through no fault of their own, have fallen on outrageous fortune.

As they get jobs, the yellow ribbons would be removed. Perhaps that would make it harder for administration representatives to disguise how serious the unemployment problem really is.

We might note here that the frightening number of unemployed does not include the tens of thousands of others who have lost good jobs in industry and commerce and have only been able to find work in menial or low-paying temporary jobs. At the same time, we see a rise in the U.S. productivity data, an important economic indicator. However, that improvement is in part because thousands of jobs have gone overseas, where wages are lower.

A few days ago, the Labor Department reported that the number of persons filing new unemployment claims last month was the lowest in six months. Good news that things aren't getting worse, but the numbers still leave millions unemployed, an unacceptable figure in a caring society.

With that and some other favorable economic indicators, the Bush administration finds cause to boast. It sees justification of its contention, when it was negotiating its \$1.6 trillion tax cut, that the rich who imme-

diately benefited eventually would put their tax savings back into the economy and thus feed its recovery and gradual re-employment. This trickle down theory might work in time, but the thousands of unemployed don't have that time as their families do without life's essentials—food, clothing and shelter.

To speed their re-employment, there recently have been suggestions, mostly by Democrats, that what is needed is the resurrection of Franklin Roosevelt's formula to deal with the Great Depression he inherited in 1933.

Roosevelt's brain trust believed in "trickle up" rather than trickle down—give people work, and the vast payroll spread widely across the country would speed recovery from the Depression.

His program, called the Works Progress Administration, almost instantaneously put one-third of the country's unemployed back to work—some 8.5 million people. The WPA built what in many ways is the America we know today.

In the eight years of its existence (until wartime demands created a labor shortage), the government-subsidized workers built 116,000 buildings—including schools, libraries, hospitals and courthouses—78,000 bridges and 651,000 miles of highways, and improved 8,000 airports. Among the WPA's other monumental achievements: the Golden Gate Bridge, New York's Lincoln Tunnel, Virginia's Skyline Drive and the Florida Keys' Overseas Highway.

A similar project today could answer the urgent need to repair and upgrade the nation's crumbling infrastructure—our electric power grids, our bridges and highways, our dams and waterways, our schools.

Such a program would cost billions of dollars, which our Treasury does not have, thanks to the Bush tax cut and disastrous underestimation of the costs of the Iraq war and reconstruction. What is required now is political leaders courageous enough to defy the maxim that no one ever gets elected proposing higher taxes. They would call for repeal of the Bush tax cut and the imposition of the new taxes that will be necessary not only to put our unemployed to work but to begin reducing the national debt, that financial burden that we are unconscionably about to unload on future generations.

A BILL TO REBUILD AMERICA BY INVESTING IN
TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IN-
FRASURTURE AND SECURITY

[Introduced by Cong. Costello, Cong. Davis, Cong. Oberstar and other Democratic Members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, June 12, 2003]

\$50 BILLION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Provide \$50 billion for infrastructure investment to enhance the safety, security, and efficiency of our highway, transit, aviation, rail, port, environmental, and public buildings infrastructure. By leveraging Federal investments, the ten-year cost to the Treasury of this bill is less than \$34 billion.

Highways, \$5 billion; transit, \$3 billion; aviation, \$3 billion; high-speed rail, \$14 billion; passenger and freight rail, \$7.5 billion; port security, \$2.5 billion; environmental infrastructure, \$11.5 billion; water resources, \$1.5 billion; economic development, \$1.5 billion; and public buildings, \$500 million.

The bill requires these funds to be invested in ready-to-go projects. Priority shall be given to projects that can award bids within 90 days of enactment. The bill also requires funds to be obligated within two years.

The bill includes a maintenance of effort provision to ensure that recipients continue their current investment levels, particularly with regard to infrastructure security.

Finally, the bill allows recipients an extended period of time to meet their state and local match requirements.

TRIBUTE TO E. LARRY ST.
LAURENT

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to E. Larry St. Laurent who is retiring after 15 years as Director of the Ocean County Veterans Service Bureau. Although still suffering injuries suffered during the Korean War, Mr. St. Laurent has devoted countless hours to Ocean County's veteran population. Those injuries have given him a special insight into the problems of veterans who are trying to navigate through the bureaucratic maze and receive the benefits they have earned and to which they are entitled.

Larry was a leader in the effort to raise \$3 million to erect a memorial to the men and women from New Jersey who died during the Korean War. The New Jersey Korean War Memorial was dedicated in 2000, thanks in great part to his efforts.

A lifelong public servant, Larry has devoted his life to his fellow veterans, beginning in 1952 as Service Officer for Jackson VFW Post 4703. He has been an officer in several veterans organizations, including Disabled American Veterans and the Military Order of the Purple Heart, as well as his current position as Director of the Ocean County Veterans Service Bureau.

His understanding of the needs of our veterans has enabled him to provide veterans with the opportunity to improve their lives. I have enjoyed working with Mr. St. Laurent and his Veterans Service Bureau over the years, and I salute his commitment to Ocean County and its veterans, for whom he will continue to advocate even in retirement. His will be difficult shoes to fill.

TRIBUTE TO FOREIGN MINISTER
OF SWEDEN ANNA LINDH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to deliver a short message both to the American people and to my good friends in Sweden and, indeed, to all the people of Sweden.

Mr. Speaker, last week, the foreign minister of Sweden was brazenly assassinated. I hope the people of Sweden will accept Congress' heartfelt sympathy for the passing of their Foreign Minister, Anna Lindh. I had the greatest respect for this very talented woman. I certainly agree with British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw's comment that "she represented everything that was wonderful about Sweden and about Europe."

Anna Lindh's devotion to all of the citizens of Sweden and to the betterment of our world was very laudable. That she was considered a possible future prime minister is not surprising.

Her reputation as one of Sweden's most popular government officials was recognition by you of her unimpeachable integrity and great vision. Anna Lindh saw all that was good about a nation already held in high regard around the world and strove to polish its image even more.

Everyone who considers government service a noble calling had an excellent role model in this wonderful woman. Far from putting an end to the goals she had set for herself and her people, her death will encourage others with similarly high ideals to continue and expand on her work, taking it to new heights. That would be the best way to honor her memory, and Sweden deserves nothing less.

We are all much poorer for this terrible tragedy. Sweden has lost a great leader, and the world has lost one of its finest citizens. After our period of grief, all of us, government leaders and common citizens alike, must rededicate ourselves to the work of making our nations and our world the kind of places Anna Lindh wanted for us. As we go forward, her spirit will be guiding us.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER
11

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it is hard to imagine how much our world has changed in the past 2 years. New challenges have been met with great courage and the commitment of a strong Nation. Out of the ashes of the twin towers has emerged an America with a renewed sense of pride and appreciation for our country.

Americans love freedom. We cherish our way of life and the values that make us Americans. Our Founding Fathers stood with "the flame of freedom in their souls, and light of knowledge in their eyes", and created a country unlike that of any other. A country where people do not live in fear; a country where ideas, education and imagination are endless; a country where children can dream of things never before achieved, and grow up to actually do them.

It has been 2 years since the terrorist attacks, yet when I look around, I see an even greater America than had existed before. Our love of freedom and the American way of life cannot be shaken. We stand together—a United America—so that one day, others may know the joy of freedom.

CALLING FOR TAIWAN'S RETURN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, as the 58th session of the United Nations General Assembly convenes this week, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of the Republic of China on Taiwan and call for its rightful return as a member of the U.N.

Taiwan has become a stable, democratic presence in Asia, a bulwark of support for

human rights and a world economic power. It is a thriving multi-party democracy, with free and fair elections held at all levels of government. Taiwan also has a thriving capitalist economy. It is now the United States' eighth largest trading partner and a major investor in East Asia.

The R.O.C. has long demonstrated its commitment to the well being of the international community. It has a history of heeding calls by the U.N. for emergency relief and assistance to countries that suffer disasters and wars. Its generosity and humanitarianism have included Kosovar refugees, Afghanistan reconstruction, Iraqi food supplies, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, and victims of natural and man-made disasters in El Salvador, Turkey, Nicaragua, and New York City in the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Denying Taiwan U.N. membership is not in the best interests of the world community. The memberships of the now unified East Germany and West Germany and the divided Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are examples of parallel representations of divided nations in the U.N. The U.N.'s role in exchanges between East and West Germany assisted in the eventual unification of the country in 1990.

Taiwan's membership in the UN will have enormous benefits for the international community and it is imperative that this unfair and untenable situation be resolved.

CITRUS COUNTY INDUSTRY
APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Citrus County Industry appreciation Week, A 21 year-old tradition that originated in my Fifth Congressional District to honor our industries and recognize their contributions to our communities.

Last Thursday, industry executives and employees, along with community activists and residents kicked off the week-long celebration. Upcoming events include a Thursday afternoon barbecue to wrap up the week and an awards luncheon, to take place today, to recognize outstanding local businesses and business professionals for outstanding public service, employee relations, and contributions to the community.

Awards being given at the event will go to Citrus County's Most Outstanding Small Business, Most Outstanding Employer or Corporate Citizen, and Person of the Year. I wish all those in the running for these awards well—and send this year's organizers my regards! I am surely missing a great event.

We all know that industry creates jobs—which no one will argue is a bad thing—and it broadens the tax base of an area, meaning cities and municipalities take in more revenue to spend on public works projects, on our schools, and on a whole host of other things vital to the community. Industries also regularly contribute charitably to citizen groups and organizations, volunteering time and resources to improve the area where they do business and where their employees live.

Recently, following Citrus County's lead, the State of Florida has begun celebrating a state