

A FATHER'S LOVE: IN HONOR OF  
BRETT FAVRE "4" AT THE RE-  
TIRING OF HIS NUMBER AT  
LAMBEAU FIELD

**HON. REID J. RIBBLE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 7, 2015*

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Brett Favre, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame this past summer, and the halftime ceremony which took place on Thanksgiving retiring his number "4" at Lambeau Field. I submit this poem penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

A FATHER'S LOVE

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

The heart of a champion,  
and from where does it all so come  
And how is one so born into this among  
And where does such a splendid gift originate  
from  
And how may we pass on these gifts of love,  
to our sons  
For its only through our love and time,  
and life lessons find, what we have won  
For our days on this earth,  
are the shortest of all ones  
So cherish each moment with your sons  
For its all about what we leave behind,  
when all is said and done  
So who will we touch before our last suns  
To raise a son and instill in him all his of  
hopes and dreams,  
and values to come  
To bestow upon him all your gifts of love,  
to help him rise above  
One of our Lord's most precious gifts,  
is to raise a child of love  
No greater blessing on the wings of a dove  
Because a child is the brightest of all lights.  
Passing onto him all our wisdom and love.  
Watching him grow up into a fine man,  
is the culmination of all our dreams begun  
There was once a little boy sitting on his fa-  
ther's knee,  
as his dad spoke to him about his future  
dreams,  
and what he could be.  
"listen my son, you are the one, believe"  
"And little man, you will go Favre  
and football is in your blood and she'll give  
you all you need!"  
And from that first day as was completed,  
such a warm bond in hearts to succeed it  
A catch with dad, a fine Father and Son,  
as such a love story grew on fields of green  
Like Father like Son into this winning team  
As a father and a coach passed onto him his  
creed  
Showing him what he would need  
And what it was to be a man,  
hitting pay dirt in The Game of Life . . . TD  
A pat on the back, extending a warm hand,  
and respect to demand,  
to lead his heart towards his future dreams  
And throughout the years,  
those bumps and bruises here  
Nights at home with broken bones,  
and contusions as a love story grew so dear.  
Pop Warner, High School ball,  
and then a College comes to call,  
and soon the big leagues Brett's name would  
fear  
To be a Pro, at the Top, To Be The Best,  
as Brett's leadership they could not contest  
As the cream of the crop,  
is an almost impossible quest,  
to be in The Hall of Fame one day as one of  
The Very Best  
In football,

the very heart of any team is but The Quar-  
terback

The point from which,  
all leadership on fields of green attacks  
Where the toughest of the tough react  
With only micro seconds to counteract,  
on coming mammoths of size and speed  
As all around you 300lb men come crashing  
in,

trying to make you bleed  
And throughout the years,  
many great names have here played on fields  
of green

Like Johnny Its U, The Young Man too, The  
Montana Man,  
In the Namath of Football whose legend  
grew, that Shaw of Football  
Terry too, and Peyton's Place, Marino, Cap-  
tain Comeback Stauback,  
a Cool Brees, Brady, Rocket Rogers a list of  
greats he, and Bart a Star of  
the who's who

And now its Brave Brett,  
that gunslinger with the quad threat history  
pursued

And when we close the  
door on number "4"  
in The Hall of Fame him we will view  
A "4" threat man who can beat you with his  
feet,

his arm, his head, and his heart too.  
Because on fields of green,  
Brett is one of greatest warriors seen  
SMASHING ALL KNOWN RECORDS AS HE  
DEEMED

A gunslinger who could hit any target,  
dislocating receivers fingers on his team  
And it did not happen by luck or by cir-  
cumstance,

but because of a Father's Love which gave  
him the chance

Who helped him shape his future dreams,  
as reflections of him in Brett are seen  
Because of this great love which convened.  
Which helped him weather the storms of life,  
when days turned mean.

As he grew up strong and tall,  
to compete on those fields of green  
For Football is such a splendid game,  
where her life lessons with us remain  
Where a Father and Son's reflections,  
into future generation can be seen  
The year was 2003,

as across our country a great love story was  
about to convene

As the power of a Father and Son's love,  
our Nation was about to glean  
As Brett went deep on the TV screen  
Just like the Gipper of old,

a new love story was about to unfold  
As a Nation for his son so grieved  
To win one for DAD on fields of green  
With tears in eyes, Brett showed us all why,  
in life what the most so really means  
As we saw what his Dad had given him,  
so deep down inside that which gleams  
Solid Gold,

molding one of the greatest of all time so.  
Bringing tears to eyes

In life, no greater victory can be achieved.  
Then the love of a parent and child believe  
From end to end,

no greater drive could be conceived  
Sadly though, some children will never know  
such a friend so very deep

To arm a child,  
with their love all the while to compete.  
To realize his dreams to seek

Up in heaven this day  
Brett your Dad is working out a long term  
contract with Vince and our Lord for when  
you come up to play

Where, you can walk with your Best Friend  
and talk football and go fishing once again.  
For Heaven my friends,

is the real Super Bowl for all us to contend.  
And there can be no greater gift,

then all of this in a child's heart to help him  
rise above

And that's why In The Game of Life,  
Brett always went deep armed with his Fa-  
ther's Love.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 22,  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RE-  
AUTHORIZATION AND REFORM  
ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 3, 2015*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Conference Report on H.R. 22, The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act. This agreement is long overdue, as communities across the country have been clamoring for a long-term funding bill that provides certainty to infrastructure projects across the country, rather than trying to pay for these projects with flat-line funding and short-term extensions.

This legislative measure provides \$281 billion in guaranteed funding for highway, transit, and transportation safety programs for five years. This funding will keep these programs solvent for the entire five-year period. In addition, the agreement provides \$24 billion from the General Fund, including \$11.5 billion to be used for transit New Starts projects and \$10.4 billion for Amtrak and intercity passenger rail grants. Thanks to this measure, California will receive \$19.4 billion in highway funding and \$6.8 billion in transit funding over the five-year period.

I am also proud to support the four-year reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank included in this conference report. This bank supports millions of dollars in exports by 40th District businesses, and helps level the playing field for American businesses to better compete in today's ever-growing, interconnected economy. I applaud the bipartisan effort which was so critical to including the bank's reauthorization in this agreement, and I look forward to witnessing the bank's further success and its continued support for American businesses.

However, this package is not perfect. The reality is our country needs an even more robust investment in infrastructure than what is provided through this measure. I also have concerns about the funding provisions in this bill. For example, it indexes Customs User Fees to inflation and uses them to offset the cost of the bill at a time when these fees are needed for expenses related to staffing at our borders.

Nevertheless, I hope that the funding stability this agreement provides will allow us to look ahead to the long-term solvency of the highway and transit programs. Congress should utilize the five-year authorization period to develop a reliable and reasonable funding mechanism to pay for future reauthorizations that eliminates the need for multiple short-term extensions. I believe this bipartisan legislation is a step in the right direction, and I urge all members to support this agreement.