

to certify screening companies, and enhance screener training. In addition, S. 2440 mandates minimum training standards for screeners: 40 hours of classroom training and 40 hours on the job. Certification of screening companies and mandatory training requirements will go a long way toward ensuring a proficient and highly qualified screening workforce.

In addition, the Inspector General has made some very startling findings regarding the ineffectiveness of FAA's background investigative procedures, and the vulnerabilities in airport access control. An Inspector General study of security procedures at six airports concluded that compliance with existing FAA regulations was lax. Of the 35 percent of employee files reviewed, the IG found no evidence that a complete background investigation had been performed. Despite this failure, airport identification cards were issued to these employees. In addition, 15 percent of the files reviewed showed an unexplained employment gap, but with no requisite criminal background check being performed.

To ensure effective background investigations, S. 2440 requires criminal history record checks for those individuals who apply for a position as a screener or a screener supervisor, or who apply for a position that allows for unescorted access to secured areas of an airport. Importantly, S. 2440 adds several crimes, including illegal possession of a controlled substance, to the list of crimes that would disqualify an individual from holding a security-sensitive position.

Further, S. 2440 requires the FAA, in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to expand its electronic fingerprint transmission pilot project into an aviation industry wide program. This program will allow for a quick turnaround on criminal background checks for individuals applying for screener or other security-sensitive positions.

The FAA must take a holistic view toward its security responsibilities to ensure that all areas of vulnerability are addressed. However, the airlines and airports also share in that responsibility—and should not put cost considerations above passenger safety. S. 2440 directs the FAA to work with all responsible parties to eliminate access control weaknesses, requiring airport operators and air carriers to adopt training programs so that all employees are aware of the importance of complying with the access control procedures. S. 2440 also requires airport operators and air carriers to develop programs that award compliance with access controls procedures, penalize non-compliance, and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

I made a promise when I was on the President's 1990 Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism that I would not let that Report gather dust on a shelf. Passage of S. 2440, in combination with the AIR 21 provisions, is just another milestone on the infinite continuum of enhancing aviation security.

We must remain vigilant in our oversight of the FAA's progress in resolving these very significant and complex security issues. We owe it to the American traveling public both here and abroad. I urge my colleagues to support this critical piece of legislation.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2440, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

□

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DEDICATION OF JAPANESE-AMERICAN MEMORIAL TO PATRIOTISM

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate Concurrent Resolution (S. Con. Res. 139) authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the dedication of the Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 139

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

In this Resolution:

(1) EVENT.—The term "event" means the dedication of the National Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism.

(2) SPONSOR.—The term "sponsor" means the National Japanese-American Memorial Foundation.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE DEDICATION OF THE NATIONAL JAPANESE-AMERICAN MEMORIAL.

The National Japanese-American Memorial Foundation may sponsor the dedication of the National Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism on the Capitol grounds on November 9, 2000, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate.

SEC. 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The event shall be open to the public, free of admission charge, and arranged so as not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 4. STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.

(a) STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, beginning on November 8, 2000, the sponsor may erect or place and keep on the Capitol grounds, until not later than 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 11, 2000, such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as are required for the event.

(b) ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police

Board may make any such additional arrangements as are appropriate to carry out the event.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 4 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (40 U.S.C. 193d; 60 Stat. 718), concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol grounds, with respect to the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Senate Concurrent Resolution 139 authorizes use of the Capitol grounds for the dedication ceremony of the National Japanese-American Memorial on November 9, 2000, or on such date that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration jointly designate. The resolution authorizes the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police Board, and the National Japanese-American Memorial Foundation, the sponsor of the event, to negotiate the necessary arrangements for carrying out the events in complete compliance with the rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol grounds. The event will be free of charge and open to the public.

In 1991, former Congressman and now Secretary Mineta introduced House Joint Resolution 271 authorizing the Go For Broke National Veterans Association Foundation to establish a memorial to honor Japanese-American patriotism during World War II. This measure had the support of 132 cosponsors and unanimously passed the House and the Senate. In 1995, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure reported legislation transferring land between the Architect of the Capitol, the Department of the Interior, and the District of Columbia for the purpose of setting aside a parcel of land suitable for this memorial.

The memorial, which was authorized by Congress and is privately funded, occupies a triangular Federal park just south of the Capitol at Louisiana and New Jersey Avenues and D Street, Northwest. This memorial will help us all better understand Japanese-Americans' World War II experiences. I would encourage all members to attend this important dedication ceremony. I support this measure, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 139, a resolution to authorize the use of the Capitol grounds on November 9 for the dedication of the National Japanese-