

government-owned facilities in Denver and Lakewood, Colorado, at a proposed total annual cost of \$6,130,425 for a lease term of 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, That the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 162,530 rentable square feet and 200 inside and 20 outside parking spaces for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located in leased space in Minneapolis and Roseville, Minnesota, at a proposed total annual cost of \$6,176,140 for a lease term of 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, That the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
CINCINNATI, OH

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 108,874 rentable square feet of space and 145 structured and 20 surface parking spaces for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located in multiple locations in Cincinnati, at a proposed total annual cost of \$3,810,590 for a lease term of 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, That the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—CONSTRUCTION—
UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE ANNEX, SAN
DIEGO, CA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, additional appropriations are authorized for additional site, additional design, management and inspection, and construction of a 466,886 gross square foot facility and 105 inside parking spaces located in San Diego, California, at an additional site and design cost of \$3,258,000 (site and design cost of \$42,369,000 were previously authorized), management and inspection cost of \$7,740,000, and an estimated construction cost of \$248,816,000, a combined estimated total project cost of \$302,183,000, a prospectus for which is attached to, and included in, this resolution.

Within one year of the date of approval of this Resolution, the Judicial Conference of the United States shall amend the U.S. Courts Design Guide to require that each U.S. Courthouse construction project provide

one courtroom for every two senior judges. Beginning on the date of approval of this Resolution, the Judicial Conference of the United States shall specifically approve each departure from the U.S. Courts Design Guide for each U.S. Courthouse construction project which result in additional estimated costs of the project (including additional rent payment obligations) and that the Judicial Conference provide a specific list of each departure and the justification and estimated cost (as supplied by the General Services Administration (GSA)) of such departure for each U.S. Courthouse construction project to the GSA. Each U.S. Courthouse construction prospectus submitted by the GSA shall include a specific list of each departure and the justification and estimated cost (including additional rent payment obligations) of such departure and GSA's recommendation on whether the Committee on Transportation of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the U.S. Senate should approve such departure.

This resolution amends a Committee resolution dated July 21, 2004, which authorized site and design of a 614,394 gross square foot facility with 105 inside parking spaces.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CON-
SIDERATION OF H.R. 5766, GOV-
ERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT OF
2006

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet later this week to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 5766, the Government Efficiency Act of 2006.

The bill was ordered reported by the Committee on Government Reform on July 20, 2006. Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26, 2006.

Members should draft their amendments to the bill as ordered reported by the Committee on Government Reform, which is expected to be filed today. The text of the bill as ordered reported will be made available on the Web sites of both the Committee on Rules and the Committee on Government Reform.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format and should check with the Office for the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the Rules of the House.

STRAIGHT TALK ON THE
ECONOMY

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give the American people some straight talk about our economy. In 1992, Bill Clinton ran for president with the slogan "It's is the economy, stupid."

Today, his wife, HILLARY, reminded us of that slogan in her speech to the Democratic Leadership Council. Well, our economy is very strong and growing. We have created 5.4 million new jobs in the last 3 years. Our unemployment rate is better than the average of the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. We have had 18 straight quarters of economic growth.

Homeownership is now at 69 percent, the largest in history. And our revenues are coming in so high we will be able to meet our goal of cutting the deficit in half by 2008, a year ahead of schedule. This time, let's take the Clintons at their word. If it is the economy, stupid, then let's be smart and reelect those Congressmen who gave us this strong economy by lowering the taxes in the first place.

ARABIA MOUNTAIN NATIONAL
HERITAGE AREA

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Members of the House and the Senate for passing legislation that included language authorizing the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area in my district.

Mr. Speaker, this is a boon to the environmental community that seeks to preserve pristine areas everywhere. But for such an area to be in the middle of a bustling African American community is especially rare.

We need green space in south DeKalb, and this will go a very long way toward realizing a community dream. Initially, our thought was to have the funding go to the country or the State, and that was reflected in one version of the bill.

However, the House Resources Committee adopted a private-public partnership approach. Good stewardship of taxpayer dollars is extremely important, and I want to work closely with the private entity to make sure that the community and its concerns always come first.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to walking the nature trails in both DeKalb and Rockdale Counties that will be made possible by the Congressional action today.

I would also like to thank the Georgia Department of Natural Resources that also lent its support to this very important bill.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE HISTORY OF NICODEMUS, KANSAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate from time to time that we reflect upon our country's past, study events of history, and remember what we have learned from those who came before us.

The western Kansas town of Nicodemus, though small in size, has a rich history that can teach us much about who we are as Kansans, and who we are as Americans.

Discrimination and slavery are an unfortunate part of our country's history. Black Americans suffered greatly, and many fought and died to obtain their freedom. The struggle between pro-slavery forces and abolitionists was fought across the country. And significant battles took place in my home State of Kansas during the 1850s.

The outcome of Bleeding Kansas was a free State in the heart of an expanding nation that offered hope and opportunity to former slaves. While the end of the Civil War brought with it expectations that African Americans would finally enjoy the rights described in our founding documents, many rights obtained were largely stripped away by the end of the Reconstruction period.

Many recognized the sacrifice that Kansas had made to become a free State. Ex slaves left the south and ventured out to the vast prairies of Kansas in search of freedom and opportunity.

The destination for many of these individuals was Nicodemus. Founded in 1877 by six African American men, Nicodemus was formed as a community specifically for African Americans. At a time when prejudice and oppression were still common, Nicodemus offered African Americans a place to own their own land, to make a living farming, and to prosper in a jurisdiction allowing self government.

The young community of Nicodemus grew and prospered during the 1880s as a result of the ingenuity of black entrepreneurs and the dedication and commitment of black farmers. Though many African Americans in the south were denied an education, Nicodemus established schools and educated the town's children. Since the bustling activity and growth of the 1880s, Nicodemus has had its ups and downs, yet it today remains a community of African Americans and a testament to the human desire for freedom.

Nicodemus is the only remaining western town established by emancipated slaves during the reconstruction period, and it is critical that its history not be lost.

On November 12, 1996, Congress recognized the historical significance of

Nicodemus and established the Nicodemus National Historic Site to preserve, protect and interpret this unique community. Thanks to Congressional action, the National Park Service and especially the residents of Nicodemus, this community and its story are being preserved for future generations.

Each year during the last weekend in July, Nicodemus is transformed again into a busy community, full of activity, for the emancipation celebration. At this event, former residents and their families return to Nicodemus to share stories and to enjoy one another's company.

This year, the community will not only celebrate the first emancipation of slaves in the western hemisphere, but also Nicodemus's 10th anniversary as a National Historic Site. Nicodemus is a special community that reminds us both of the struggles and the accomplishments of African Americans.

I am proud of this community. Nicodemus deserves to be honored for its contributions to American history. I commend and encourage the preservation efforts of the National Park Service and the residents of this amazing town.

□ 1945

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order today.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING TIM FRIEDMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the subject of my Special Order is Tim Friedman, who as many of you know is the assistant manager of the House Democratic Cloakroom.

I don't know where to begin. I don't know what I am going to do without Tim being here. I think this is his last week and he is retiring after so many years in the Cloakroom. But just to give you an idea of some of the things that I don't know who is going to do these things for me anymore: usually I bring my cell phone on the floor. And he has to remind me that I am not allowed to have a cell phone on the floor, so I have to put it in the back and leave it there. And I tell him he doesn't have to answer it, but he usually answers it.

A lot of times late at night when we are doing Special Orders, those of you who know that basically the food area in the back is closed, so I have to ask

him to open up the refrigerator and I leave a dollar in the refrigerator and he gets me a Coke.

My beeper breaks down on a regular basis, and I have to leave it for Tim to fix. Half the time it is not even broken, but he doesn't want to tell me that I don't realize it is not broken so he just says, Oh, yeah, I fixed it, even though it probably wasn't broken from the beginning.

Let me see what else. I have made a list here. When we doze off in the Cloakroom, that is big. Many of us, as you know, are here late at night or even during the day. If we are tired, we lie down on the couch, and he has to come around and gently nudge us to make sure that we don't miss a vote. I don't know, the list goes on and on. I don't even know where to begin.

Oh, my yellow pads. I always carry yellow pads and I use my blue marker to cross things out. And a lot of times I leave them on the seat, and then I will go back to my office and Tim will call me up and say, Oh, Frank, you left your yellow pad. Come on down here and get it. He is going to save it for me. So the list goes on.

The other thing is we have this triumvirate, or three people, who are the managers here that, as far as I know, they have been here for as long as I can remember, and that is Tim, Bob, and Barry. And I cannot imagine what it is going to be like when we are missing one of them. So it is not only Tim, but it is the fact that this triumvirate is going to be gone or is going to be broken up, and I can't imagine who is going to replace Tim because I always think of them as the three people that I can always rely on. But the list goes on.

Have you ever noticed that Tim brings that green book, he brought it down here today, that green book which we have to sign in, I guess, for Special Orders. It goes back I don't know how many years. I mean, that thing probably belongs in the Smithsonian Institution. It goes back 30, 40 years. Who keeps it, who gets that green book once you leave? I guess it will have to be either Barry or Bob. Then the list goes on.

Let me say, Tim has an incredible sense of humor. Not only the Clerks and the people that work behind us, but he as well as the other managers have to stay late at night when we do Special Orders. And I think you know that the Democrats are determined to fill every last hour of Special Orders, and so he or Bob or Barry has to stay here very late, usually until midnight because that is when they are cut off. And I always come in and kid him and say, Are you working tonight? And I tell him, Well, maybe I won't do the Special Order. And he says, Oh, no, you can do it, you can do it. He doesn't really mean it. He hopes I go home, but he tolerates us anyway. And he has a tremendous sense of humor and makes us laugh, which is so important, particularly with all the problems that