



U.S. Congressman

Nick Rahall*WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****OCTOBER 19, 1990****CONTACT: STEVE SPINA****PHONE: (202) 225-3452****ENERGY AND WATER PACKAGE CLEARS HOUSE**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today expressed relief that the Energy and Water Appropriations package, made up of over \$20 billion worth of projects, has passed the House with all of his major projects left in tact.

"With all that has been going on concerning the budget, with all the talk about slashing our government, we had to work very hard to see that good projects, like the ones in our district were left in tact," said Rahall.

Included in the appropriations package were a number of projects that would benefit southern West Virginia, including \$1.125 million for the expansion of the Harris Riverfront Park in Huntington and \$75,000 for completing a cost effective study for floodproofing along Krouts Creek, also in Huntington, West Virginia.

"I am especially pleased that the Conferees saw fit to protect the Riverfront and Krouts Creek funding," said Rahall. "These two Huntington projects are crucial to that areas continued efforts in the field of tourism and in protecting the homes and families of those who are threatened by the flooding of Krouts Creek."

The Riverfront Park, in recent years, has become an integral part of the growing tourism trade in Huntington. In 1987 alone, the park received 309,000 visitors. The improvements needed include relieving traffic congestion, provide for docking facilities for excursion boats like the Mississippi and Delta Queens, and to further increase the Park's capacity.

The Krouts Creek project affects approximately 200 families who live within the creek's flood path. The \$75,000 ensures that the Army Corps of Engineers will complete a detailed project report for Krouts Creek.

"The two hundred families, located in this 100-year flood plain, have had to suffer from severely damaging floods several times over the past 25 to 30 years. Recently, in 1987, the flood devastated 30 residences and three businesses with total damage estimated to be over \$100,000," said Rahall.

MORE

Rahall added that the bill also included funding for flood control projects on the Levisa and Tug Forks. Another important provision of this bill is that the Hatfield Bottom area will be included in the Matewan Project for floodproofing.

The Corps of Engineers are directed to utilize \$6 million of the funds appropriated to them from this bill to initiate the construction of the lower Mingo County element of the Levisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy River.

Other flood control projects funded were:

o Beech Fork Lake	\$ 689,000
o Bluestone Lake	\$ 982,000
o Burnsville Lake	\$ 1 million
o East Lynn Lake	\$ \$1.059 million
o Elkins	\$ 5,000
o R.D. Bailey Lake	\$ 1.33 million
o Stonewall Jackson Lake	\$ 872,000
o Summersville Lake	\$ 1.15 million
o Sutton Lake	\$ 1.32 million

Navigation projects include:

o Elk River Harbor	\$ 300,000
o Kanawha River Locks and Dams	\$ 6.59 million
o Tygart Lake	\$ 915,000

DSG DAILY REPORT

DEMOCRATIC STUDY GROUP - U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - WASHINGTON, D.C. — Tel.: 225-5858
HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO (Minn.) — Chairman SCOTT LILLY — Executive Director

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1990

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

The House meets at 11 a.m. to consider the following:

Support * Conference report on H.R. 5019, Energy and Water Appropriations for FY 1991

Support * Conference report on H.R. 5229, Transportation Appropriations for FY 1991

Support * Conference report on H.R. 5313, Military Construction Appropriations for FY 1991

* H.Res. 512, Rule Facilitating Consideration of Budget and Appropriations Legislation

Note: Under normal House rules, consideration of a rule on the same day it is reported by the Rules Committee may take place only if two-thirds of the House votes to do so; conference reports may be considered at any time after a three-day layover. H.Res. 512 waives the requirement for a two-thirds vote for rules dealing with any continuing appropriations resolution, budget reconciliation bill, or debt limit

(over)

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* Democratic Caucus -- The Democratic Caucus will
* meet today at 9 a.m. in Room 1100 Longworth (the
* Ways & Means hearing room) to discuss budget
* reconciliation legislation.
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55-PR
(Contains \$1.125 mil for David Harris Riverfront, + \$75,000 for Krout's Creek)

you will have statements soon.

after a simple majority vote. The rule also waives the three-day layover re-

* H.Res. 513, a rule permitting the Speaker to declare a recess at any time through Sunday, October 21

Refined

STATEMENT
HONORABLE NICK J. RAHALL, II (D-WV)
SUPPORT FOR CONFERENCE AGREEMENT, H.R. 5019
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS, FY 1991

MR. Chairman, I am pleased to rise in support of the Conference agreement on H.R. 5019, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill for FY 1991.

As always, there are programs of major significance to my District and to the State of West Virginia. Chief among them is the Appalachian Regional Commission projects, for which this agreement provides \$20 million more than was contained in the House bill. These funds are used, and have always been used effectively, as a key component to economic development strategies, which includes the construction of and maintenance of our infrastructure.

One of ARC's major functions has been the completion of the 3000 mile Appalachian Corridor (highway) system, which is still only two-thirds complete.

The funding level for ARC is \$20 million more than the original House bill at \$170 million. I can wish, of course, that it was closer to the \$185 million I authorized in my bill, H.R. 1167, introduced early in this Congress. However, I am more than pleased that the

conferees came within \$15 million of reaching the goal I had earlier set for ARC funding in FY 1991. The \$170 million funding level for ARC is \$120 million more than the President requested.

Also of importance to the economic prosperity of WV is the funding of water development projects. I am more than pleased that the Conferees saw fit to retain, in the final version of the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill, two projects that serve my Fourth Congressional district. The first one, provides \$1.125 million for the expansion of the David W. Harris Riverfront Park in Huntington, WV, and \$75,000 for completing a cost-effectiveness study for floodproofing along Krouts Creek, also in Huntington, WV.

The Riverfront Park project has been an integral part of Southern WV's tourism industry. In 1987 alone, the park received 309,000 visitors. The improvements needed include relieving traffic congestion, provide for docking facilities for excursion boats such as the Mississippi and Delta Queens, and to further increase the Park's capacity.

The Krouts Creek project is of major importance to the Huntington

area. There are approximately 200 residences located in this 100-year flood plain, which has suffered from severely damaging floods several times over the past 25 to 30 years. Most recently, in 1987, the flood devastated 30 residences and three businesses with total damage estimated to be over \$100,000. The \$75,000 ensures that the Army Corps of Engineers will complete a detailed project report for Krouts Creek.

Mr. Chairman, the bill also contains funding for flood control projects on the Levisa and Tug Forks and upper Cumberland River. These projects such as the flood walls at Williamson and the floodproofing of homes in that areas, are crucial to the future of the Tug Valley. I am pleased to note that the Corps of Engineers are directed to utilize \$6 million of the funds appropriated to initiate construction of the lower Mingo County, WV element of the Levisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy River and upper Cumberland River project.

Further, the measure provides that the Matewan, WV flood protection project shall include all incorporated units within the town of Matewan.

I am pleased to note, also, that there is \$400,000 allocated for a

flood control project involving the Island Creek Basin in and around Logan, WV,

Other flood control projects funded, located throughout WV include: Beech Fork Lake (\$689,000), Bluestone Lake (\$982,000), Burnsville Lake (\$1 million), East Lynn Lake (\$1.059 million), Elkins, WV (\$5,000), R. D. Bailey Lake (\$1.33 million), Stonewall Jackson Lake (\$872,000), Summersville Lake (\$1.15 million), and Sutton Lake (\$1.32 million). Navigation projects include the Elk River Harbor (\$300,000), Kanawha River Locks and Dams (\$6.59 million), and Tygart Lake, WV (\$915,000).

Mr. Chairman, overall, the Energy and Water Development Appropriation bill contains \$20.2 billion in FY 1991 for all programs, including the Energy Department's programs, and water projects carried out by the corps of Engineers and Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation. The amount represents an increase of \$1.7 billion over last year's funding level. This increase is less than both the House and Senate committees recommended, but reflects the need to comply with spending limitations of the revised budget resolution, in keeping with

our on-going efforts to reduce the deficit.

Mr.Chairman, I compliment and thank the distinguished Subcommittee Chairman, and my good friend, Tom Bevill, for his usual outstanding job in protecting and ushering through conference these water development projects of such crucial importance to all of us.

Mr. Chairman, I recommend adoption of this Conference Agreement, and hope that it do pass.

res, prevented about \$550,000,000 in damages. The Committee is further aware that in October 1986 reoccur, levee failure would result in significant economic loss. In addition, there are several large industrial levees which include oil refineries and oil structures affecting those structures could cause damage to the environment, both in the Tulsa area and the Arkansas River.

The affected levees, pipes, and culverts have necessary rehabilitation would cost at least \$300,000 to perform a preliminary nature of levees, pipes, and culverts, accomplish an impact and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and develop plans and specifications for the regional Cost Sharing Agreement with the local construction.

Levee Control, Texas and Oklahoma.—The significant environmental improvements construction of the Red River Basin Chloride Control, Texas and Oklahoma. The project would provide water supplies for agricultural, municipal. The Committee is also aware that the benefits of Area VIII has been substantial and that the performance is exceeding expectations. Therefore, the Committee has provided \$1107 of Public Law 99-662 on the effect of the Chloride Control project and directs to initiate an accelerated design schedule for Area VI, Area VII, Area IX, and construction of the low flow dam, pump station X, the access road at Area VI, and the

FY 1990 Energy and Water Development included \$4,000,000 to resume construction project in Texas. Those funds will be obligated in June that will require additional to complete. The Committee has authorized the Dallasville Lake project to complete additional contracts on other project features.

Fish Mitigation, Washington, Oregon is pleased that the President's budget for construction of juvenile fish bypass and Snake Rivers. However, the budget funds to continue design efforts at Ice Harbor Dam. Therefore, the Committee has \$300,000 for preparation of plans and specifications at Ice Harbor Dam, \$300,000 to percolation, and \$800,000 to continue development. The Dalles. In addition, the Committee analysis of the fish bypass program is un-

necessary and directs that the \$1,000,000 included in the budget request for that purpose be redirected to fund additional prototype testing and to determine the potential role of the ice and trash sluiceway at Ice Harbor Dam.

Levee and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy and Upper Cumberland Rivers, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Virginia.—The Committee has provided an additional \$20,500,000 to continue construction of structural and nonstructural work associated with the Harlan, Kentucky, element of the project, and \$7,500,000 to continue construction of structural and nonstructural work associated with the Barboursville, Kentucky, element of the project. The bill also includes \$11,299,000, the same as the budget request, for structural and nonstructural work associated with the South Williamson, Kentucky, element of the project.

Small Flood Control Projects (Sec. 205).—Within available funds, the bill includes: \$90,000 to continue the channel widening project on Feather Creek at Clinton, Indiana, which is essential to reduce the threat of flooding and protect life and property; \$40,000 to begin a reconnaissance study on Lost Creek in Vigo County, Indiana; \$270,000 to begin an investigation into flooding problems in the Indianapolis, Indiana, area; \$3,000,000 to complete plans and specifications and initiate construction of the Lake Elsinore, California, project; and \$75,000 to negotiate a cost-sharing agreement and complete a detailed project report for the Krouts Creek project in Huntington, West Virginia.

Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection (Sec. 14).—Within available funds, the bill includes: \$65,000 to protect Burton Road in Morgan County, Indiana; \$195,000 to stabilize the banks of the White River at Blue Bluff Road in Morgan County, Indiana; \$80,000 to continue a study of protecting Watermelon Hollow Road in Montgomery County, Indiana; and \$80,000 for the stabilization of the banks of Big Walnut Creek in Putnam County, Indiana. The Committee directs the Corps of Engineers to facilitate the correction of severe bank erosion at three locations between McCloud, Oklahoma, and Dale, Oklahoma, which is endangering county roads and has resulted in the closure of one county road.

Small Snagging and Clearing Projects (Sec. 208).—Within available funds, the bill includes: \$200,000 to complete the small snagging and clearing project on South Deer Creek near Shawnee, Oklahoma, downstream from Twin Lakes and above the North Canadian River.

Small Navigation Projects (Sec. 107).—Within available funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to conduct a reconnaissance study of navigation safety problems along the Roosevelt Canal, Lake Leech, Minnesota.

FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES, ARKANSAS, ILLINOIS, KENTUCKY, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, MISSOURI, AND TENNESSEE

Appropriation, 1990.....	\$331,296,000
Budget Estimate, 1991.....	334,500,000
Recommended, 1991.....	342,731,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1990.....	+ 11,435,000
Budget Estimate, 1991.....	+ 8,231,000

SUGGESTED PRESS RELEASE

ANNOUNCING HOUSE ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
APPROVAL OF \$1.25 MILLION FOR THE DAVID HARRIS RIVERFRONT PARK

REP. NICK RAHALL ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE HOUSE ENERGY AND WATER
RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS HAS AGREED TO FUND THE DAVID
HARRIS RIVERFRONT PARK AT \$1.125 MILLION IN THE COMING FISCAL YEAR.

"THIS MONEY IS INTENDED TO BE THE FEDERAL SHARE OF THE COSTS OF
EXPANDING THE DAVID HARRIS RIVERFRONT PARK, IN HUNTINGTON, WV. THE
RIVERFRONT PARK AS SUCCESSFULLY PROVIDED A RECREATION AREA WHICH HAS
GREATLY INCREASED THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE HUNTINGTON REGION,"
RAHALL CONTINUED, "AND I AM VERY, VERY PLEASED WITH THIS ANNOUNCEMENT
OF FUNDING SO THAT THIS PROGRESS CAN CONTINUE."

RAHALL CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT THE FUNDING COMES AS A DIRECT
RESULT OF HIS REQUEST TO THE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE WHEN HE
TESTIFIED BEFORE IT ON MARCH 28 OF THIS YEAR. "THERE IS NO QUESTION,"
SAID RAHALL, "THAT THIS PROJECT WILL BENEFIT WEST VIRGINIA AND GIVE A
HUGE BOOST TO THE STATE'S STRATEGY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH
INCREASED TOURISM."

TESTIMONY OF

Congressman Nick J. Rahall

TO THE

House Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

March 28, 1990

Mr. Chairman. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to testify before your subcommittee today. I would like to ask for your assistance in securing the funds necessary to complete two very important water projects: one project would address serious flooding problems, and the other would spur badly needed economic development in Southern West Virginia.

I would first like to request an appropriation of \$400,000 to pay for the federal cost-share of flood control measures along Krouts Creek in Huntington, West Virginia. Krouts Creek flows through a densely developed residential area of west Huntington. There are approximately 200 residences in the 100-year floodplain of Krouts Creek. Additionally, five businesses and three public buildings including churches and schools are located within the floodplain area.

The Krouts Creek floodplain has received damaging floods several times over the past 25 to 30 years. During this time, residential growth has taken nearly all available land along the stream. Consequently, minor to serious flood damage to homes in this area has become an annual occurrence. The most recent damaging flood occurred in May and June of 1987 affecting 30 residences and 3 businesses with a total damage estimated to be more than \$100,000. This prompted me and the Mayor of Huntington to request the assistance of the Army Corps of Engineers in developing a flood control plan.

The Huntington District Corps evaluated a number of flood control measures. In 1988 the Corps conducted a reconnaissance study which involved deepening and widening the channel and culvert replacement. Under the plan, 50% of the homes would be protected from a ten year flood and 30% would be protected from a hundred year flood. The total cost was estimated to be \$620,000 with a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) of 1.2. The city of Huntington agreed to pay 50% of the project cost.

Because of its size, this project requires no authorization. Ordinarily, such a project could be completed under the Corps' continuing authority. Unfortunately, the Corps conducted a subsequent re-evaluation in June 1989 and determined that the BCR was 0.78 at a total project cost of \$931,000. A second re-evaluation conducted in November of 1989 determined that the BCR was 0.95 with a total cost of \$721,000. This latest evaluation estimates the annual benefits to be \$66,300 and the annual costs to be \$69,500 yielding the 0.95 BCR. Consequently, the Huntington District Corps has made a negative recommendation to the Ohio River Division.

It is not clear to me why a consistent Benefit-Cost Ratio cannot be determined. However, one aspect of these evaluations that is consistent is that the difference between whether the ratio is favorable or not favorable is only about \$4,000 a year on the cost side or the benefit side of the calculation. Because the project is small and only a few thousand dollars effects the Benefit-Cost Ratio so drastically, I do not believe that the BCR is terribly useful or important. If the Corps continued to evaluate this project, it may well find some savings that would yield a second favorable ratio.

What is important is that this project is of great significance to local home owners. Their homes and property are annually damaged by flooding. It is difficult to explain to them that their property cannot be protected from flood damage because the latest evaluation was off by a few thousand dollars and did not yield an appropriate Benefit-Cost Ratio. I believe they deserve the benefit of the doubt. The average total cost of the project as calculated by the Corps in these three evaluations is roughly \$800,000. Therefore, I respectfully request an appropriation of \$400,000, within the Corps' continuing authority, to put an end to this problem.

I would also like to request an appropriation of \$1.125 million to pay for the federal cost-share of the expansion of the David W. Harris Riverfront Park, also located in Huntington, West Virginia. The Riverfront Park has successfully provided a recreation area which has greatly increased economic development in the Huntington region. In 1987 alone, the park received 309,000 visitors. The park is the site of numerous concerts and events, the operation of the West Virginia Belle has resulted in increased overnight stops by motorcoach tours, and in short, the availability of the riverfront park facilities has directly contributed to an improved regional tourist industry.

Increased tourism is of vital importance to my state. Although West Virginia has serious economic problems, one of its strengths is its natural beauty. Consequently, perhaps the state's top economic development priority is to increase tourism. Expansion of the Riverfront Park would greatly assist in promoting this strategy.

The Huntington District Army Corps of Engineers devised an expansion plan which indicates that a number of improvements are needed to relieve traffic congestion and increase the park's capacity. Among these are additional access roads, pedestrian walkways, overlooks, seating areas, parking facilities and the construction of a permanent dock that will provide a safe and modern docking facility for excursion boats, such as the Mississippi and Delta Queens. According to the plan, these improvements would cost approximately \$2.25 million.

The Huntington District Army Corps of Engineers has advised me that under Corps policy, once a nonfederal cost-sharing sponsor is identified, such improvements are cost-shared at 50%. In the case of the Harris Riverfront Park, the authorities provided for the initial development of the park apply to any expansion of this area. Therefore, no further authorization is required for this project.

Huntington Mayor Robert Nelson has formally indicated to the Huntington District Corps that the City of Huntington is willing to act as the nonfederal cost-sharing sponsor. Unfortunately, under the present Administration, such projects are very low priority. Consequently, the Huntington District Corps has no plans to request federal funding for the expansion.

There is no question that this project would benefit West Virginia and help to the State's strategy of economic development through increased tourism. Therefore, I respectfully request an appropriation of \$1.125 million in the operation and maintenance account for the engineering, design, and construction for the expansion of the David W. Harris Riverfront Park.

Thank you again for allowing me to testify before your Subcommittee today. I greatly appreciate your consideration of these two important projects.

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, II
SUPPORT FOR H.R. 5019, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS,
FY1991
JUNE 19, 1990

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 5019, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for FY 1991. Of great importance to my home state of West Virginia is funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and for the Army Corps of Engineers water development projects.

Since 1965 the ARC has worked to fight poverty in Appalachia through a variety of health, education, and job training programs. Of course, a key component to any economic development strategy, and a major component of the ARC's program, is the construction and maintenance of infrastructure. The ARC has played a significant role in the economic development of Appalachia by funding, and working to finish, the construction of the 3000 mile Appalachian Corridor System.

Despite the ARC's efforts, much work remains to be done. Many in Appalachia continue to struggle against poverty, illiteracy, shortages in health care, high infant mortality and high unemployment rates. The corridor system, the foundation of any future economic prosperity in the Region, is still only two-thirds complete. It has been estimated that at current funding levels, the construction of the corridor system will not be finished until at least 2065. Corridor G, which links various communities in my district with important economic centers, will not be completed for another 25 years at the current rate of funding.

The bill appropriates \$150 million for the ARC, which has been, and remains to be, of critical importance to West Virginia and other areas of Appalachia. While I am disappointed that the compromise did not contain a funding level closer to the level contained in H.R. 1166, legislation I introduced which reauthorized the Commission at \$185 million per year for five years, I am encouraged by the \$100 million increase over the President's recommendation.

Also of importance to the economic prosperity of West Virginia is the funding of water development projects, contained in the bill. ~~I am~~ particularly pleased that the Committee included, at my request, \$1.125 million for the expansion of the David W. Harris Riverfront Park in Huntington, West Virginia and \$75,000 for floodproofing along Krouts Creek, also in Huntington, West Virginia.

One of West Virginia's top economic development strategies is to promote our tourism industry. The Riverfront Park has been an integral part of Southern West Virginia's tourism industry. In 1987 alone, the park received 309,000 visitors. Improvements are needed to relieve traffic congestion, provide for docking facilities for excursion boats such as the Mississippi and Delta Queens, and generally increase the park's capacity. The funding provided by the Committee

will be used for the federal cost-share and will make this project a reality.

Krouts Creek flows through a densely developed residential area of west Huntington. There are approximately 200 residences in the 100-year floodplain of Krouts Creek. The Krouts Creek floodplain has received damaging floods several times over the past 25 to 30 years. The most recent occurred in 1987 affecting 30 residences and 3 businesses with a total damage of over \$100,000. Regrettably, the floodproofing project is too large for residences to afford on their own and too small for the federal government to focus upon. The \$75,000 ensures that the Army Corps of Engineers will complete a detailed project report for Krouts Creek project.

Because of the success of Huntington's Riverfront Park, the Committee also provides \$500,000 to initiate and complete a reconnaissance study of the needs and opportunities for enhancing urban waterfront areas of communities in West Virginia along the Ohio river. It is my hope that the study will indicate that other similar projects can be initiated to further bolster West Virginia's tourism industry and economy.

The bill also provides funding of vital water infrastructure projects which will greatly assist in West Virginia's ability to efficiently transport goods. The bill provides \$46.3 million for continued construction of new locks at Gallipolis on the Ohio River, about 30 miles upstream from Huntington, West Virginia. This construction will replace the badly deteriorated locks which were completed in 1937. In addition, the bill provides \$16.2 million for construction at Winfield Locks on the Kanawha. The water traffic which must pass through these locks has quintupled, making the original design of the locks obsolete.

The bill also contains funding for flood control. Of particular importance to southern West Virginia is \$64.8 million for flood control projects on the Levisa and Tug Forks and upper Cumberland River. These projects, such as the flood walls at Williamson and the floodproofing of homes in that area, are crucial to the future of the Tug Valley communities which have been repeatedly destroyed by severe flooding.

✓ The bill also provides important funding for the operation and maintenance of existing Corps of Engineers projects throughout West Virginia. Included is funding for the operation and maintenance at the following areas:

Beech Fork Lake	\$689,000
Bluestone Lake	\$982,000
Burnsville Lake	\$1,015,000
East Lynn Lake	\$1,059,000
Elk River Harbor	\$300,000
Elkins	\$5,000
Kanawha River Locks and Dams	\$6,590,000
R.D. Bailey Lake	\$1,337,000

Stonewall Jackson Lake	\$872,000
Summersville Lake	\$1,151,000
Sutton Lake	\$1,325,000
Tygart Lake	\$915,000

Again, I want to commend the Committee for their cooperation and attention to the funding needs of the ARC, and these other worthy projects, and I wish to urge my colleagues to support the adoption of this bill.