

from intelligent transportation systems that help businesses and consumers to plan their travel and avoid delays, including web-based real-time transit information systems, congestion information systems, carpool information systems, parking information systems, freight route management, and traffic management systems”.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 615, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. HOLT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I shall be brief.

Suppose you are driving to work. Now, today you can listen to the radio and avoid some delays. But what if you had real-time information in your car that would instruct you to turn now and save 10 minutes on your commute? What if you could use that technology every day? What if millions of Americans used that technology every day? You would save time, fuel and money.

Mr. Chairman, this is not far-fetched. The technology exists today, but it is not widely implemented, although it could be. Information technology is becoming cheaper and cheaper. Electronic systems are now relatively inexpensive and easy to install, but we've really not looked at using them systematically. My amendment would mandate a study of this new technology, such as web-based real-time information systems, freight route management, congestion information systems, car pool information systems, parking information and so forth and would examine the fuel savings.

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This amendment, which is supported by the Intelligent Transportation Society of America, simply calls for a study of the energy savings from intelligent transportation systems. It, indeed, I would argue, is an intelligent amendment, and I believe Mr. OBERSTAR from Minnesota would agree.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOLT. I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. OBERSTAR. In the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, in our title of this bill we provide strengthening language for the Center for Climate Change and Environment in the Department of Transportation. And we require the Center to study and track low-cost solutions to reducing transportation-related energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, which is exactly in the line that the gentleman proposes, potential fuel savings and benefits derived from intelligent transportation systems.

We have to use the available technology on the ground as we do in the air for ITS to save fuel and energy for aviation. We can apply that technology to the ground, as the gentleman is proposing. So we support this amendment.

Mr. HOLT. I thank the gentleman.

Again, this is very much in line with what the gentleman and his committee have authorized. The amendment just goes a step farther to require a study of the energy savings. I expect we will find that they are great, but let's do the study.

I urge support of this amendment.

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

Mr. BARTON of Texas. We support the amendment and seek no time.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS OF FLORIDA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 20 printed in part B of House Report 110-300.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 20 offered by Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

At the end of subtitle A of title II of the bill, insert the following:

SEC. 2104. REPORT ON PROGRESS MADE IN PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY IN EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES RESOURCE PAYMENTS.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to—

(1) ensure greater United States energy security by combating corruption in the governments of foreign countries that receive revenues from the sale of their natural resources, and

(2) enhance the development of democracy and increase political and economic stability in such resource-rich foreign countries.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States is the world's largest consumer of oil. The United States accounts for 25 percent of global daily oil demand—despite having less than 3 percent of the world's proven reserves.

(2) 6 of the top 10 suppliers of United States crude oil imports rank in the bottom third of the world's most corrupt countries, according to Transparency International.

(3) Corrupt and non-transparent foreign governments have a much higher risk of instability and violent unrest, often leading to disruptions of energy supplies. In addition, the citizens of such countries often remain impoverished despite significant resource wealth.

(4) Oil is a fungible commodity. Therefore supply disruptions due to political instability in other parts of the world affect United States domestic price and supply regardless of the source of supply.

(5) Transparency in extractive revenue transactions is important to decreasing corruption and increasing energy security.

(6) The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) serves to improve investment climates through the audited disclosure of revenue payments.

(c) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to increase energy security by decreasing energy reliance on corrupt foreign governments;

(2) to promote global energy security through promotion of programs such as EITI that seek to instill transparency and accountability into extractive industries resource payments.

(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should further global energy security and promote democratic development in resource-rich foreign countries by—

(1) encouraging further participation in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) by eligible countries and companies;

(2) promoting the efficacy of the EITI program by ensuring a robust and candid review mechanism;

(3) establishing a domestic reporting requirement for all companies that purchase natural resources from or make payments to government officials or entities connected with the extraction of such resources so that citizens can monitor expenditures by government officials to ensure accountability for illicit diversion and wasteful use of revenues received; and

(4) seeking to establish an international reporting requirement similar to the reporting requirement described in paragraph (3) in order to ensure that all international companies and foreign countries are competing and cooperating on a level playing field.

(e) REPORT.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to Congress a report on progress made in promoting transparency in extractive industries resource payments.

(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include a detailed description of United States participation in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), bilateral and multilateral diplomatic efforts to further participation in the EITI, and other United States initiatives to strengthen energy security, deter energy kleptocracy, and promote transparency in the extractive industries.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 615, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HASTINGS of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is aimed at combating corruption in energy-exporting countries and promoting a global energy security.

In my capacity as chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I have held a series of hearings on the issue of global energy security. I offer this amendment today as a culmination of findings from those hearings.

This amendment encourages international participation in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and similar efforts. This amendment will increase the accountability of where our energy comes from by urging international disclosure of energy transactions and requiring the Secretary of State to submit an annual report on EITI compliance. It also states