

Eleven Democrats crossed the aisle to support a GOP-sponsored resolution blocking any future funding for Jack Murtha's lushly appointed and under-used airport in Johnstown, Penn.

A motion by Rep. John Campbell (R-Calif.) offered a motion on the House floor Thursday – that aimed to vent GOP frustration at Murtha's earmarking – while putting swing state Democrats on the record as indirectly supporting the controversial project.

The motion failed in a 260-155 vote – with 28 Republicans in opposition.

POLITICO's Alex Isenstadt reports that Campbell blasted the idea of new funding for the airport – some \$200 million over the last three decades -- at a time the government was paying for bailouts.

Murtha has personally secured at least \$150 million in federal funding for the airport, according to press accounts.

Murtha has used the airport frequently during his campaigns and for his travel between Washington and Pennsylvania, though the airport has been sparsely used, its passenger count falling by more than half in the last ten years.

An irate James Oberstar (D-Minn.), standing on the floor of the House, derided the motion as political trick, intoning, "This is wrong, this is mean-spirited. Let's vote it down," said Oberstar.

Among the Democrats who took a slap at Murtha: Mary Jo Kilroy (OH), Bobby Bright (Ala.), Jim Cooper (Tenn.), Suzanne Kosmas (Fla.), Carolyn Kilpatrick (Mich.), Larry Kissell (NC), Deborah Halvorson (Ill.), Walt Minnick (ID), Harry Mitchell (AZ) and Dina Titus (Nev.).