Each year approximately twenty participants are selected to participate in the highly selective Emerson and Leland Fellowship program. The fellows spend the first six months of their internship working on local level hunger issues, primarily through community food banks and local advocacy initiatives. The fellows then spend another six months in Washington, D.C. working with national organizations involved in the anti-hunger and poverty movement. This unique and challenging opportunity embodies the ideals and legacy of both Mr. Leland and Mr. Emerson.

Mickey Leland in addition to serving as a respected representative of the 18th Congressional District in Texas, Mr. Leland also served as a renowned yet humble humanitarian bringing both national and international attention to several causes including hunger and famine. With a ''heart as big as Texas'', Mickey Leland served as an active voice for social change. I am proud to follow him as a representative of the 18th District. And Bill Emerson over the span of five decades, contributed significantly to the strengthening of U.S. public policy and the process to achieve common sense solutions to legitimate real world problems, namely hunger. Thus the Emerson/Leland Fellowships provide an opportunity for young people to continue in the footsteps of these revered statesmen.

Therefore, it is in the spirit of the work of both Mickey Leland and Bill Emerson that this Congress would like to administer funds secured from the 2003 and 2004 fiscal years for the Emerson/Leland Fellowship through the Congressional Hunger Center. The Congressional Hunger Center is a unique non-profit, anti-hunger leadership organization. The mission of the center is to train and develop individuals who feel they can serve in either a domestic and/or international capacity to become leaders in the fight against hunger and effectively bridge the gap between service and public policy. The Congressional Hunger Center serves as a lasting tribute to all those who work to eradicate hunger but especially Mickey Leland, who was one of the Center's founding members. As such, it seems only natural that the Emerson/Leland Fellowship Program receives its funding through the Congressional Hunger Center.

Mickey Leland once said: ''I cannot get used to hunger and desperate poverty in our plentiful land. There is no reason for it, there is no excuse for it, and it is time that we as a nation put an end to it.'' And while we cannot easily put an end to hunger, we can certainly do our part both individually and collectively to take an active role in helping to increase awareness and action around global hunger.

Therefore, I stand in full support of H.R. 2474 and hope that my Congressional colleagues will also express their support for this resolution as well.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2474, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2474, the bill just considered, and on S. 858, the bill considered immediately previously.

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

There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING IMPORTANT SERVICE PROVIDED BY FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE ON OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 49) recognizing the important service to the Nation provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 49

Whereas, during the terms of President Dwight David Eisenhower and the era of Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, it became apparent that the development of external markets was needed to ensure the financial viability of the agricultural sector of the United States;

Whereas the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture was established on March 10, 1953, to develop and expand markets for, and improve the competitive position of, United States agricultural commodities and products;

Whereas the Foreign Agricultural Service has represented agricultural interests of the United States during a period of great expansion of United States agricultural exports from less than $3,000,000,000 in 1953 to over $50,000,000,000 in 2002;

Whereas the number of organizations engaged in the public and private partnership established by the Foreign Agricultural Service to promote United States agricultural exports has grown significantly, with market development and expansion occurring in nearly every global marketplace; and

Whereas March 10, 2003, was the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Foreign Agricultural Service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress recognizes the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture and its employees and partners for—

(1) cooperating with, and leading, the United States agricultural community in developing and expanding export markets for United States agricultural commodities and products;

(2) identifying the private partners capable of carrying out the mission of the Foreign Agricultural Service;

(3) identifying and expanding markets for United States agricultural commodities and products;

(4) introducing innovative and creative ways of expanding the markets for United States agricultural commodities and products;

(5) providing international food assistance to feed the hungry worldwide;

(6) addressing unfair barriers to United States agricultural exports;

(7) implementing strict procedures governing the use and evaluation of programs and funds of the Foreign Agricultural Service; and

(8) overseeing the efficient and effective use of Federal funds to carry out programs of the Foreign Agricultural Service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Joint Resolution 49. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) and I introduced this resolution to recognize the important service of the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service was established to develop and expand markets for United States agricultural commodities and products. Our farmers and ranchers are the most productive in the world and produce much more than we in the United States can consume. Therefore, a vibrant export market is very important to the success of U.S. agriculture.

FAS has contributed to that success; and as of 2002, the United States agricultural exports exceed imports by more than $12 billion. Our exports have grown significantly over the history of the FAS and now exceed $50 billion per year.

The FAS fosters the public and private partnership that is needed to promote United States agricultural exports and to develop and expand markets around the world. At this important time when free trade negotiations are ongoing, both in the WTO and through bilateral negotiations, the FAS is essential to represent United States agriculture and ensure that the challenges facing our agricultural producers are thoroughly addressed.

Another responsibility of the FAS is to provide food aid to needy people in developing countries and to help those countries to eventually become trading partners of the United States and buy our agricultural products. The FAS and its employees provide a significant service to the farmers and ranchers here at home so they can compete in worldwide markets. I congratulate them on their achievements and look forward to working closely with the FAS as the committee continues its work to expand markets for United States agriculture.