

this House would stand in the way of our children's future.

Mr. Speaker, last night the President appealed for a new era of nonpartisan cooperation. I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join with Democrats in improving the quality of education for every single child in America.

#### FOCUS ON EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, last night the President of the United States gave an excellent speech. He said the state of the Union is good, but it could be better. We have to defend America, but most importantly we have to build America. Our enemy, as he correctly pointed out, is inaction.

He set forth a clear priority in terms of education, that our goal ought to be to assure that everyone in America has a good education. He talked a lot about the new millennium. We are talking about an information age, a high-technology age. In that age, we need to assure that American citizens have the best education.

That means supporting the President's request for \$5 billion in school construction funds so that we can build new schools and maintain the ones we have. It means supporting the President's request for tax credits and tax exemptions so that people can afford to send their children to college, to universities. We have the best in the world, we need to make sure our people can take advantage of it.

Critics say, well, this is small government and small ideas. I say that there is no greater goal for the new millennium than to say every American can have a good education.

#### TIME TO CRACK DOWN ON GANGS

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I stand before the House for the first time today, and I must admit I feel much like I did the first time that I stood before a classroom full of students at Forest Park High School in Beaumont, TX: A little nervous and awed by the responsibility.

I recently received a letter from a grandmother in Port Arthur, TX. Her 18-year-old grandson is making good grades and wants to graduate from high school, but he is being harassed by a gang. In fact, this young man has been shot at recently. His grandmother tells me that the gang members continue to follow him and continue to threaten his life.

Last night the President was absolutely correct when he recognized that we cannot expect our kids to learn

when they are not safe. To me, school yards become the domain of gangs when the bell rings at the end of the day. We have seen the epidemic of violent, juvenile crime spread from the poorest inner cities to middle class suburbs and small towns.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this Congress will join the President in his promise to crack down on gangs. Too many defenseless families are counting on us.

#### FRANK M. TEJEDA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 499) to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service under construction at 7411 Barlite Boulevard in San Antonio, TX, as the "Frank M. Tejada Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 499

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service under construction at 7411 Barlite Boulevard in San Antonio, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Frank M. Tejada Post Office Building".

#### SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Frank M. Tejada Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FATTAH] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH].

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

(Mr. MCHUGH asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us was introduced by the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BONILLA] and supported by the Texas House Delegation.

H.R. 499 designates the facility of the U.S. Postal Service being constructed at 7411 Barlite Blvd., San Antonio, TX as the Frank M. Tejada Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation honors our colleague Frank Tejada, who died at the age of 51 at his home in San Antonio, TX on January 31 after succumbing to a 17-month battle with a malignant brain tumor.

Frank was born on October 2, 1945 in San Antonio, TX and grew up in that city's south side. He did not finish high school, having been told not to return after an incident with a school counselor. Frank then joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1963 during the Vietnam conflict, and 2 weeks before his scheduled return home from Vietnam in 1966, he was ambushed and struck in his leg by shrapnel. Frank Tejada was awarded

the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Commandant's Trophy, the Marine Corps Association Award, and many others for his valor and for his soldiering skills. Just recently, Mr. Speaker, he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.

Mr. Speaker, I have a very extensive statement on the many achievements of this fine American and of this man whom we all knew and loved very deeply, and I would like to enter that more full statement into the RECORD in its entirety.

Frank Tejada loved the Marine Corps; even as a Member of Congress, Frank continued to serve in the Marine Corps Reserve. When attending officer candidate school, Frank maintained a 99.6 academic average, the highest in the history of the Marine Corps. After leaving the Corps, Frank earned his undergraduate degree in government from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, a J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1974, a master's degree in public administration from Harvard in 1980, and a master of law from Yale in 1989.

He served in the Texas House in Austin from 1977 until 1986 when he was elected to the Texas Senate where he remained until 1992. He was the leader of the south side political coalition in San Antonio. Frank Tejada left his imprint on workers' compensation reform, business initiatives for minorities and women, housing for veterans, protection of crime victims, and he promoted measures to ensure voting rights for minorities. He became known for his investigation into the malfeasance of two members of the Texas Supreme Court, who were disciplined. The result of this investigation was the enmity of the State's trial lawyers.

Frank Tejada was elected the first Representative to Congress from the 28th District of Texas in 1992. He was known as a quiet, dedicated, and independent-minded Representative, voting his conscience and the concerns of his constituency. He was a staunch defender of veterans, active duty personnel and military installations and he served on the Committees on Veterans Affairs and National Security.

Coincidentally, Mr. Speaker, toward the end of the 104th Congress, on October 9, 1996, the President signed Public Law 104-255, the designation of the Amos F. Longoria Post Office Building in Elmendorf, TX, introduced by Frank Tejada, honoring Elmendorf's native son who lost his life in service to his country during World War II. It is fitting that this House now remembers one of its own by designating a new post office building in San Antonio as the Frank M. Tejada Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all our colleagues to support the measure before us.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to yield to other Members who have gathered here in the House to pay honor to this great American, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise also in support of House Resolution 499. This is a moment in which the House has an opportunity to show its respect for a fallen comrad. This is a gentleman whose work here in the Congress and his life sets an example for us all. And it has been offered