

Millennium Stage that has opened the great hall of the Kennedy Center to the public every day at 6 o'clock for free performances. This makes the Kennedy Center truly a people's center for cultural activities and for the performing arts in all of their exciting and stimulating manner.

I only wish that all of us in this Chamber could have more time to partake of those cultural activities rather than being locked up here in session late night after late night so that we, too, could be enlivened and enriched by the many offerings of the Kennedy Center.

Again, I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio for his persistent leadership over many, many years on issues involving the Kennedy Center. His fingerprints, too, are on all the building improvements and innovations that have come about at the Center, and I thank him for his vigilance, and I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) for his splendid participation and partnership in this great endeavor.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to once again thank the ranking member and our chairman, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) for his work with the Kennedy Center on an ongoing basis in all areas and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) the chairman of the committee who works very well. Both the ranking member and the chairman at the top of this committee work well.

I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM). I want to thank Mr. KIM for his contributions on this legislation, and I want to thank him for his friendship and, understanding that he had not experienced well in the election, we will miss him. I want to compliment him for the hard job that he has done and how he has addressed himself to details, and I want to thank him for his bipartisanship and his attitude and spirit in doing that.

With that, I would like to say this: I think President of the Kennedy Center Larry Wilker deserves a lot of credit. I believe the Kennedy Center right now does not look as good as it should as the focal point of arts, theater and culture in America. Quite frankly, when one goes by the building it is not all that it should be. We must make it all that it should be.

Now the Kennedy Center asked and Mr. Wilker proposed a long 11-year program; and, quite frankly, he was looking at long-range scenarios to affect those goals.

We particularly felt at the subcommittee/committee level that we should maybe take a couple bites of that apple, and we made a 5-year restriction in here, but that could be addressed. We want the Kennedy Center people to know that did not fall on deaf ears and that will be looked at in the upcoming Congress, and an extension

of that is very possible considering the type of activity that they are involved in.

But this is our treasure. This is the focal point. And ladies and gentlemen of Congress, when we go around this beautiful city and see all these great monuments, the Kennedy Center is simply not all it should be. It must become everything that it is possible of being.

I will, furthermore, like to see in years to come, envision a day where there may be three, four, or maybe five or six regional satellite Kennedy Centers operated by the Kennedy Center that takes it closer to all of our people so they do not have to come all the way down here to the Nation's capital.

But, in any regard, I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM), thank the committee. I want to thank Rick Barnett and Susan Brita of our staff.

And, with that, I ask for an aye vote.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3504, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, H.R. 3504, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

CARL D. PURSELL POST OFFICE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3808) to designate the United States Post Office located at 47526 Clipper Drive in Plymouth, Michigan, as the "Carl D. Pursell Post Office," as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3808

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States Post Office located at 47526 Clipper in Plymouth, Michigan, shall be known and designated as the "Carl D. Pursell Post Office".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States Post Office referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Carl D. Pursell Post Office".

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 might consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3808, a bill to designate the United States Post Office located at 47526 Clipper Drive in Plymouth, Michigan, was introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) on May 7, 1998, and was originally cosponsored by the entire Michigan State delegation which is pursuant to full committee policy.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is unanimously amended by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight to correct the address to 47526 Clipper, creating the deletion of the word Drive pursuant to information that was received from the Postal Service.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3808 represents a former Member of this body, Representative Carl D. Pursell, who was elected to the 95th Congress and was reelected to represent the Second Congressional District of Michigan for seven succeeding terms from 1977 through 1992.

Born in Imlay City, Michigan, in his home State, after receiving his bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University he served in the United States Army for 2 years and then earned his master's degree. He then went on to a long and distinguished career in public service and, as I have mentioned already, coming to this House for an equally distinguished term.

Currently, Mr. Pursell resides in Plymouth, Michigan, where he has been for his entire life; and I think most importantly, Mr. Speaker, he and the contributions that he has made to his community, to his State and, ultimately, to his Nation compile the kind of record that I think certainly merits this kind of designation.

We do have several Members here today from the Michigan State delegation to whom I will eventually yield time. I know we will have more particular comments upon this man and his life and his service, and we are all looking forward to that.

But, for the moment, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1445

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

Mr. Speaker, let me first of all thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) who, throughout his service as chairman of this very important subcommittee, has extended every courtesy to those of us on the Democratic side of the aisle. I would like to thank the gentleman.

I would also like to rise in support of H.R. 3808, offered by another of my colleagues, one who I serve on the Committee on Education and Workforce

with, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say, obviously we fully support the naming of this postal facility on behalf of a former colleague who served for more than a decade and a half as a distinguished Member of the United States Congress, and especially since the gentleman served prior to that as a member of the State Senate in Michigan, and I, as a member of the State Senate in Pennsylvania, have a certain affection for people who come to the House from important roles in our State legislative bodies. I want to also recognize his contributions and service on the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, let me return the kind words of the ranking member. It has been on these bills, as well as all business before the subcommittee, my honor and pleasure to work with the gentleman and the members of the minority side. They come to this subcommittee with only the best of intentions, and I do think it makes for, perhaps not unique, but certainly a very enjoyable experience that is reflected in these three bills.

Mr. Speaker, I yield three minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the main sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, this was an easy bill for me to introduce, and it was cosponsored by every single member, Republican and Democrat, of the Michigan delegation.

Carl Pursell served in this House from 1977 to 1993, and the post office we are naming today is in fact very close to Carl's home in Plymouth, Michigan. Carl served in the Army, he was a businessman, he was an elected official, both at the county level as well as a State senator, and he and his wife, Peg, a teacher in Plymouth, have lived in Plymouth virtually all their life.

I got to know Carl as a member of his softball team when I was a staffer on the Hill back in the seventies, and I got to know him quite a bit more when I served at the Office of Management and Budget, as Carl Pursell was a founder of the Gypsy Moths.

The Gypsy Moths, this was a Republican group, certainly a distinct minority, Republicans were, back in the early eighties, but they led the way to forging bipartisan cooperation and agreements with the other side of the aisle and were able to pursue Ronald Reagan's successful agenda that passed here in the 1980's.

Carl Pursell served as ranking member on the Subcommittee on Labor-HHS of the Committee on Appropriations. The chairman of that subcommittee, Mr. Natcher, he and Carl were very committed to education and health research, and helped maneuver those bills through law, and impacted millions and millions of Americans through this House floor.

Carl Pursell deeply cared about the budget deficit. In fact, through his work in the 92 Group and others, he worked on a freeze budget, freezing outlays, no more than inflation, and his budget, in fact, failed in the House by only one vote, as I recall. Had that budget passed back in the eighties, we would have gotten a balanced budget long before today.

In 1992, Michigan lost two Congressional seats because of redistricting. Sadly, Carl Pursell's was one of those. Yes, he could have run in another part of his old district, but he would have had to move from his residence and his community of Plymouth, Michigan, and he decided that he would stay.

Always a competitor, Carl Pursell, whether it be on a tennis court or rooting for the Detroit Tigers, thank goodness for the Detroit Red Wings, he now serves on Eastern Michigan's board and coaches kids' soccer in Plymouth, where he was, in fact, earlier this afternoon. Only he and Ebenezer Pennimon, who served as a Whig in this House from 1851 to 1852, have ever served in the Congress hailing from Plymouth, Michigan.

This Federal facility is deserving of his fine name through his excellent public service, and I would urge all of my colleagues to respect Carl Pursell and to vote "yes" on this bill later this afternoon.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield three minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

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

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to second the remarks of my good friend, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), and rise in support of H.R. 3808, the bill to name the United States Post Office in Plymouth, Michigan, after our former colleague, Carl D. Pursell.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) spoke about Carl's leadership, particularly to bring Congress to its fiscal senses, but I want to speak about him on just a personal note. He was a leader within our delegation. He took great personal interest in the committee assignments Members received and their ability to get started in the Congress. It was his intellect and I think his experience with people, serving at different levels of government, teaching, publishing, as a State senator, and then in Congress on the Committee on Appropriations, but it was that leadership quality that he had, that ability to work with people, certainly his sense of humor, that brought us together and made us a more effective delegation here in Washington.

So it is with great honor that I rise to support this legislation. I think it is a fitting tribute to our colleague. Without redistricting, I am sure he would be serving here today in the Congress. We miss him very much.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield three minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG).

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), for being down here for what we consider a very large, extraordinary Michigan moment, and I rise in strong support of H.R. 3808.

Carl Pursell is a lifelong Michigan resident. He served, as you probably caught from my colleagues, eight terms in this body. He was a friend of mine. I sought his counsel, in fact, on a very important matter because I represent part of his district. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) spoke to the fact that he lost out in some reapportionment matter in 1992, and so I am very familiar with not just Carl Pursell but also his constituents.

From his position on the Committee on Appropriations, Carl utilized his experience as a former educator to become a national leader on education. As the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Education of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, Carl was instrumental in improving the quality of the local schools in the district and making the University of Michigan one of the premier institutions of higher learning in this country. He also was responsible for securing funding that enabled Madonna University, which is a private college in my district, to offer a degree program for interpreters for the hearing-impaired.

Prior to being elected to Congress in 1976, Carl served, as I believe my colleague mentioned also, on the Wayne County Board of Commissioners and in the Michigan State Senate. His dedication to public service was second to none, and his accomplishments, I believe, reflect the commitment and tireless effort he put into his work as a legislator.

As has been mentioned, he currently resides in Plymouth, Michigan with his wife Peggy, and is making a difference in that community even today by serving on the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents.

I want to commend the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) for introducing this bill to designate the United States Post Office located at Clipper Drive in Plymouth as the Carl D. Pursell Post Office. Carl was responsible for securing the funding to build this post office, and I believe it is only appropriate that it bear his name.

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

Mr. Speaker, with a final thanks to my friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), and the staff who worked on this, I would urge my colleagues all to join in supporting this very worthy piece of legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion

offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3808, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. 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. 3808.

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

There was no objection.

STEVEN SCHIFF POST OFFICE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3630) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9719 Candelaria Road NE. in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the "Steven Schiff Post Office," as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3630

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

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9719 Candelaria Road NE. in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and known as the Eldorado Station Post Office, shall be known and designated as the "Steven Schiff Post Office".

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 "Steven Schiff Post Office".

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. Speaker, H.R. 3630, honoring our late colleague, Steven Schiff of New Mexico, was introduced by the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) on April 1, 1998. Pursuant to the policy of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the legislation is indeed cosponsored by all the Members of the New Mexico delegation, although the sponsor himself is from Indiana.

It is a fitting tribute to Steve, as all of us knew him better, that the chairman of the committee on which he served with dedication and concern for issues, would sponsor this legislation as an outgoing tribute to his memory.

The legislation in fact redesignates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9719 Candelaria Road NE., in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the "Steven Schiff Post Office." The Committee on Government Reform and Oversight amended the bill to read "Steve Schiff," as I mentioned, the name by which many more of us knew him, known as Steve, of course, by his friends, his family and his constituents, and the name change was suggested indeed by Mrs. Schiff, and was unanimously accepted by his colleagues on the committee on which Steve served with distinction.

Steven Harvey Schiff was born in the great City of Chicago. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois, but moved to earn his law degree from the University of New Mexico Law School. He was admitted to the bar and stayed in New Mexico to become the assistant district attorney of Bernalillo County for two years. He then became a trial attorney, but returned to public service as an assistant city attorney, counsel for the Albuquerque Police Department, and district attorney for his county for eight years.

Steve earned the reputation of being tough on crime and going by the book. He served in the New Mexico Air National Guard and was an Air Force Reserve Colonel. During the Persian Gulf crisis in 1991, Steve performed legal duties, such as drafting wills for military reservists. In 1996 he served for several days in the Bosnia theater as a judge advocate general involved in international legal matters.

Steve Schiff was elected by the First District of New Mexico to the 101st Congress, and to three succeeding Congresses. He succeeded a gentleman who left the house after 20 years and became Secretary of Interior under President Bush.

Steve was a member of several committees during his service in the House: The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct; the Committee on the Judiciary, on which he served as Vice Chair of the Subcommittee on Crime; the Committee on Science, on which he served as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Basic Research; and, as I have mentioned, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

□ 1500

Steve will be remembered as a Member who voted his conscience. He sponsored legislation and asked questions that were not always popular, though his tough stands and his caring spirit made him very popular himself on both sides of the aisle by Members and staff.

We have the honor of having before us today, Mr. Speaker, two bills, this and the prior one considered, who are bestowing honors on gentlemen that are still fresh in the memories of many of the Members of this House.

Having served with Steve, I can say he was always what was good about this House, always what was good

about this Congress, a man who cared only about his constituents and what was best for his country. It is with a great deal of honor that I ask my colleagues to join with me today in supporting this bill in honor of Steve Schiff.

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

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, utilizing whatever time I may consume, let me, first of all, join in support of H.R. 3630, which would name an appropriate facility in New Mexico after our former colleague. As someone who serves on the House Ethics Committee and also had an opportunity to serve with Congressman Schiff on the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, I would like to offer my personal condolences to his wife of some 29 years and also for the rest of his immediate and extended family.

His service, not only in this Congress as one of some 12,000 or so Americans who have served in this body but in the Armed Forces and as someone who is deeply committed to a whole host of principles, it was the 1998 American Almanac of American Politics in which it said that he was a person who followed what was right, irrespective of the politics of the moment. I think that that best exemplifies the colleague that we all knew and understood to be someone who we could respect for his independence here in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in the favorable consideration and hopefully unanimous consideration of this naming bill after someone who has not only served but served this institution with dignity. We have the finest postal service in the world, and we want to also take a minute to utilize the opportunity to name some of these facilities after some of the finest people that we know.

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

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN).

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, it is perfectly responsible for the House to name a building after one of our most respected Members. Steve Schiff would be on anyone's bipartisan list of the five most respected Members in the House of Representatives. He was a workhorse. He was diligent. He was thoughtful. Above all, he was wise.

I served with him when we were in the minority in the 103rd Congress, and he was the ranking member on a subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations and in the 104th and 105th Congress, where he was active on the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

Steve was an inspiring person, even though he was a very quiet person. He did his work. He came prepared. He asked the intelligent question that went to the very core of the issue. That skill probably came from background as a prosecutor. He could get to the core matter and get the evidence that