him for his cooperation, his input, his leadership and his comments.

I would also say, with respect to this particular bill, that we have had the opportunity, and I would argue or certainly assert, the honor to do a fair number of these this year, and I can never recall a single word of opposition to any of them. I say that not because these are automatic or that the naming process is simplistic, but rather that Members think very carefully before they bring to the floor and work on behalf of a particular nominee being designated with this naming honor. And certainly today that is shown again in this bill designating the postal facility in the honor of Freeman Hankins, and I will again say for the bill that follows as well.

So we owe our thanks to the gentleman from Pennsylvania for once again bringing to us a very worthy individual and one that, I think, is fully deserving of this particular honor. And, again, in, closing, I would proudly join with the gentleman in urging all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY). 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. 4002.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAX WEINER POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4003) to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 2037 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the ''Max Weiner Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4003

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

SECTION 1. MAX WEINER POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Postal Service building located at 2037 Chestnut Street, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the ''Max Weiner Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Max Weiner 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).

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. 4003, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, it may seem somewhat anticlimactic, because this bill is, at least in form, if not identical very similar to the one we just considered. But the individual we seek to honor is truly unique, and once again, as I said, the gentleman from Pennsylvania is to be thanked for his leadership, for his careful consideration of the nominee of Max Weiner for the designation of this particular postal facility at the address of 2037 Chestnut Street in the great city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. And, again, as a matter of record, pursuant to the committee rules, this bill enjoys the sponsorship of the entire delegation from the State of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Weiner was truly, by everything that I have seen, a tremendously energetic worker for consumer rights and for consumer protection. He fought hard, so very hard, for literally thousands of Pennsylvanians who might otherwise have found themselves in so many difficult, challenging positions and situations: The loss of their homes, the loss of heat during the extraordinarily cold weather that can sometimes visit those of us who feel lucky enough to live in the northeast. He fought to protect the privacy of the underprivileged and for greater access for them to the mass transit system.

And in his endeavors he did much else as well, Mr. Speaker. He was the founder of the Consumers Education and Protective Association and the Independent Consumer Party. In short, Mr. Speaker, just time and time again the sort of individual who remained in their community, who fought hard, who worked hard not for power or glory, certainly not for money, but because, simply, they cared about their communities, but most of all cared about their neighbors and wished to make their lives a little better today than yesterday and, hopefully, their live a little better tomorrow than it was today.

Again, I will yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania who has brought this bill to us, and with that I would thank him for his leadership and urge all of my colleagues once again, please, to support this very worthy nomination.

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

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 4003.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from New York for his kind remarks, and let me assure him that if Max Weiner was around today and here he would probably be outside protesting all of us for some reason or another.

Literally no less than a thousand times he has been out on the battlefield. He has filed in his lifetime probably more lawsuits against the Philadelphia Gas Works, the Philadelphia Electric Company, the Philadelphia Water Department, every State agency imaginable, fighting aggressively on behalf of individuals, and as class actions, consumers who, by some set of circumstance, based on the review of his organization, had been cheated either by the outcome or by a process, or somehow, nonetheless, even if the decision-making was correct, somehow still could not meet the burden that was being asked of them, and he would fight on their behalf.

For many, many decades he led the Consumer Education and Protective Association of Philadelphia, and one could always be assured that at least on 6 days out of a 7-day-week he would be out in front of city hall with a table, with petitions, for some cause or another. And in his latter years, well into his 70s, he started to actually have some of his greatest success at winning lawsuits against and stopping of rate increases from various utilities, and forcing people to comply with various rules and regulations and statutory requirements that had been put upon them by municipal utilities.

He also exercised his right to vote, but not as a member of the Democratic party or Republican Party. He formed his own party, the Consumer Party, and ran as their standard bearer for every conceivable office that we could imagine that was ever on the ballot in Philadelphia. But he was loved by all. Even those who he opposed knew that in his heart he was speaking on behalf of those who he felt needed someone to speak for them.

Even though he has been gone for many years now, it is his spirit, and the public spiritedness of his work that brings me to the point of offering this bill. I am thankful for having the support of all my colleagues from Pennsylvania. I think all of us probably have in our districts a Max Weiner. And if we do not, we need one, because there is often a necessity for someone to operate somewhat outside of the box and to speak on behalf of those whose voices otherwise may have been marginalized. Max Weiner did that in Philadelphia, and his work and his legacy is something that all of us from the Philadelphia community will always respect and remember.

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Again, I am sure he would probably be even somehow railing against this Congress or the State and Senate or the Council if he was with us today about something. In the final analysis, he would probably be right, at least in the spirit of his remarks.

I thank the gentleman from New York for his cooperation and the Speaker and the majority leader to have these bills scheduled and moved. I truly appreciate their efforts.

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

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. In closing, I could not add to the very eloquent statement of the ranking member. We indeed all need a Max Weiner in our lives. Although we are not obviously in a position to enjoy the guidance and the light that he shed during his very, very illustrious career, we can perhaps through this naming inscribe his name above the pillars of the Postal Service and remind us all of the good things that he did in his life. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH).

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY). 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. 4003.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMENDING VISIT OF POPE JOHN PAUL II TO CUBA

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 362) commending the visit of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to Cuba, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 362

Whereas Pope John Paul II earlier this year undertook a first ever Papal visit to Cuba to speak directly to the Cuban people;

Whereas the Pope led the Cuban people in celebration throughout the island, including leading the largest open-air mass since 1959 on the last day of his visit in Jose Marti Plaza;

Whereas the Pope spoke directly with the Cuban people and the Cuban Government about the importance of fundamental human rights and the necessity for ''each person enjoying freedom of expression, being free to undertake initiatives and make proposals within civil society, and enjoying appropriate freedom of association'';

Whereas the Pope called for political freedom in Cuba, including a call to release ''those who are isolated, persecuted, imprisoned for various offenses or for reasons of conscience, for ideas which though dissident are nonetheless peaceful'';

Whereas the Pope called for greater religious freedom in Cuba and a ''harmonious social climate and a suitable legislation that enables every person and every religious confession to live their faith freely, to express that faith in the context of public life and to count on adequate resources and opportunities to bring its spiritual, moral and civil benefits to bear on the life of the nation'';

Whereas Cuban churches of all faiths supported the Papal visit and emerged from the visit with expectations of greater prominence and freedom to operate in Cuban society;

Whereas the Pope invoked the name of Father Felix Varela y Morales, ''an undeniable patriot'', who ''spoke of democracy, judging it to be the political project best in keeping with human nature'', and the name of Jose Marti, ''a writer and a teacher in the fullest sense of the word, deeply committed to democracy and independence, a patriot, a loyal friend even to those who did not share his political program'';

Whereas the Pope remembered ''those people who for various reasons have left the country but still feel that they are sons and daughters of Cuba'' and established that ''the Cuban people should be the protagonists of their own future and destiny'';

Whereas the Pope both called for greater integration of the people of Cuba into the international community and criticized the Castro Government by saying ''imposed isolation strikes the people indiscriminately, making it ever more difficult for the weakest to enjoy the bare essentials of decent living''; and

Whereas the Pope challenged Cuba and the international community of nations by saying ''May Cuba with all its magnificent potential, open itself up to the world, and may the world open itself up to Cuba'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends Pope John Paul II for his visit to Cuba, for his frank criticism of the Cuban Government, and his message of hope to the Cuban people; and

(2) urges the international community to join the United States in actively supporting the freedom and democratic reforms for Cuba embodied in the Pope's homilies which have peacefully united Cubans in the common cause of liberty.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the most telling moment of the visit by His Holiness Pope John Paul II to Cuba occurred at the beginning of his public mass at Havana. The Pope successively greeted Cuban Cardinal Jaime Ortega, the Church hierarchy, and the priests and assembled faithful to repeated applause from the crowd that filled Jose Marti Plaza.

The Pope then respectfully greeted Fidel Castro. Apart from the tiny sound of polite applause drifting from the stage over the loudspeakers, the sprawling crowd of ordinary Cubans stood in spontaneous, purposeful silence. No one applauded.

While ordinary Cubans were clearly touched by the Pope's message, the Castro regime remains unmoved. Sadly, the Catholic church and other Cuban religious leaders and laity consider to face intransigence and repression. The Cuban regime's State Security apparatus is now arresting more dissidents than were released after the Pope's visit.

In the meantime since the Pope's visit, church officials have publicly criticized the Cuban government for doing little since the Pope's visit to resolve issues that the Catholic church considers essential. Just yesterday, the New York Times reported that:

> The government of President Fidel Castro, which won praise for receiving the Pope has shown little new flexibility since then in response to church requests for greater freedom. Efforts to ease the admittance of foreign priests and nuns have made no apparent progress. Nor have pleas that the government scale back controls on Catholic social service agencies that could deliver badly needed food and medical aid from abroad.
>
> Permits for religious processions have been denied as often as they have been granted, church officials said, and hopes that the Pope's visit might open space for religious groups in the state-controlled news media have mostly been dashed.
>
> Approval of long-standing requests—to allow the opening of Catholic schools or importation of an offset press to print newsletters and magazines—seems as distant as it did in years past.

While Fidel Castro has refused to let up on the Catholic church in Cuba, here in our own Nation he continues to directly and brazenly attack American interests. The FBI announced in Miami just yesterday that 10 people have been charged with spying for the Cuban government. These Castroite agents were trying to penetrate our Miami-based U.S. Southern Command, MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, and the Boca Chica Naval Air Station in Key West. This morning, the Washington Post reported in a front page story that U.S. Attorney Thomas Scott ''described the activities of the eight men and two women as an attempt 'to strike at the very heart of our national security system.'''.

The FBI has said that Castro's spies also sought to infiltrate Cuban-American groups and manipulate other political groups and the United States media. I would like to commend FBI director Louis Freeh and the FBI's Miami field office for neutralizing this illegal espionage network.

Great leaders from Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Ronald Reagan have known that good will does not move dictators. I regret that the Clinton administration chose to make a number of unconditional, unilateral concessions to the Cuban government in the wake of the recent visit by the Pope. The United States should instead be leading efforts to help the church and Cuba's internal opposition to lay the basis for a peaceful and democratic transition.

I would like to note that our ranking member the gentleman from Indiana