

in the past year. On October 12, 1999, in the town of Pleasanton in Atascosa County, Texas, three brave officers of the law fell in the line of duty. Atascosa Sheriff's deputies, Thomas Monse and Mark Stephenson, along with Texas state trooper Terry Miller were all gunned down in an ambush by a lone gunman.

Officer Miller, the first Texas trooper who had been killed since 1994 and the 74th trooper killed in the line of duty, left behind a wife and two children, ages 13 and 22 months. Officer Monse, a former Bexar County deputy, left behind a wife and four children. Officer Stephenson, who also served our nation in the military for seven years, left behind a wife and three children.

In addition to those who paid with their lives, Atascosa County deputy Carl Fisher and Pleasanton police officer Luis Tudyk, were wounded while carrying out their duty.

The other tragedy, in San Antonio, was much more recent. Oscar Perez, a young San Antonio Police Officer was killed on Friday, March 24, 2000 as he served a warrant on a drug fugitive. Aged 31 at his death, he left behind a pregnant wife and two young children, ages 5 and sixteen months. As his 6½ year career as a San Antonio police officer came to a tragic and abrupt end, we honor him and the 41 others in the history of the San Antonio Police Departments, serves as a reminder of the unique and fatal risks they all too often must bear.

Our hearts go out to the families of these brave men and all the others who have in earlier years shed their blood so we can live safely and securely. We honor our slain law enforcement officers so that their own children and loved ones will know that we cannot and will not forget, and keep the memory of their service and sacrifice as an on-going inspiration to those who follow.

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I offer my support for this bill, and thank the House of Representatives for hearing this important resolution today.

My colleagues and I join Americans across the country today in honoring those officers who have died in the line of duty, keeping our streets safe. I also want to offer my appreciation to those men and women in our community who walk that thin blue line every day.

As a former law enforcement officer, I have a unique understanding of the everyday dangers and sense of accomplishment that accompanies each officer every day. What people do not understand very often, is that it is the inherent risk of what we might have to do that makes law enforcement so dangerous. We see the best and worst of our fellow human beings. It is not our job to judge them. That task is reserved for 12 people and someone wearing a robe. Our job is merely to treat everyone alike.

Enforcing the law is a hard job. There are detractors everywhere. When people do something wrong, their first instinct is to find fault with the person who catches them. So being the guardian of our laws is never a happy endeavor. But in the end, it is the enormous satisfaction of protecting our neighborhoods and families that makes walking that blue line worth all the danger and criticism. It is the laughter of safe children, or the gratitude of someone whose life or property we protect, that makes doing this job an enormously satisfying endeavor.

There are several South Texans who will be honored this week. Officers who made the supreme sacrifice include: Los Fresnos Police Officer Enrique L. Carrizalez; Department of Public Safety Trooper David Rucker; Border Patrol Agents Susan Lynn Rodriguez and Ricardo Guillermo Salinas; and Corpus Christi Police Department Officers Joseph Moon, Juan Prieto, Dan Bock, Roy Smith, John Sartain and Ruben Almanza. A National Police Hall of Fame award will go to Officer Hector Gonzalez, who was shot twice at the scene of a family disturbance; Gonzalez still works for the Los Fresnos Police Department.

Today, let us not forget the sacrifice made on our behalf right here in this building; our own Capitol Police Officers Chestnut and Gibson died defending Members of Congress and the public who populate this building. The House of Representatives joins families and communities across the nation remember those members of the force who are no longer with us, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. For that sacrifice, they and their family have the eternal gratitude of a grateful community and a grateful nation.

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I strongly support this bill. As someone who spent twenty-six and a half years in law enforcement, it is important that we recognize our men and women who stand in the line of fire and protect our cities and communities from crime. These individuals are on the front lines every day maintaining the peace and providing public safety for all Americans.

From our borders to our inner cities, in rural areas and along our coasts, these men and women defend and protect our children, friends, neighbors and family. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

As of late, we have watched with horror as violent and dangerous incidents have taken place around the country and caused concern for all Americans. With multiple shooting at our schools, community centers, in the workplace, and in every part of the country, we have tragically seen innocent victims injured and killed from gunfire.

It is our men and women of law enforcement who step into these dangerous situations and restore the peace, deal with victims and do their best to apprehend those responsible.

Each year, however, we know that some of our local, state, and federal officers are wounded and some make the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit. We can never take their sacrifices for granted, and should never forget their service to our country.

I therefore am proud to support this resolution which designates today as National Peace Officers Memorial Day honoring those peace officers killed in the line of duty.

I therefore support this bill, and ask my colleagues to vote for its passage.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, we have no further requests for time on this side of the aisle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. Biggert). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Chabot) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 501.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### JOINT APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to section 301 of Public Law 104-1, the Chair announces on behalf of the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives and the majority and minority leaders of the United States Senate their joint appointment of Ms. Susan S. Robfogel, New York, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance, to fill the existing vacancy thereon.

There was no objection.

□ 1815

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 491, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4251, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 309, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

#### NAMING ROOM IN CAPITOL IN HONOR OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 491.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 491, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 380, nays 0, not voting 54, as follows:

[Roll No. 180]

YEAS—380

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|----------|--------------|----------|
| Aderholt | Baker        | Barton   |
| Allen    | Baldacci     | Bass     |
| Andrews  | Baldwin      | Bentsen  |
| Archer   | Ballenger    | Bereuter |
| Armey    | Barcia       | Berman   |
| Baca     | Barr         | Berry    |
| Bachus   | Barrett (NE) | Biggert  |
| Baird    | Bartlett     | Bilbray  |