

In the same year, Jim McCabe received the Legislator of the Year Award from the New York State Personnel and Guidance Association, additionally for his work in mental health. Jim was named Legislator of the Year in 1981 and 1982 by the New York State Association of Counties. He also received the Friends of Education Award in 1982 from the New York Education Association.

After his service in the State Assembly, and in a way as a capstone of his entire service in both State and local government, Jim served for 5 years on the New York State Board of Regents. The New York State Board of Regents, of course, is the board which oversees the entire educational system within New York. It was a very appropriate way for Jim McCabe to end his public service, in the sense that throughout his years, in local government and in the State legislature, and wherever he worked, with young people and old everywhere, his educational skills served him in good stead.

Jim, first and foremost, was an educator. And everyone with whom he came in contact benefitted from his skills, from his experience, from his wide breadth of service both here at home and abroad. It is, Mr. Speaker, with a great sense of pride that I offer this legislation to the Congress of the United States to name the Post Office Building in Johnson City as the James W. McCabe, Sr. Post Office.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to congratulate the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) for introducing this bill for someone who certainly deserves the recognition.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I also applaud the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) for this bill and for introducing it. I think he has said it quite eloquently as to why we are honoring this wonderful gentleman, James W. McCabe, in naming a post office after him.

The fact is, as I have said about some of our other honorees earlier today, they have come upon the Earth, they have seen it, they saw they could make a difference and made that difference.

With that, I would associate myself with the statement that the gentleman from New York just made and would urge our colleagues to vote in favor of this very important legislation based upon that.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) also for all her assistance.

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

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume and I again urge this House to unanimously pass H.R. 2302, the legislation naming the James W. McCabe Post Office Building.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUYKENDALL). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2302.

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.

JUDGE ROBERT BERNARD WATTS, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4448) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3500 Dolfield Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4448

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

SECTION 1. JUDGE ROBERT BERNARD WATTS, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3500 Dolfield Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, shall be known and designated as the "Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MORELLA. 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. 4448.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring before the House H.R. 4448, legislation that was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS). This bill was introduced on May 15 of this year and is supported by all Members of the House delegation from the State of Maryland, and I am honored to be a cosponsor.

□ 1600

This legislation designates the United States Post Office located at 3500 Dolfield Avenue in Baltimore,

Maryland, as the "Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Post Office."

Judge Watts graduated with honors from Morgan State College in 1943. He joined the Army and served until 1945. After this service, he earned a law degree from the University of Maryland in 1948.

Judge Watts was deeply involved with the civil rights movement and worked closely with the NAACP. He was instrumental in desegregating numerous theaters, restaurants, department stores, hotels, and the Gwynn Oak Amusement Park. Judge Robert Bernard Watts was the first African American to be appointed full time to the bench of the Municipal Court of Baltimore City and was the first judge in Maryland to open hundreds of adoption records.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 4448 in honor of a gentleman, a gentleman who has made a difference in the lives of his community and his State.

I also want to congratulate the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) for taking time to introduce this bill and for bringing the good works of Judge Watts to the attention of our colleagues.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA), the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH), and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Postal Service, for their support in bringing this bill to the floor.

I believe that persons who have made meaningful contributions to society should be recognized. The naming of a postal building in one's honor is truly a salute to the accomplishments and public service of an individual.

H.R. 4448 designates the United States Postal Building located at 3500 Dolfield Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Post Office Building."

I am pleased to be able to speak today about Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Judge Watts was born in west Baltimore, was at the center of the civil rights movement in the State of Maryland. He began his civil rights work as chairman of the NAACP Youth Chapter at Morgan State University. His chapter, with 200 members, was the largest in the country at that time. Because of his outstanding work, the NAACP sent him to his first national convention in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1942, where he met the late Justice Thurgood Marshall with whom he worked for 15 years on various civil rights cases.

He was the first African American to be appointed full time to the bench of the Municipal Court of Baltimore City. He then served in the Army until 1945. He earned a law degree from the University of Maryland, my alma mater,

in 1949, where he was the editor of the Maryland Law Review, which is a very high honor.

Also in 1949, he formed the first major African American law firm in Baltimore. He was the first African American appointed to the Municipal Court in Maryland. In 1968 he was appointed by Governor Spiro Agnew to the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City.

As a judge, Watts was instrumental in desegregating numerous theaters, restaurants, department stores, hotels, and the Gwynn Oak Amusement Park. He was the first judge in Maryland to open hundreds of adoption records, reuniting numerous families. Judge Watts was one of the few judges who volunteered to be a part of our family court, the court that dealt with various disputes with regard to family matters, divorces, adoptions, and child support.

I had an opportunity, many opportunities, to go before him. And quite often he would tell us that the reason why he liked doing this kind of work was because he wanted to bring families together and have them see the bigger picture. He cared so much about children he wanted to make sure that fathers understood that they needed to be a part of their children's lives.

Moreover, Judge Robert Watts not only served justly and fairly in the courtroom but served in numerous organizations in the community. At one point in his career he served on 14 boards at the same time, among them Bon Secours Hospital, which is located in the seventh Congressional District. He chaired three gubernatorial task forces regarding family law, AIDS, and prison overcrowding and served the community as a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

He died October 8, 1998.

He was such a wonderful, wonderful husband to his wife Jacqueline. He was married to her for over 50 years.

And so we take this moment to salute him for all that he has done to make life better for so many people.

One great author said that, when speaking of a great person, he said he brought life to life. It is clear that Judge Watts did that.

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

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, again I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) for introducing this legislation.

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN).

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, first let me thank my friends, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) and the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA), for bringing forward this legislation that honors Judge Watts.

I can think of no person more appropriate to be honored than Judge Watts. He was my friend. He was my mentor.

As my colleagues have pointed out, yes, he was responsible for breaking many barriers. He was an outstanding jurist. He was a colleague of my father on the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City and a close friend of my father and our family.

I remember sharing many dinners together with Judge Watts and his family. He was an extraordinary individual. But I think his greatest accomplishment was the way that Judge Watts was able to bring communities and people together. He could mediate problems in a neighborhood. He could mediate problems in a city. He could mediate problems in our State. He was called upon by governors, by legislators, by jurists, by attorneys to help bring his wisdom to improve our community. And as the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) pointed out, he never turned down a request, serving on 14 boards at one time.

Let me just share with my colleagues one example of one board that he agreed to serve on. He served with me as a trustee at St. Mary's College in St. Mary's City, Maryland, not exactly close to his hometown of Baltimore. It was about a 2-hour commute in order to attend the trustees meetings.

Now, Judge Watts was well known in Baltimore, but he was willing to take his knowledge and expertise and use it to help a small liberal arts college in a rural part of our State.

He never missed a meeting that I can remember. He was always an active participant. We had a very sensitive issue that, quite frankly, I do not think anyone but Judge Watts could have resolved.

St. Mary's College is one of the finest public liberal arts colleges in this Nation. And this is a tribute also to Judge Watts' talent, leadership, and willingness to get involved in community activities.

Mr. Speaker, he spent his life serving his community. I am proud that today we are going to be able to honor his community by the naming of this facility.

I congratulate all involved.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) for his comments. As he was speaking, I could not help but remember the many times that Judge Watts sat in the meetings of blacks and Jews, we called them Blews, and tried to make sure that African-Americans and Jewish people worked together to resolve problems. He was a man who constantly looked for what people had in common, as opposed to their differences; and he fully understood that if we concentrated on the things we have in common, we can accomplish so very, very much.

So we take this moment not only to salute Judge Watts, but we also salute Mrs. Watts, Jacqueline Watts; his five

children Robert, Rodney, Jacqueline, Janelle, and Bobbett; and we take this moment to name this post office after him so that, as I have said so many, many times, so that when children look at the post office and look at the name up there, they can say, Well, who was Judge Watts? And it may be many, many years from now and somebody will be able to say, Well, he was a great jurist, he was a great great humanitarian and, in the words of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), he was a consensus builder and one who brought people together.

I do not think we can give any greater tribute to any person greater than the one we have given here today. I urge passage of this legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, we can see there is unanimity among the Maryland delegation on behalf of the Nation and the service of Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. So I urge passage of this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUYKENDALL). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4448.

The question was taken.

Mrs. MORELLA. 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.

DR. FLOSSIE McCLAIN DEDMOND POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4449) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1908 North Ellamont Street in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4449

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

SECTION 1. DR. FLOSSIE McCLAIN DEDMOND POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1908 North Ellamont Street in Baltimore, Maryland, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.