

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5302, legislation which designates the United States courthouse in Seattle, Washington, as the "William Kenzo Nakamura United States Courthouse".

This legislation has the strong support of the entire Washington State delegation, Robert Matsui, Representative PATSY MINK, and Representative DAVID WU and locally elected officials in the Pacific Northwest. The legislation is broadly supported by veterans groups including the Nisei Veterans Committee, Northwest Chapter of the Military Intelligence Service, Mercer Island VFW Post 5760, Lake Washington VFW Post 2995, Renton VFW Post 1263, The Seattle Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Pfc. Nakamura's story is largely unknown; designating the U.S. Courthouse in his name is a fitting way to acknowledge the memory of a true American hero, who for so many years was denied the honor he so justly deserved.

William Kenzo Nakamura was born and raised in an area of Seattle that used to be known as "Japantown." In 1942, while attending the University of Washington, William Kenzo Nakamura, his family, and 110,000 other Japanese Americans were forcibly relocated to federal internment camps. While living at the Minidoka Relocation Center in Idaho, Nakamura and his brothers enlisted in the United States Army. William Kenzo Nakamura was assigned to serve with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The courageous service of this unit during World War II made it one of the most decorated in the history of our nation's military.

William Kenzo Nakamura distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on July 4, 1944, near Castellina, Italy. As Pfc. Nakamura's platoon approached Castellina, it came under heavy enemy fire. Acting on his own initiative, Pfc. Nakamura crawled within 15 yards of the enemy's machine gun nest and used four hand grenades to neutralize the enemy fire which allowed his platoon to continue its advance. Pfc. Nakamura's company was later ordered to withdraw from the crest of a hill. Rather than retreat with his platoon, Pfc. Nakamura took a position to cover the platoon's withdrawal. As his platoon moved toward safety they suddenly became pinned down by machine gun fire. Pfc. Nakamura crawled toward the enemy's position and accurately fired upon the machine gunners, allowing his platoon time to withdraw to safety. It was during this heroic stand that Pfc. Nakamura lost his life to enemy sniper fire.

Pfc. Nakamura's commanding officer nominated him for the Medal of Honor but the racial climate of the time prevented him, and other soldiers of color, from receiving the nation's highest honor. This year, fifty-six years after he made the ultimate sacrifice for his country, William Kenzo Nakamura was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

I would like to acknowledge June Oshima, Pfc. Nakamura's sister. This legislation confirms what she and the Nakamura family have long known, William Kenzo Nakamura is an American hero. William Kenzo Nakamura embodies the American spirit—an individual who faced enormous inequity imparted on him by his country, yet nobly volunteered to protect it paying the ultimate sacrifice. The "William K. Nakamura Courthouse" will stand to remind us all of his and other Japanese-American's contributions and sacrifices for this country. Nam-

ing the Courthouse in his honor of William Kenzo Nakamura would be a fitting honor for him and other Japanese Americans.

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

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5302.

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.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHUSTER. 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. 5110, H.R. 5302, and H.R. 3069.

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

There was no objection.

AMENDING PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES ACT

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4965) to amend the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930, to extend the time period during which persons may file a complaint alleging the preparation of false inspection certificates at Hunts Point Terminal Market, Bronx, New York.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4965

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME PERIOD FOR FILING CERTAIN COMPLAINTS UNDER PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1930.

Section 6(a)(1) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 499f(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following: "Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, a person that desires to file a complaint under this section involving the allegation of false inspection certificates prepared by graders of the Department of Agriculture at Hunts Point Terminal Market, Bronx, New York, prior to October 27, 1999, may file the complaint until January 1, 2001."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PETERSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bill, H.R. 4965, a bill to extend the time period to file a complaint

arising from the incident at the Hunts Point Terminal Market.

I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. CONDIT) for introducing this legislation. I also would like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Livestock and Horticulture for holding a hearing on the Hunts Point matter on July 27. I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) for his assistance in bringing this bill to the floor.

On October 27, 1999, eight USDA produce inspectors and individuals from 13 wholesale firms were arrested at the Hunts Point Terminal Market and charged with bribery. These arrests were the result of a 3-year investigation by the USDA's Office of Inspector General. All total, Federal prosecutors were able to obtain convictions for nine USDA inspectors involved in this illegal activity, in addition to the charges filed against 14 wholesale firms.

The AMS inspectors were charged with accepting cash bribes in exchange for reducing the grade of the produce they inspected, which then allowed the wholesale company to purchase produce more cheaply at the expense of the farmer.

The Perishable Agriculture Commodities Act, PACA, enacted in 1930, governs the fair trade of fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables. PACA guidelines provide a mechanism to resolve commercial disputes that arise in the produce trade. PACA also establishes a code of business practices and enables USDA to penalize violations of these practices.

Mr. Speaker, all who believe they suffered from the financial damages as a result of the fraudulent inspection at the Hunts Point Market may seek to recover these damages by filing a PACA complaint. However, PACA guidelines require all claims be filed within 9 months of the incident. In this case, any party seeking damages from the Hunts Point incident would have had to file a claim by July 27, 2000.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the earliest any producer received a copy of the fraudulent inspection certificates was March 21 and some did not receive theirs until June 23. These certificates, along with other records, are necessary to establish the amount of damages. As my colleagues can see, many did not have adequate time to assemble the required documentation to file a claim by the deadline. H.R. 4965 extends the deadline for filing the PACA claim resulting from the Hunts Point incident to January 1, 2001.

This will provide farmers and others with a claim to gather the information they need to present a claim for compensation resulting from illegal inspection activities.

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

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.