

my own. Yet we want to give this money away. You might want to do that in some other districts, but you are certainly letting those districts choose. We are going to insist that we be treated like the first-class Americans we are.

The hypocrisy of it all, of trying to impose vouchers on the District, is that the Leave No Child Behind bill in committee had an amendment for vouchers for the Nation, defeated in committee. Then they tried on the floor, defeated on the floor. We are in the minority, so we could not have defeated it. Republicans defeated it, because they know that vouchers are not wanted in their districts, and they know it because they have not been able to pass a single referendum anywhere in the United States of America. So they come to the defenseless District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to fight back, especially since we have got an alternative school system that none of the rest of you could even stand up beside us on.

Charter schools are a bipartisan way to approach this matter, and we are going to insist that we be a part of the bipartisan consensus. We are going to especially insist upon it every time you try to impose anything on us, because District residents are in Iraq as I speak, as they have been in every war fought in the United States since the Revolutionary War; and we just paid our Federal income taxes at the rate of second-per-capita in the United States. And I will be darned if anybody is going to treat us unequally in the face of our meeting our first-class obligations to our country and to the Federal Government.

We play by the rules. We are not requesting to be treated as second-class citizens. The rules of the Congress say if you want the money to go to charter schools, it will go to charter schools. If you want the money to go to private schools, it will go to private schools. If you want the money to go to alternative public schools, it will go to alternative public schools. There is no way in the world to have that as a principal position for every district in the United States and not for the 600,000 people who live in the Nation's Capital.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Members to remember to capture the bipartisan spirit of this bill, to remember that the District of Columbia deserves your compliments for being ahead of all of the rest of you in producing alternative schools for our children, and not the punishment of the imposition, undemocratically, of your solution on a district that you do not represent and which cannot vote you in or out.

This bill in one of its paragraphs says: "Whereas, charter schools can be vehicles for improving student achievement for students who attend them, for stimulating change and improvement in all public schools and for benefiting all public school students." That is the spirit of the bill, that is the spirit we

are trying to meet, and I ask Members to support me in the work that my district is doing to meet the very spirit encompassed in this bill today.

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to just make one or two brief points again. What we are talking about here is parent choice, and we know that parent choice is critically important within the public school system. I applaud my colleague from the District of Columbia, because she knows her district well and she knows that the parents have come forward and said that we have some good ideas about what will benefit our children and we want to work with the experts; we want to work with people from our community who are willing to come together and define and build on an idea that we have about how children succeed in school.

I applaud that, and I applaud the fact that there are so many charter schools within her district. I hope that my colleagues will have an opportunity to visit, and I hope to do that very soon. I know there is a charter school today that was celebrating its civic education program. They have young people there who are really learning what we hope all children throughout this country will learn, their responsibility as citizens. They are learning that, and they are learning that to a degree that probably is not seen in many of our schools throughout the country, and that occurs in a charter school.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud my colleagues today. I thank them for bringing this resolution forward, for congratulating charter schools within our public school system.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to applaud this bipartisan effort in recognizing those moms and dads and professionals across this country for their efforts in making sure that every child has a great education, to commend our staff and all of the Members who have cosponsored it, and the majority leader for scheduling this today.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 204, which congratulates and encourages the charter school movement throughout our country in its continued efforts to educate our children and serve our communities.

Charter schools are a modern-day public education story. This is because they foster the key ingredient in successful schools: the active participation not only of teachers and students, but of whole communities. When the entire community—from parents, to business and community organizations, to whole neighborhoods—has a critical role in making schools function, the results are amazing.

In my state of Hawai'i, charter schools have been the most exciting development in public education in decades. The 25 charter schools

currently allowed by state law have succeeded despite institutional opposition in bringing into education whole communities, often those whose participation has been lacking. They, like their counterparts across the nation, deserve our recognition.

But for these very reasons, they also deserve their fair share of resources from federal and state governments. I have a particular charter school in my district that illustrates this point perfectly.

Kanu o ka' Aina New Century Public Charter School (KANU) is located in the town of Kamuela on my home Island of Hawai'i. It has 150 students, 85 percent of which are Native Hawaiian. It is Hawai'i's first indigenous K-12 public charter schools. The level of commitment to this school from the community is awe-inspiring.

But it also faces major challenges. The school's director says that KANU's biggest challenge is funding equity and school construction funds. For the fiscal years 2001-2002 school year, KANU received \$3,492.87 less per student than other public schools.

Because KANU has to make due with fewer funds, it cannot save money on the side for construction of new buildings to accommodate its growing population. KANU needs both federal and state resources for construction funding, but it is finding these resources scarce and, when found, hard to access.

KANU and Hawai'i's other charter schools, both existing and future, need their federal government to be clear and unequivocal in its continued support for the concept of charter schools. They also need full parity in funding between traditional public schools and charter schools. H. Res. 204 is welcome and needed, but these great words must be partnered with action.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 204.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. PORTER. 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.

CONGRATULATING UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE ON 175TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 156) extending congratulations to the United States Capitol Police on the occasion of its 175th anniversary and expressing gratitude to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police and their families for their devotion to duty and service in safeguarding the freedoms of the American people.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 156

Whereas the United States Capitol Police traces its origins to 1801, when Congress moved from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C., and a lone watchman, John Golding, had the responsibility of guarding the Capitol facility and its functions;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police has grown from these humble beginnings to a first rate highly professionalized, equipped, and trained operation which provides vital services in the areas of law enforcement, protective and security services, and emergency preparedness, with nearly 1,700 sworn and non-sworn employees;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police has developed specialized and expert units, including K-9, Intelligence, Emergency Preparedness, Civil Disturbance, Criminal Investigation, Threat Assessment, Dignitary Protection, Physical Security, Technical Security, Electronic Countermeasures, Hazardous Devices, and the Containment and Emergency Response Team, as well as a skilled and professionalized administrative support function;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police, as the first line of the defense of the Nation's Capitol, has shared in the ultimate sacrifice in law enforcement with the tragic deaths in the line of duty of Sergeant Christopher Eney, Private First Class Jacob J. Chestnut, and Detective John Michael Gibson;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police continues to be in the forefront of protecting the core elements of our democratic process with selfless dedication and commitment; and

Whereas the United States Capitol Police was officially established in 1828 and is celebrating its 175th anniversary in 2003: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress and the American people extend heartfelt congratulations to the United States Capitol Police on the occasion of its 175th anniversary, and express the sincerest gratitude to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police and their families, and in particular the Eney, Chestnut, and Gibson families, for their devotion to duty and service in safeguarding the freedoms of the American people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER).

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express the gratitude of the United States Congress to its men, women, and families of the United States Capitol Police as they celebrate its 175th anniversary. The selfless dedication of the United States Capitol Police and their commitment to safeguarding not only us but the freedoms of the American people do not go unappreciated.

Officially established in 1828 under the direction of President John Quincy Adams, the U.S. Capitol Police has grown from its humble beginnings into a first-rate, highly-professional force of over 1,700 officers and employees.

Over the course of its existence, U.S. Capitol Police has developed a number of specialized units, including K-9, In-

telligence, Emergency Preparedness, Civil Disturbance, Criminal Investigation, Threat Assessment, Dignitary Protection, Physical Security, Electronic Countermeasures, Technical Security, Hazardous Devices, and the Containment and Emergency Response Team, as well as a skilled administrative staff.

We all know, however, that freedom has its sacrifices, and the U.S. Capitol Police have certainly paid its share of this price. We remember that as the first line of defense for the Nation's Capital, the United States Capitol Police Force has endured the tragic deaths of Sergeant Christopher Eney in 1984, Private First Class Jacob J. Chestnut, and Detective John Michael Gibson, both of whom were killed in 1998. All of these men were slain in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, every day these brave men and women put their lives on the line to protect us and this institution; and while these dangers are an unfortunate reality of their jobs, I would like for them to know that their efforts do not go unnoticed; nor are they forgotten.

Today, however, we stand here not only to recognize the sacrifice of the U.S. Capitol Police, but also to celebrate the efforts of the thousands of men and women who have served with this organization. As such, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would again like to extend a heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police, past and present, for their 175 years of courage, strength and commitment to serve and protect the people of this country.

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, the operative clause of this resolution says simply that "Congress and the American people extend heartfelt congratulations to the United States Capitol Police on the occasion its 175th anniversary, and express the sincerest gratitude to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police and their families, and in particular," as the gentleman from Georgia mentioned, "the Eney, Chestnut and Gibson families, for their devotion to duty and service in safeguarding the freedoms of the American people."

It is hard to imagine that in the vaunted history of the Capitol Police, that we went from a single watchman in 1801 to the force that we now have today; from the perils of the War of 1812 to the perils of the war against terror. The men and women who wear the uniform here in the Capitol have served us extraordinarily well.

I want to rise and commend the efforts of Chief Gainer and what they have been able to accomplish here in

the Capitol, protecting the Members this body, the staffs, and the many tourists who come here on a regular basis. It was not lost on any Member of Congress that during the events of September 11 that it was the men and women who wear the uniform who were our first responders. The fact of the matter is that the Capitol Police are our first responders and have performed extraordinarily well over their 175-year career.

□ 1530

Again, I just would like to echo the words of my esteemed colleague, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER), in saluting the men and women of the Capitol Police who have done an extraordinary job on all of our behalves.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, when Congress moved from Philadelphia to Washington, DC in 1801, a lone watchman by the name of John Golding had the responsibility of guarding the Capitol facility and its functions. In 1828, the United States Capitol Police was officially established to safeguard the freedoms of the American people, and to protect the Nation's Capitol and the United States Congress. Now, 175 years later, and despite an ever-changing environment, these core functions of the United States Capitol Police are still the defining tenets of its mission. Today, on behalf of the United States Congress and the American people, I am very pleased to extend heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the United States Capitol Police on its 175th anniversary.

From its humble beginnings until today, the Capitol Police has remained true to its mission, and has grown to meet new challenges and responsibilities. It has developed specialized and expert units, and these specialized units are complemented by a skilled and professional administrative support staff. The challenges of the new century have shown the United States Capitol Police to be dedicated, selfless, and highly flexible. The Capitol Police force, which now numbers over 1,700 sworn and civilian personnel, is a highly professionalized force essential to the protection of the core elements of our democratic process.

The history of the United States Capitol Police has not been without sacrifice. After the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001, the Capitol Police were asked to work incredible hours in defense of the Capitol, visitors, staff, and members, often working 12 hour shifts for six days a week. Sadly, the sacrifices of the Capitol Police have not been without tragedy. As the first line of defense of the Nation's Capitol, Sergeant Christopher Eney, Private First Class Jacob J. Chestnut, and Detective John Michael Gibson each made the ultimate

sacrifice, tragically dying in the line of duty. This dedication to the safety and well being of others exemplifies the commitment of the men, women, and families of the United States Capitol Police.

On the occasion of its 175th anniversary, the United States Congress and the American people express the sincerest gratitude to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police and their families for their devotion to duty and service in safeguarding the freedoms of the American people.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 156.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LINDER. 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.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PATRIOTS' DAY AND HONORING THE NATION'S FIRST PATRIOTS

Mr. JANKLOW. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 149) expressing support for the celebration of Patriot's Day and honoring the Nation's first patriots, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 149

Whereas on the evening of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere was sent for by Dr. Joseph Warren and instructed to ride to Lexington, Massachusetts, to warn Samuel Adams and John Hancock that British troops were marching to arrest them;

Whereas after leaving Charlestown on his way to Lexington, Paul Revere alerted the inhabitants of the villages and towns along his route, stopping in Medford (formerly Mystic) at the home of Isaac Hall, the captain of the Medford Minutemen during the Revolutionary War, before continuing on through Arlington (formerly Menotomy) and arriving in Lexington around midnight;

Whereas William Dawes and a third rider, Dr. Samuel Prescott, joined Paul Revere on his mission and they proceeded together on horseback to Lincoln;

Whereas while en route they encountered a British patrol that arrested Paul Revere, but William Dawes and Samuel Prescott managed to escape and continued on to Concord where weapons and supplies were hidden;

Whereas the midnight ride of Paul Revere was brilliantly and forever commemorated by the great American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his 1861 poem "Paul Revere's Ride";

Whereas the actions taken by Paul Revere, William Dawes, and Samuel Prescott afforded the Minutemen time to assemble to confront the advancing British troops and were heralded as one of the first great acts of patriotism of our nation;

Whereas 38 Lexington Minutemen boldly stood before 600-800 British troops who had gathered at Lexington Green;

Whereas Captain Parker of the Lexington Minutemen commanded his men, "Don't fire unless you are fired on; but if they want a war, let it begin here.";

Whereas when the British continued onto Concord, a battle ensued at the Old North Bridge, where Minutemen from every Middlesex village and town routed the British and forced them into retreat back to Boston;

Whereas Ralph Waldo Emerson immortalized this moment in American history as where "the embattled farmers stood and fired the shot heard 'round the world.";

Whereas the United States has recognized the historic significance of the Nation's original patriots with the creation in 1959 of the Minute Man National Historical Park, located in Concord, Lincoln, and Lexington, Massachusetts, to preserve and protect the numerous significant historic sites, structures, properties, and landscapes associated with the opening battles of the American Revolution, and to help visitors understand and interpret the colonial struggle for their rights and freedoms; and

Whereas the heroic acts of April 19, 1775, are celebrated in Massachusetts and Maine every year as part of Patriots' Day with a reenactment of Paul Revere's famous ride, battle reenactments and educational programs, parades, and civic activities, and remembered by Americans across the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) expresses support for the annual celebration of Patriots' Day;

(2) recognizes the extraordinary dedication to freedom demonstrated by the Nation's first patriots during the earliest days of the Battle for Independence in April 1775; and

(3) honors those first patriots who lost their lives in defense of liberty and freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JANKLOW) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JANKLOW).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JANKLOW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 149.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House concurrent resolution 149 introduced by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), expresses the support of this Congress for Patriots' Day and honors this Nation's first patriots.

April 19, 1775 was an incredibly unique day in the world. In Lexington, Massachusetts and in Concord, Massachusetts, we had individuals who had gathered, patriots, none of them paid, none of them in any organized sense, but they gathered together in Lexington and Concord, having made a determination that they would no longer yield to the tyranny and the oppression that they perceived from their masters.

As these people gathered, one of the places they gathered was Concord Bridge. Colonel Prescott was there with these patriots. And as the Red Coats advanced he said, "Don't fire unless fired upon. But if we must have war, let it begin here."

And then shortly thereafter was the shot that has been described as having been heard round the world, as these patriots stood their ground against the oncoming British professional infantry and refused to yield and refused to back up. As a result of their having taken that stand, the Revolutionary War went forward and ultimately, this band of patriots that gathered on that day at Lexington and Concord were really the impetus that drove the colonialists to move forward, and ultimately to create the freedom that we know in this country today.

Seven years later, the Revolutionary War was over. The surrender had taken place, but the important thing is that these people, Colonel Prescott, Paul Revere, William Dawes and the others, many of whom we do not even know their names, were individuals who had drawn the line in the sand and determined that never again would they yield to those kinds of forces and tyranny.

What is the point of this resolution? The point of this resolution is that today, in today's world, we have a responsibility to continue to be reminded about these kinds of patriots. Even today, in the Nation of Iraq, we have patriots from this country policing the streets of that country, assisting the individuals in Iraq to move forward towards a more democratic future.

The important thing that we all have to recognize is just as those patriots back in 1775, these individuals today are also volunteers. They are volunteers in our active Armed Forces and they are volunteers from our Reserves and our National Guard, and men and women from our various branches.

So I would like to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) for having brought this to our attention that we should focus on this. The gentleman from Massachusetts has done a service to all of us, and I ask my colleagues to unanimously consent to the passage of this resolution commemorating April 19 as Patriots' Day and every year forward on that particular day.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member of the Committee on Government Reform's Special Panel on Postal Reform and Oversight, I join my colleague in the consideration of H. Con. Res. 149, legislation introduced by my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), on April 10, 2003.

H. Con. Res. 149 is a concurrent resolution expressing support for the celebration of Patriots' Day and honoring