

percent employed as science and engineering doctorate holders. Many African American women who pursue science education experience isolation both in their graduate departments and in their communities.

So who are their mentors? One of the first pioneers was Dr. Ruth Ella Moore, the first African American woman to receive a doctoral degree in natural science in 1933. Dr. Moore graduated in 1933 from Ohio State University with a doctorate degree in bacteriology and was head of the department of bacteriology at Howard University's Medical School from 1947 to 1958.

In the field of space exploration, while most are familiar with Dr. Mae Jemison, few are aware that Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson was a key member of the control room during the Apollo 13 crisis. Katherine Johnson, a physicist, space scientist and mathematician, was instrumental in formulating calculations that helped the Apollo 13 return home safely in 1970 after a fuel tank explosion and computer system failure. That was detailed in Tom Hanks's film, "Apollo 13."

Unfortunately, many young African Americans are unfamiliar with these facts. Very little literature documents African American women and their place in science. To increase the number of African American youth pursuing science, especially young women, it is critical that we provide them strong science role models for them to admire and emulate.

In addition, commemorating the achievements of African American women at the very top of the performance curve demonstrates to the world the importance of diversity in the workforce, especially in the scientific community.

That is why I ask my colleagues to join me today by honoring our great African American women pioneers who helped pave the way for current science stars, like Dr. Mae Jemison and Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson.

As a medical doctor and the first African American woman in space, Dr. Jemison continues to inspire young people in the science field with her program, The Earth We Share International Camp, called TEWS, T-E-W-S, which is an acronym. It is designed to promote science literacy for all students.

Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson was not only the first African American to receive a Ph.D. in physics from MIT but was also the first African American woman to receive a doctorate in any field from that school.

This resolution recognizes their achievements in science and technology and encourages a new generation of young women to continue in their legacies.

Again, I wish to thank the gentleman from New York (Chairman BOEHLERT) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Ranking Member GORDON) for working with me in a collegial manner, as we always do on the Committee on

Science, and for allowing quick passage of the resolution and speedy action to the floor.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H. Con. Res. 96. This resolution represents our most needed commitment to supporting the continued progress of women and minorities and, in particular, African American women in the sciences. Full participation by all of our diverse population in an endeavor this important will be our key to future success as a world leader in science and technology.

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

□ 1500

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to again congratulate the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON), and I urge all my colleagues to vote for this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FORBES). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 96, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING SECOND CENTURY OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS AND SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF THAT ORGANIZATION

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 41) recognizing the second century of Big Brothers Big Sisters, and supporting the mission and goals of that organization.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 41

Whereas the year 2004 marked the 100th anniversary of the founding of Big Brothers Big Sisters;

Whereas Congress chartered Big Brothers in 1958;

Whereas Ernest Coulter recognized the need for adult role models for the youth he saw in court in New York City in 1904 and recruited "Big Brothers" to serve as mentors, beginning the Big Brothers movement;

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest, largest youth mentoring organization in the nation, serving over 220,000 children in 2004 and approximately 2,000,000 since its founding 100 years ago;

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters has historically been supported through the generosity of individuals who have believed in the organization's commitment to matching at-risk children with caring, volunteer mentors;

Whereas Big Brothers and Big Sisters have given countless hours and forever changed

the lives of America's children, contributing over 10,500,000 volunteer hours at an estimated value of \$190,000,000 in 2004;

Whereas evidence-based research has shown that the Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring model improves a child's academic performance and relationships with teachers, parents, and peers, decreases the likelihood of youth violence and drug and alcohol use, and raises self-confidence levels;

Whereas 454 local Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies are currently contributing to the quality of life of at-risk youth in over 5,000 communities across the United States; and

Whereas the future of Big Brothers Big Sisters depends not only on its past impact, but also on the future accomplishments of its Little Brothers and Little Sisters and the continued commitment of its Big Brothers and Big Sisters: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes the second century of Big Brothers Big Sisters, supports the mission and goals of the organization, and commends Big Brothers Big Sisters for its commitment to helping children in need reach their potential through professionally supported one to one mentoring relationships with measurable results;

(2) asks all Americans to join in marking the beginning of Big Brothers Big Sisters' second century and support the organization's next 100 years of service on behalf of America's children; and

(3) encourages Big Brothers Big Sisters to continue to strive towards serving 1,000,000 children annually.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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 House Concurrent Resolution 41, the concurrent resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Government Reform, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 41, a resolution that honors one of America's greatest charities. This year marks the 101st year since the founding of Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Over the past century, this organization has been devoted to the well-being and development of our Nation's young people. Big Brothers Big Sisters aims to provide a mentor to every child who wants or needs one. Today, Big Brothers Big Sisters serves over 200,000 children ages 6 to 18, nationwide.

Performance statistics prove that children who are mentored by Big Brothers Big Sisters are much less likely than their peers to use illegal drugs or alcohol, to skip school, and

are more likely to have strong relationships with their families.

Today, the House specifically recognizes the thousands of mentors who have made a difference through Big Brothers Big Sisters during its first century. Mentoring a child requires no special training or experience, just a willingness to spend time with a child during his or her formative years. We salute their compassion.

Mr. Speaker, along with my distinguished colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), I commend Big Brothers Big Sisters for its commitment to helping children in need reach their potential, and I urge the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 41.

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, I want to join my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) by stating my strong support for H. Con. Res. 41, recognizing the second century of Big Brothers Big Sisters and supporting the mission and goals of that organization.

Mr. Speaker, 2004 marked the 100th anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters, one of the Nation's greatest civic programs. Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest and largest youth-mentoring organization in the United States. As of last year, the organization served an astounding 225,000 youth between the ages of 5 and 18 in 5,000 communities across the country.

Research has demonstrated that mentoring helps at-risk youth overcome the many obstacles they face in their lives. Youths in the program, or "Littles" as they are called, are less likely to use illegal drugs, consume alcohol, skip school, or engage in acts of violence.

I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) for introducing this important legislation. Big Brothers Big Sisters has made a positive impact on the lives of impoverished young people, especially, and others throughout the Nation. We all owe them a great debt of gratitude, and I trust they will have success as they continue in their work.

On a very personal note, Mr. Speaker, I had the good fortune to serve as a Big Brother to a little brother of mine, who then went on to become a staff person and work for the Mayor, Sharon Pratt, of Washington, D.C., and then went on to work for Vice President Al Gore, eventually becoming, and he is now, the minister and pastor of a church out in Maryland. So I know that the Big Brothers program is a good program; that it does work, because Reverend Courtney Miller is a prime example of that. And I certainly wish Courtney well as we wish the continuation of the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), one of the lead cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio for yielding me this time, and I rise in support of this concurrent resolution. I want to congratulate Big Brothers Big Sisters on 100 years of service. I think any organization that lasts for 100 years is certainly doing some things correctly.

At this time, I would like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that it is a very difficult time to be a young person in our Nation. We have a great deal of family instability. Roughly 50 percent of our children today are growing up without both biological parents, so they have suffered some serious dysfunction in their lives. Roughly 22 million young people today are fatherless, and of course they are moving into a world in which a drug and alcohol culture and violence is quite prevalent. So it is very, very difficult.

We find that mentoring is one way that we can help these young people negotiate their way through a very difficult world. Mentoring works. As my colleague from Ohio mentioned earlier, it improves graduation rates and it improves school attendance. One of the programs I work with very closely improves attendance by 80 percent. It improves grades significantly. The program I am involved with, about a 40 percent improvement. It improves peer and family relationships and even improves personal hygiene, which is something that many people do not realize. It decreases drug and alcohol abuse in many programs by as much as 50 percent. It decreases crime, gang membership, teen pregnancy, and dropout rates.

So this is about the best thing we have going, and it is very important to remember that it is very cost effective. It costs about \$30,000 a year to lock somebody up, and yet most mentoring programs, some of the very best ones, cost maybe \$400 to \$500 per mentee per year. So we cannot have a better return on investment than that.

I serve as a mentor. I have been mentoring a young person now for about 3 years, and I had another young person for 4 or 5 years before that. My wife also mentors. A mentor is somebody who cares, somebody who shows up. An awful lot of young people in our culture today do not have an adult in their life that they can count on; that they know cares about them unconditionally and will be there for them through thick and thin.

A mentor is somebody who affirms. Again, so many young people today in our culture do not have anyone in their lives who say "I believe in you, I see some talent, I think you could be a mechanic, I think you could be someone who can go to a community college, I think you could do well in school." So affirmation is something that all of us have to have in order to live effectively, and a mentor provides that.

A mentor is someone who provides a vision of what is possible, because so many times a young person grows up in a family where no one has graduated from high school, no one has gone to college, no one has set any type of vision out there for them as to what they might be. So a mentor oftentimes fulfills that role.

According to the National Mentoring Partnership, 18 million children in our country today need a mentor, yet only about 2.5 million actually are being mentored. Big Brothers Big Sisters accounts for roughly one-tenth of that number. So we have a huge gap from what is needed to what we are actually getting done.

We had a mentoring amendment attached to the No Child Left Behind bill that last year was funded at \$50 million. This year, that money is in jeopardy. A lot of that money went to Big Brothers Big Sisters. So I would certainly like to encourage my colleagues to support this program and further this cause, because we have reached hundreds of thousands of young people as a result of it.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) for sharing their personal experiences with us relative to mentoring, and I urge passage of the concurrent resolution.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 41, a resolution highlighting the mission and goals of Big Brothers and Big Sisters and to recognize a hundred years of success in the organization.

I applaud the work that Big Brothers Big Sisters perform on a daily basis to assist America's youth. As you are well aware, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America has helped more than one million children nationwide in its 100 years of operation. Youth with mentors are significantly less likely to try drugs or alcohol, skip school, or exhibit violent behavior. Children who participate in Big Brothers Big Sisters programs have better relationships with peers, get better grades, and get along better with their families as a result of the one-on-one attention of a caring adult role model.

My district in El Paso, TX, is faced with significant challenges in deterring youth from becoming involved in drugs, alcohol, and violent activities. Founded in 1999, Big Brothers Big Sisters of El Paso has an excellent reputation in my district and has shown tremendous results. In fact, Big Brothers Big Sisters of El Paso has already drawn over \$1 million in State and Federal funds to our city. Because Big Brothers Big Sisters works with schools and businesses, it acts as a catalyst in the community helping bring business men and women into the lives of students and strengthening the bond between program participants and the community. Last year, I was honored to be selected to serve as an honorary board member of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of El Paso.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in recognizing Big Brothers for their century of service to America's young people.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 41

recognizing the second century of Big Brothers Big Sisters, the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States which celebrated its 100th anniversary last year.

I want to thank Representative TOM OSBORNE for joining me in introducing this resolution and for his strong advocacy of mentoring. I also want to thank Chairman TOM DAVIS and Ranking Member HENRY WAXMAN of the House Government Reform Committee for their diligence and helpfulness in getting this resolution to the Floor today. And I also appreciate and want to thank Senator JOHN ENSIGN and Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD for their leadership in introducing this resolution in the Senate.

But the big heroes are the untold thousands of volunteers—Big Brothers and Big Sisters throughout the country—who for the last one hundred years have played critical roles in the mentoring of our nation's youth. Lastly and most of all, I would like to thank all of the Little Brothers and Little Sisters because they have been the ones to enrich our lives.

As you know, when Representative OSBORNE and I introduced this resolution in February, I came to the Floor to speak about my almost two decades of experience being a Big Brother, and my accomplished, now not-so-Little Brother, David. I was a young prosecutor in Southern California when I first became a Big Brother, and David was just seven years old. Through fun outings, good talks and merely spending time together, we learned a lot about each other and a lot about ourselves. He is now a Yale and USC film school graduate, and is embarking upon a wonderful career and many new adventures. Because of Big Brothers Big Sisters, I again experienced through David a child's wide-eyed optimism about the future, a teenager's eager determination to understand oneself and a young adult's pursuit of success.

Kids need to learn and mature in safe and nurturing environments, yet so many face difficult circumstances through broken families, poverty or simply a lack of opportunities. These situations create an emotional burden very heavy to bear at any age, but especially upon children. In some cases, these burdens are too much to bear, and a child who could have contributed greatly to society takes a much more destructive path. We can prevent this from happening. Through Big Brothers Big Sisters and like-minded organizations, we can reach those at risk of delinquency, and help them lead productive lives. Our children truly are an investment in the future, and all of those who have participated in mentoring know that it is an investment that pays off greatly.

Since 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters has been enabling Americans to make this investment—hundreds of thousands of times over, one child at a time. We thank Big Brothers Big Sisters for the magnificent contribution they have made to our country and we look forward to many more years of continuing success.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend

the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 41.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAYOR TONY ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1236) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 750 4th Street in Sparks, Nevada, as the "Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1236

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

SECTION 1. MAYOR TONY ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 750 4th Street in Sparks, Nevada, shall be known and designated as the "Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office".

(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 "Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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 H.R. 1236, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, this post office naming legislation honors a wonderful civic leader. Tony Armstrong had served as mayor of Sparks, Nevada, since being first elected in 1999. Sadly, Mayor Armstrong passed away on January 29 from complications due to a December surgery to remove his spleen. He was 59 years of age. H.R. 1236 will name a post office in his honor in his hometown of Sparks, and I support its passage.

Mr. Speaker, with the exception of a 6-year stint in the Nevada Air National Guard during the 1960s, Tony Armstrong had lived in Sparks since the age of 4. In 1989, he was elected to the Sparks City Council, where he served until becoming mayor in 1999. He was a man whose passionate principles shaped his leadership. As his former

colleague on the city council, Councilman Mike Carrigan said, "Mayor Armstrong's priorities were God first, his family second, and the City of Sparks third."

Mayor Armstrong is survived by his beloved wife, Debby, and his adult children Richard, Keith and Misti. Our hearts and prayers go out to the entire Armstrong family.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) was very close with Mayor Armstrong. They grew up together and they have served the people of Nevada together. I thank the gentleman for honoring his friend, Tony Armstrong, by dedicating this post office in his honor, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1236.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. As a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 1236, legislation designating the postal facility in Sparks, Nevada, after the late Tony Armstrong, mayor of Sparks. This measure, which was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) on March 2005, enjoys the support and co-sponsorship of the entire Nevada State delegation.

Tony Armstrong grew up in Sparks, Nevada, and after serving in the Nevada Air National Guard and opening a general contracting business, he was elected in 1989 to the Sparks City Council, representing Ward Three. Ten years later, in 1999, he was elected mayor of Sparks. During his tenure as mayor, he worked hard to promote the image of his city. Sadly, he passed away on January 29, 2005. Mayor Armstrong left behind his wife, two sons, and a daughter.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this bill and note that it is definitely a way to honor the work of the mayor of Sparks, Nevada.

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

□ 1515

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) for yielding me this time to speak on H.R. 1236.

It is both with pride and sadness that I rise today in support of H.R. 1236, the Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office Designation Act.

Tony Armstrong and his family moved to Sparks, Nevada, from California when he was just 4 years old. Tony made Sparks his home until his untimely death in January of this year. Tony and I met as young kids, and typical of all kids, created trouble for our parents in Sparks, Nevada.