

Although the championship was ultimately delivered with one dramatic swing of the bat, getting to that position results from tremendous work, commitment and sacrifices made by players, coaches, volunteers, municipal park employees, teachers and most importantly the families of the players.

Mr. Speaker, let us encourage our young champions from Eva Beach to keep swinging for the fence, on and off the field and let them be role models for all of us.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 429.

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.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 61) supporting the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. J. RES. 61

Whereas the American Gold Star Mothers have suffered the supreme sacrifice of motherhood by losing sons and daughters who served in the Armed Forces, and thus perpetuate the memory of all whose lives were sacrificed in our wars;

Whereas the American Gold Star Mothers assist veterans of the Armed Forces and their dependents in the presentation of claims to the Veterans' Administration, and aid the men and women who served and died or were wounded or incapacitated during hostilities;

Whereas the services rendered to the United States by the mothers of America have strengthened and inspired our Nation throughout our history;

Whereas we honor ourselves and the mothers of America when we revere and emphasize the role of the home and the family as the true foundations of our Nation;

Whereas by doing so much for the home, the American mother is a source of moral and spiritual guidance for the people of the United States and thus acts as a positive force to promote good government and peace among all mankind; and

Whereas September 25, 2005, is being recognized as Gold Star Mothers Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTKNECHT. 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 therein on the joint resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Gold Star Mothers is an organization that was founded back in 1928, and it is an organization that no one would ever want to join.

For the benefit of those who do not know, there is only one way that one can become a member of the Gold Star Mothers Association, and that is that they receive a message from the Pentagon, and normally that comes in the form of two uniformed officers coming to their door to inform them that they have lost a son or a daughter in combat.

The organization was started back in 1928 by a group of mothers who thought that they could help each other in the healing process by coming together. They also thought it was important to advance the goals of the United States of America and to continue to remind us about our patriotic responsibilities as Americans.

The Gold Star Mothers have been around a long time. In 1936 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed a proclamation designating that the fourth Sunday in September will be Gold Star Mothers Day, and, unfortunately, we as Americans began to forget that the fourth Sunday in September was designated as Gold Star Mothers Day.

A year ago I was at a special celebration in Rochester, Minnesota at our veterans memorial where they unveiled a new statue depicting a Gold Star Mother, and many of the veterans that were there and some of the leaders of that group asked if I would do all that I could to remind Americans that there is a special day for Gold Star Mothers and to do what I could to at least bring attention to the fact that the fourth Sunday this year, September 25, is Gold Star Mothers Day. So we began that process almost a year ago of putting together this joint resolution of doing what we can to call attention to the fact, that they do have a special day and they deserve special recognition not only by Members of this House and the United States Congress but by all Americans. So we have put together this joint resolution. I am happy to say that we have well over 200 cosponsors in the House. And, frankly, I suspect if we were given enough time, we would have virtually every Member of this House in support of this joint resolution.

This is not about making any political statement of any kind. These are

very special people. They deserve our recognition. This Sunday, September 25, is their day. So this joint resolution is just calling attention not only to the House, but hopefully to all Americans, that Gold Star Mothers are special people, they have a special day, and we recognize them on September 25.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the American Gold Star Mothers is an organization of women whose sons and daughters gave their lives in the service of their country. It is a group no one wishes to be a member of, but as their children answered the call of duty, so do mothers who are left behind.

Grace Darling Seibold was compelled to help others grieve and veterans heal upon learning of her own son's death in 1918 during World War I. "Realizing that self-contained grief is self-destructive," Seibold formed a group of grieving mothers to comfort not only each other but wounded soldiers as well.

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The group of 25 mothers who bonded by sacrifice and tragedy was formally established as Gold Star Mothers, Inc., on January 5, 1929. The Gold Star Mothers organization now consists of over 900 members. The organization assists veterans with benefit claims, families with funeral arrangements, and, of course, mothers with grief. The Gold Star Mothers are a true representation of the many levels of service and sacrifice that exists in the defense of our country.

The Gold Star Mothers are a true testament to American patriotism and should be recognized for their sacrifice. Mr. Speaker, I move that my colleagues in the Senate and the House of Representatives join me in recognizing the establishment of Gold Star Mothers Day.

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Minnesota (Chairman GUTKNECHT), for offering this legislation. It is very timely and extremely important. I also thank him for his sensitivity to our Nation's Gold Star Mothers who have suffered so much.

I am proud to rise today, Mr. Speaker, to strongly support H.J. Res. 61, which recognizes a group of very, very special women, American's Gold Star Mothers. These women are from different parts of our great country and have different backgrounds, are of varying age, hold different beliefs, and practice different religions.

Despite so many differences, they share the same experience. Each of these women raised a young man or

woman who served their country in the Armed Forces. Their children helped to bring freedom and promote peace and justice for those who have never felt its touch. Sadly, Mr. Speaker, each raised a young man or woman who gave their life for their country, the ultimate sacrifice.

These special women, the Gold Star Mothers of America, are members of a congressionally chartered organization. They are part of a group that had its beginning in the first great conflict of the 20th century, World War I. At the time, service flags were displayed on homes that had family members serving the country and blue stars were displayed for each family member in the Armed Forces. Eventually, as casualties grew, the blue stars were turned to gold stars in recognition of each servicemember who died for their country. In 1936, as my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Minnesota (Chairman GUTKNECHT), said, Congress designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mothers Day.

Mr. Speaker, as we know, their loss is unimaginable, their pain is unspeakable; yet these women find the spirit to walk together simply for the benefit of others and to work very hard for the benefit of others, to make sure that each of us remembers the sacrifice of their son or beloved daughter. They have a unique ability to remind us of our noble cause, ensuring that we will forever remember that America's freedom originated and is maintained through a constant struggle that is still being fought today.

In addition, they remind us that the decision to send troops into harm's way is made with severe consequence, the loss of the precious life of a young American. The way in which these ladies channel their sorrow, their grief, their anger, to further the ideals to which their sons and daughters gave their lives, is truly remarkable.

The actions of these women are amazing. I have met them for years as a Member of this Congress. Every year we would have them testify before the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and then in meetings afterwards, as well as in my own district and State, and I have met with so many Gold Star Mothers who tell their stories of their son or daughter, often accompanied with tears.

But they can also teach us a very important lesson, Mr. Speaker. At a time when overt partisanship seems rampant, while our country yearns so desperately for its people to come together on so many fronts, the Gold Star Mothers represent the very best of American values and ideals. If they, despite their grief, can come together to provide so much to other veterans and the community at large, surely we can all take the time to let them know that their country is proud of them and salutes them on their Mothers Day.

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I want to thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY); and I especially want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), for his very, very special speech that he just gave.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize personally five very special women from my congressional district who have received that call or had that visit from military officials.

First, let me recognize Vickie Bruce from Rochester, Minnesota. Her son, Corporal Travis Bruce, graduated from Mayo High School in Rochester, Minnesota. He also served as a personal security officer for Ambassador Bremmer. He was killed in the line of duty March 23, 2005.

Marny Fasnacht from Janesville, Minnesota. Her son, First Lieutenant Michael Fasnacht of the U.S. Army, graduated from Minnesota State University in Mankato, Minnesota. He was an Army Ranger. He was hit by a remote bomb while on patrol in a Bradley fighting vehicle and died June 8, 2005.

Maria Bernal of Alden, Minnesota. Her son, Juan, graduated from Weslaco High School in Texas. He served in the Marines for 5 years. He was injured during security and stability operations in Anbar Province, Iraq. He died August 2, 2005.

Deb Goodnature, Clarks Grove, Minnesota. Her son, Chief Warrant Officer Corey Goodnature, served in the United States Army. He graduated from the University of Minnesota. He was in Special Operations, and he was a Night Stalker. He was shot down flying his helicopter in eastern Afghanistan and died June 28 of 2005.

Finally, let me recognize Norma Benson from Winona, Minnesota. Her son, Sergeant Mike Benson of the U.S. Army, was a Winona native. He had served 19 years in the United States military. He was a victim of a suicide bomb attack in Iraq. He died August 10 of 2005.

Mr. Speaker, this is not about making some political statement; it is simply about saying thank you, congratulations, we appreciate you, and recognizing that the fourth Sunday in September is Gold Star Mothers Day. They deserve this day. They deserve our appreciation.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a resolution honoring the Gold Star Mothers of America.

As a parent, I can only imagine the pain that is felt by surviving family members after the death of child. To the Gold Star Mothers in Utah and throughout our Nation, this nation is deeply in your debt. Your children served this great country of ours and they have paid the highest price. We can ask no more of any American.

In the past 3 years, I have had the honor and the privilege to meet many soldiers as they leave for war. These brave soldiers are not complaining in their last moments in Amer-

ica, rather, they are strong, and proud to serve this country. They remind me that the price of freedom is terribly high. It's a cost they have agreed to bear, but those of us here at home cannot take it for granted.

The American Gold Star Mothers organization was founded by Grace Darling Seibold after the death of her son in 1918, during World War I. Somehow, through her pain and her loss, Grace still managed to devote her time to organizing a group of other mothers who had lost soldiers in combat. In the years since the Gold Star Mothers was founded, these women have always honored fallen soldiers and they have channeled their own grief into lessening the pain of other families.

It's easy to talk about the sacrifices made by brave Americans, but the pain and the memories are always carried by the loved ones left behind. Many families have soldiers who come home wounded; some families have soldiers who do not make it home at all. The hardship that these families face may seem unbearable and it is our duty as members of Congress to do whatever we can to ease their burden.

Homes in Utah that have received Gold Stars, Purple Hearts, folded flags and last letters home know the price of freedom. They pray to end this war and all wars, so that others may be spared such a loss.

I believe that we will never be able to thank those soldiers and their families enough for the sacrifice that they make, but I do believe we should try. This resolution is one small way for us to honor mothers who have lost children in service to this nation. I am proud to support making September 25th Gold Star Mothers Day.

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and respect that I wish to commend the mothers of Indiana's First Congressional District who have suffered the ultimate sacrifice of motherhood by losing sons and daughters who served in the Armed Forces. Their courage and perseverance perpetuate the memory of all whose lives were sacrificed in our wars.

In honor of Gold Star Mother's Day 2005, I would in particular like to recognize the mothers of the First Congressional District who have lost a child in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. They are Katherine Brown, the mother of Army Specialist Adam J. Harting; Kim Greenberg, the mother of Army Specialist Nicholas R. Idalski; Summer Lipford, the mother of Army Private First Class Steven F. Sirko; Towina "Gail" Nightingale, the mother of Army Private First Class Nathan E. Stahl; Marie Lisa Campos Miranda, the mother of Army Private Luis Perez; Susan Amos, the mother of Army Private First Class John Amos; Janie Espinoza, the mother of Army Reserve Specialist Roy Russell Buckley; Roberta Rios, the mother of Marine Sergeant Duane R. Rios; Leslie Sanders, the mother of Army Specialist Gregory P. Sanders; the late Janet Winters, the mother of Marine Sergeant Jeannette L. Winters.

The Gold Star Mothers and the soldiers of the First Congressional District are powerful examples of service and sacrifice for us all. With dignity, bravery, and compassion, they have worked to promote patriotism, foster peace, and encourage goodwill. Their generosity of spirit has touched the lives of countless Americans and made certain that the selflessness they demonstrated in service to our

country remains a prominent part of our national character. I speak for this entire body when I say that words cannot express the gratitude we have for these courageous individuals.

Gold Star Mother's Day was established in respect and recognition of the sacrifices our Gold Star Mothers have made. The Congress designated the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Mother's Day" in 1936 and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day. This day is a fitting public salute of the sympathy and the respect that our Nation holds for its Gold Star Mothers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the mothers of the fallen heroes of the First Congressional District. Today, as we enjoy the peace and security our Nation has achieved through the sacrifices of American citizens, Gold Star Mothers can take solace in knowing that their sons and daughters left all humanity a legacy of invaluable meaning. Let us never forget the sacrifices they made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 61.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. MALONEY. 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.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 250, MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2005

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 451 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 451

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 250) to establish an interagency committee to coordinate Federal manufacturing research and development efforts in manufacturing, strengthen existing programs to assist manufacturing innovation and education, and expand outreach programs for small and medium-sized manufacturers, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. After gen-

eral debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 451 is a structured rule. It provides 1 hour of general debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. It provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science and now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment, and shall be considered as read.

It waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. It makes in order only those amendments printed in the Committee on Rules report accompanying the resolution. It provides that the amendments printed in the report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by the Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a de-

mand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

It waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report, and it provides one motion to recommend, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 451 and its underlying bill, H.R. 250, the Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2005.

Mr. Speaker, I first want to recognize the contributions of the Committee on Science chairman, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT); the gentleman from Tennessee (Ranking Member GORDON); the gentleman from Oregon (Ranking Member WU); and the gentleman from Michigan (Subcommittee Chairman EHLERS), of course, the author of H.R. 250. I thank all of them for this timely piece of legislation.

Today, the House has an opportunity to consider legislation that will make the United States even more competitive in the global economy. Through the establishment of an interagency committee to coordinate Federal manufacturing research and development efforts, H.R. 250 provides many useful tools to keep the United States on the cutting edge of technological and manufacturing innovation.

H.R. 250 would direct the President to establish or designate an interagency committee on manufacturing, research, and development. And in order to ensure sufficient review and diverse input, the committee would also receive assistance from an advisory committee representing nongovernmental interests. This essential component ensures that government efforts are as relevant and responsive as possible to the needs of our manufacturing base.

Without question, Mr. Speaker, some of this country's greatest intellectual and innovative resources rest in the halls of our educational institutions and in the research and development departments of our businesses across the country. Therefore, this bill establishes a pilot grant program within the Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology to fund research partnerships between firms, community colleges, universities, research institutions, State agencies, and nonprofits to develop new, cutting-edge manufacturing technologies.

Additionally, through the Manufacturing Extensive Partnerships, the MEP program, there are regional centers across the country that provide States with grants to allow the successful transfer of technology from the Federal Government to the private sector.

Obviously, there is no sense in developing new and innovative technology if it cannot be successfully passed on to the manufacturing sector of our economy, the true engine of economic growth.