

“Elizabeth Hartwell Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Elizabeth Hartwell Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 3682 was introduced by two of our distinguished Virginia colleagues, TOM DAVIS and FRANK WOLF. This measure would rename the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge after Mrs. Elizabeth Hartwell. While I never had the opportunity to meet this remarkable woman, there seems to be no debate that she dedicated her life to conservation.

After nearly 20 years of tireless work to stop the destruction of the Mason Neck Peninsula, Mrs. Hartwell and her supporters were successful in their efforts to create the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge.

This refuge, which was the first established to protect the American bald eagle, has grown to 2,277 acres of land. In addition to one of the largest concentrations of bald eagles in the lower 48 States, Mason Neck is home to the largest great blue heron rookery in the mid-Atlantic region and more than 200 species of birds, 41 species of reptiles and amphibians, and 31 species of mammals.

I am sure the authors of this legislation will attest that this refuge would not exist had it not been for Mrs. Elizabeth Hartwell. Despite powerful and well-financed opponents, she was successful because she lived her life committed to the philosophy of one of our Nation's greatest conservationists, Theodore Roosevelt, who reminds us that “it is not what we have that makes us a great Nation; it is the way in which we use it.”

This legislation proposes a fitting tribute to someone who was affectionately called the “Eagle Lady.”

I urge an “aye” vote on H.R. 3682.

Madam Speaker, I reserve balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, we have no objection to this legislation that would re-

name the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge to honor the late Elizabeth Hartwell, a local conservationist who dedicated much of her life to protecting this refuge located along the Potomac River.

I encourage my colleagues to support the name change.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS).

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am honored today to speak today in support of H.R. 3682, a bill to rename the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge after Elizabeth Hartwell.

For almost 20 years, Mrs. Hartwell spearheaded efforts to protect the Mason Neck area. Her efforts led to the establishment of the 2,300-acre Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge, the 1,800-acre Mason Neck State Park, and the 1,000-acre Pohick Bay Regional Park.

Mrs. Hartwell began her environmental crusade in February 1965 when she learned about a rezoning application in Fairfax County for the development of a satellite city of 20,000 people on the most ecologically sensitive area of Mason Neck. She decided to lead an effort to stop this development and to preserve Mason Neck habitat for the endangered American bald eagle.

During the ensuing weeks and months, she organized a watchdog group called the Conservation Committee For Mason Neck. She made films of the wildlife that thrived there to show other civic organizations around the region. Mrs. Hartwell even gave tours by boat along Mason Neck's waterways and enlisted the support of several environmental organizations at the local, regional, State, and Federal levels.

The Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1969 for the protection of nesting, feeding, and roosting habitat for bald eagles. It was the first Federal refuge established specifically for the then-endangered bald eagle. Today, there are multiple nests on the refuge and on neighboring public and private lands.

I am pleased to support the effort of several Mason Neck area homeowners associations to rename the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge in honor of Mrs. Hartwell, who passed away on December 14, 2000. She dedicated her life to nature and to helping the environment, and it would be a fitting tribute to rename the Mason Neck Refuge after the woman who fought so valiantly for its creation.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I too have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3682.

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.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 788) supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 788

Whereas the well-being of all people of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 870,000 law enforcement personnel in the United States serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front line in preserving the right of the children of the United States to receive an education in a crime-free environment, a right that is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas 155 peace officers across the Nation were killed in the line of duty during 2005, well below the decade-long average of 164 deaths annually, and a major drop from 2001 when 237 officers were killed, including 72 officers in the September 11th terrorist attacks;

Whereas a law enforcement officer is killed in the United States every 53 hours, and there are 56,000 assaults against our law enforcement officers each year, resulting in 16,000 injuries;

Whereas section 136 of title 36, United States Code, requests that the President issue an annual proclamation designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in honor of Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

Whereas on May 15, 2006, more than 20,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, D.C. to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who have fallen before them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor Federal, State, and local peace officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam 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 resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, each day, law enforcement officers in this country face grave danger as they protect the rights and freedoms we enjoy as Americans. Their commitment and sacrifice make our streets safer, our neighborhoods stronger, and our families more secure.

May 15 is set aside each year to honor the service and sacrifice of America's law enforcement officers and their families. It also promotes increased public support for the law enforcement profession and helps to promote law enforcement safety. The more than 850,000 men and women who guard our communities do so at great risk. Each year, one in 15 officers is assaulted, one in 46 is injured, and one in 5,255 is killed in the line of duty.

After the hijacked planes hit the World Trade Center in New York City on 9/11, 72 peace officers died while trying to ensure their fellow citizens got to safety. That act of terrorism resulted in the highest number of peace officers killed in a single incident in the history of this country.

Just 8 days ago, the tragedy of an officer killed in the line of duty struck my community in Fairfax County. Police officer Vicky Arnel was killed and two officers were wounded after a gunman opened fire with high-powered weapons in the parking lot of a Chantilly police station during a shift change. These tragic events shook the community, and the Fairfax police force, to the core.

It is important to recognize the sacrifices that these officers and their families make each day to ensure that we will have a safe environment in which to live, work, and raise our families. National Peace Officers Memorial Day will provide the people of the United States with an opportunity to honor the extraordinary service and sacrifice given year after year by our police forces.

The annual ceremony, which was held the evening of May 13, featured several contributions from police officers all over the country, including the singing of the National Anthem by Fairfax County, Virginia, police officer Laura Zambron. Following the ceremony, prominent law enforcement leaders, survivors, and law enforcement supporters read the names of the 466 fallen officers whose names were officially added to the memorial.

I urge all Members to come together to honor the dedication of these brave men and women, like Detective Arnel, by adopting House Resolution 788.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, each day, peace officers nobly protect our families, friends, and neighbors from crime and work to improve the quality of life for all of us.

For that, they deserve our sincere appreciation and respect.

While it is impossible to suitably thank these brave Americans for the tremendous sacrifices they make, we pause this week to salute them for their courage, dedication, and service and to pay our respects to those who have fallen in the line of duty.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy designated May 15 of every year as Peace Officers Memorial Day. This day was set forth to give special recognition to the brave men and women who protect our lives every day, often at great risk to their health and lives.

On average, a crime is committed in this country every 2 seconds, and you can rest assured that one of the nearly 800,000 law enforcement officers in this great country will respond promptly and courageously, no matter how dangerous the situation might be. It is appropriate that we both honor current peace officers and memorialize fallen heroes for the safety and assistance they provide us all.

Recent events just miles from this building in Fairfax, Virginia, offered a clear and present example of the dangers law enforcement officers face each day. In this past year alone, 155 law officers were killed and over 10,000 were assaulted in the line of duty as they protected and served their communities. While this number is down from the previous decade's average of 169 annually, it is still very unacceptable.

This week, thousands of law enforcement officers from around the country gathered in Washington, D.C., to pay tribute and to mourn together. Those of us who benefit from their hard work and sacrifice also honor their work and sacrifices. We all owe them a debt of gratitude that we can never repay.

Madam Speaker, I support the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day, as I am sure every Member of the House does, to honor Federal, State and local peace officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and I support this day to honor those who stand for us every day in the line of duty. I call upon the people of the United States to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies and respect, wherever they are.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY), the author of this resolution.

Mr. HEFLEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for bringing this to the floor today. This is something we don't have to sell.

Madam Speaker, I rise, as the chairman and ranking member have to honor more than 20,000 peace officers from around the Nation who are visiting Washington, D.C., this week in honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week. These officers will commemorate the lives of 155

officers who died last year in the line of duty.

Today, we recognize May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and pay tribute to the commitment, sacrifice, and public safety and the services these officers provide for all Americans on a daily basis.

As we all know, September 11 stands out as one of the most tragic days in American history. We lost 72 police officers on that one day. That is the most on any single day in history. While that was unusual and an extreme example, these law enforcement officers are serving us and sacrificing and protecting us, showing heroism and valor every day in every community around the Nation.

Last year, as I said, 155 police officers were killed in the line of duty. Though unquestionably this is tragic, the 155 deaths were below the decade-long average of 163. Still, this is the second consecutive year that the numbers have increased and a trend that must come to an end in 2006, and thankfully is on track to do so far.

Peace officers in every community have an admirable record of service and sacrifice, yet too many Americans lack a true understanding and appreciation of law enforcement's worth. This is why several years ago I participated in establishing the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, D.C. This past Saturday, 466 names of brave men and women were officially added to the memorial, including seven from my own home State of Colorado.

Peace officers face unprecedented risks, while bravely protecting our communities and our freedoms, and I hope my colleagues will join me today in paying tribute to our Nation's fallen officers and expressing our gratitude for the work these men and women do for us every day.

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Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague from the District for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I do rise in support of this resolution which is supporting the goals and the ideals of the Peace Officers Memorial.

Madam Speaker, as a former prosecutor and special prosecutor in the State of Wisconsin, it was my honor, or privilege really, of being able to work each day with these law enforcement officers in our community and throughout the State. I have always been impressed with their dedication and professionalism, their commitment to the community.

These men and women in uniform wake up every morning with a shared goal of trying to make our communities just a little bit safer, trying to make us and our children and grandchildren and all of our families just a little bit safer during the day.

And all too often we hear the tragic stories or read about it or see on the

news of fallen officers who fell in the line of duty. And it is right and proper that we have a National Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor their sacrifice made on behalf of all of us.

But what we do not hear about is the tremendous courage and dedication that officers exhibit each and every day and the cases that they sometimes find themselves in, which places their life and safety in great danger. And this, unfortunately, occurs on an all too frequent basis.

Madam Speaker, I also want to just take a moment and commend a member of my own family, my youngest brother, Terry Kind, for his years of dedicated service as a police officer for the Town of Holmen Police Department in western Wisconsin.

I have the chance to talk to him from time to time to try to keep a foot in the law enforcement community back home. And sometimes the stories that he relates to me are blood-curdling and quite startling. Not only talking about the victims of crime, but also the incredible danger that our officers face from time to time.

Madam Speaker, I would encourage all of my colleagues to support this resolution today. I want to commend my colleagues on the floor here for bringing this resolution forward and speaking so favorably about it. I also want to commend and thank those law enforcement officers across our country who do a tremendous job under very difficult and dangerous circumstances each and every day of their dedicated lives.

Mr. CANTOR, Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution to support the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Recently, Virginia lost Detective Vicky Armel with the Fairfax County Police Department. Our Nation and the Commonwealth of Virginia experienced great loss as this fine police officer gave her life in line of duty.

Law enforcement officers take a solemn oath to protect and serve the communities they serve. With honor, they uphold our laws and protect the innocent.

As a nine-year veteran of the force, Detective Armel specialized in burglary crimes. She worked tirelessly each day to investigate and bring to justice those criminals who violated our homes, property, and peace of mind.

Her loss is felt deeply by her husband, Tyler, who is also a proud member of the Fairfax County Police Department, and their two children, 4-year-old daughter Mason and 7-year-old son Thomas. I stand with Detective Armel's community and congregation in support of her family.

Detective Armel's dedication and the sacrifices she made symbolize the honor of the law enforcement profession. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and the community in which she served as we honor her passing on this Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Recently, Virginia lost Officer Gary J. Buro of the Chesterfield County Police Department. Our Nation and the Commonwealth of Virginia experienced great loss as this fine police officer gave his life in line of duty.

Law enforcement officers take a solemn oath to protect and serve the communities they serve. With honor, they uphold our laws and protect the innocent.

Officer Buro proudly served his Nation at home and abroad. As a U.S. Marine during the Gulf War, he defended our Constitution and fought to liberate Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's grasp. After returning home, he began a distinguished 11-year career in law enforcement. He served with the Lantana, Florida and New York City Police Departments. Only recently, Officer Buro brought his experience and dedication to Virginia and joined the Chesterfield County Police Department in January of this year.

Officer Buro's dedication and the sacrifices he made symbolize the honor of the law enforcement profession. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and the community in which he served as we honor his passing on this Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Ms. NORTON, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and urge Members to support the adoption of House Resolution 788.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 788.

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.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4217

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 4217.

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

There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res 751) recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company".

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 751

Whereas American Ballet Theatre (ABT) is recognized as one of the world's great dance companies;

Whereas ABT is dedicated to bringing dance to America and American dance to the world;

Whereas over its 65-year history, ABT has appeared in all 50 States of the United States, in a total of 126 cities, and has performed for more than 600,000 people annually;

Whereas ABT has performed in 42 countries as perhaps the most representative American ballet company, with many of those engagements sponsored by the Department of State;

Whereas ABT has been home to the world's most accomplished dancers and has commissioned works by all of the great choreographic geniuses of the 20th century;

Whereas Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized ABT's ability to convey through the medium of ballet "some measure of understanding of America's cultural environment and inspiration";

Whereas over the years ABT has performed repeatedly at the White House, most recently in December 2005;

Whereas ABT is committed to bringing dance to a broad audience and provides exposure to dance to more than 20,000 underprivileged children and their families each year;

Whereas ABT's award-winning Make a Ballet program and its other outreach initiatives help to meet the need for arts education in underserved schools and communities;

Whereas ABT's Studio Company brings world class ballet to smaller communities like Rochester, New York; Stamford, Connecticut; Sanibel, Florida; South Hadley, Massachusetts; and Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and

Whereas The Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at ABT and the ABT's other artistic development initiatives provide the highest quality training consistent with the professional standards of ABT: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and commends American Ballet Theatre for over 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company", during which it has provided world class art to citizens in all 50 States;

(2) recognizes that American Ballet Theatre also serves as a true cultural ambassador for our Nation, by having performed in 42 countries and fulfilling its reputation as one of the world's most revered and innovative dance companies; and

(3) recognizes that American Ballet Theatre's extensive and innovative education, outreach, and artistic development programs both train future generations of great dancers and expose students to the arts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous information on H. Res. 751.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise in support of House Resolution 751, recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company."