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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 12, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SESTAK) for 5 minutes.

HONORING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAACP

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, for nearly a century, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the NAACP, has been fighting for the civil rights and dignity of people of color. As a result of their efforts, our great Nation today can boast of a society more diverse, productive, prosperous and hopeful than any in history.

However, today's hope is a far cry from the violent segregation and discrimination that inspired Mary White Ovington, William English Walling and Dr. Henry Moskowitz to meet in a small room of a New York City apartment and commit the fledgling NAACP to the most important social movement in our national history. Today, the spirit of those brave and patriotic founders lives on in its leaders, like Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn, president of the Media, Pennsylvania NAACP chapter in my home district. I rise today to congratulate Dr. Duval-Flynn for her vision, intelligence and dedication. She leads a chapter of the NAACP born of a violent act in the early 1920s and committed to making Delaware County, Pennsylvania, a 21st century community where people of all colors and creeds live together as neighbors, friends and first-class citizens.

In my first year representing the Seventh District of Pennsylvania, the NAACP's magazine, The Crisis, featured an article titled ''Woman Warriors, Female Combatants Sacrifice Lives for Country.'' That article gave me cause to consider all of the extraordinary women and men of color I had the privilege of serving with during my 30 years in our Armed Forces. For that privilege and honor, I owe, and our Nation owes, a personal debt of gratitude to Dr. Duval-Flynn, Mary White Ovington and countless other members and leaders of the NAACP.

As W.E.B. Du Bois wrote in his first editorial page of The Crisis in 1910, that voice of the NAACP ''will stand for the rights of men, irrespective of color or race, for the highest ideals of American democracy, and for the reasonable but earnest and persistent attempt to gain these rights and realize these ideals.'' No truer words can be spoken than on this birthday of the NAACP. I am proud, therefore, to know and work with this one remarkable leader, Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn, in my district as with many others in my district and with the NAACP who gave us leaders such as she.

Founded on February 12, 1909, the NAACP is the Nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. It has worked successfully with allies of all races who believe in, and stand for, the principles of civil rights on which the organization was founded.

The NAACP's legacy includes historic events as well as distinguished leaders, as I mentioned, W.E.B. Du Bois, but other civil rights leaders such as Rosa Parks and Medgar Evers and Thurgood Marshall, who served as special counsel for the NAACP when he argued the historic U.S. Supreme Court case of Brown v. Board of Education, a landmark victory for equality that outlawed segregation in our schools. Our obligation to African Americans and all Americans is to honor the accomplishments of the past by acting in a substantive manner to improve their lives in the future.

Thank you, NAACP; thank you, Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn; and thank you for the time this morning, Mr. Speaker.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RUSH) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Chaplain William E. Dickens, Jr., 445th Airlift Wing, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, offered the following prayer:

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Father, we acknowledge that all blessings come from You. I ask that You give the men and women who serve this great Nation from these desks wisdom, courage, and discernment to make decisions that are honoring to You and right for this country.

Presently, there are soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines deployed around the world in harm's way. Father, I pray that You will keep them safe, give them purpose, guard their hearts from loneliness and despair, and bring them home soon. For their families, I pray that You will comfort them and meet all of their needs. For those who have given their lives in defense of freedom, words cannot express our sorrow and our gratitude. May our actions honor their sacrifice, and may Your peace comfort their families.

Father, for this great Nation, I pray that it will continue, under Your blessing, to stand as a beacon for goodness and a bastion of freedom. May we understand the message of Your scripture: ''To whom much has been given, much will be expected.''

In Your precious name I pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SOLIS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

GREEN JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, it's no surprise that our Nation's economy is struggling. The cities in the 32nd Congressional District that I represent have seen unemployment rates soar to 7.2 percent. Gasoline prices continue to go up above $3.

In Los Angeles, a family loses a home to foreclosure every hour.

However, the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors seem to be booming.

In 2006, the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors generated 8.5 million jobs, nearly $1 trillion in revenue for the United States. These jobs are good-paying jobs, and they will not be outsourced.

The Green Collar Job Act that was signed into law recently will help train 3 million new workers. Through the program, workers included will be those in underserved communities like mine.

In this time of economic turmoil, we need to invest in America and in our workforce. Let's make sure that Congress appropriates the accorded amount of money so that we can create this stream of jobs that will stay here on our shores.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT BORIS TADIC

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to President Boris Tadic and the people of Serbia on his re-election as President of the Republic of Serbia.

President Boris Tadic has been a strong and vibrant leader for the people of Serbia. He has led his people in their bid to become a member of the European Union because he understands that inclusion in the EU would be a strong step toward growing the Serbian economy and advancing the cause of peace and freedom in the region. The Serbian people have an extraordinary history and culture, and I am hopeful the principles of freedom and democracy embodied by the leadership of President Tadic will continue to thrive.

As a proud member of the Serbian Caucus, I look forward to working with my colleagues and our diplomatic partners in Serbia to forge a growing partnership between our two nations. Congratulations to President Tadic and the people of Serbia for building a robust free market democracy which is crucial for our Balkan nations.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

My deepest sympathies to Annette Lantos, the Lantos family, staff and constituents on the death of Chairman TOM LANTOS. He lived to see Hungary, his birthplace, become a thriving free market democracy.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENIOR BORDER PATROL AGENT LUIS A. AGUILAR

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 954) honoring the life of senior Border Patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar, who lost his life in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona, on January 19, 2008, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 954

Whereas Luis Aguilar was born in El Paso, Texas, on November 26, 1976, to Luis Aguilar and Cecilia G. Silva;

Whereas Luis Aguilar resided in Somerton, Arizona, and is survived by his mother and father, his wife, Erica Aguilar, his two children, Luis and Arianna, his brother, senior Border Patrol agent Marco Antonio Aguilar, and his sister, Angie Aguilar;

Whereas Luis Aguilar joined the United States Border Patrol on July 21, 2002;

Whereas on January 19, 2008, after over 5 years of dedicated service in the United States Border Patrol, Luis Aguilar selflessly paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States;

Whereas Border Patrol agents carry out the vital role of protecting our Nation's borders and ensuring the safety of the United States;

Whereas Border Patrol agents work devotedly and selflessly on behalf of the people of the United States, without regard for the peril or danger to themselves; and

Whereas the United States will forever be grateful for the service of Luis Aguilar and mourn his loss: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as United States Border Patrol agents;

(2) honors Luis Aguilar for his service as a Border Patrol agent and for his sacrifice to the United States; and

(3) extends its deepest condolences to the family of Luis Aguilar.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this resolution and include therein any extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 954, honoring senior Border Patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar, who lost his life in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona, on January 19, 2008.

I would also like to thank Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN, a member of the Committee on Homeland Security, for introducing this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, on January 19, 2008, Agent Aguilar was working with fellow

Border Patrol agents to secure a suspected narcotics smuggler in the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreational Area when he was struck and killed by the suspected smuggler's vehicle as it fled into Mexico.

A native of El Paso, Texas, Agent Aguilar had been assigned to the Yuma Border Patrol station since joining the Border Patrol in July 2002. He was just 32 years old at the time of his death.

Agent Aguilar is survived by his wife, Erica; his children, Luis and Arianna; his father, Luis Aguilar, Sr.; his sister, Angie; and his Border Patrol brother, senior Border Patrol agent, Marco Antonio Aguilar.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, Agent Aguilar's mother, Cecilia Silva, recently passed away after her son's tragic death.

We're here to honor Agent Aguilar, a young man who's made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the sovereign borders of the United States and make America more secure.

The mission of the U.S. Border Patrol is to control the nearly 6,000 miles of land border between ports of entry with Mexico and Canada, and the coastal waters around Florida and Puerto Rico.

The death of Agent Aguilar serves as a stark reminder of the risks our frontline agents and officers face each day as they serve as the guardians of our Nation's land borders.

As chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, I've been to the southern border on a number of occasions. I've witnessed firsthand the dedication of the men and women of the U.S. Border Patrol, often under difficult and dangerous conditions. They work long hours, often late into the night, in extreme heat and cold.

Like Agent Aguilar, they are our Nation's last line of defense against would-be terrorists, drug traffickers and others who would seek to enter this Nation illegally. Agent Aguilar's contribution to our Nation's security deserves this recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring senior Border Patrol Agent Luis Aguilar in his service to our Nation, and offer my deepest condolences to the family.

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

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

It is with great sorrow and profound gratitude that I rise to support this resolution to honor the life and service of senior Border Patrol guard Luis Aguilar, who was tragically killed in the line of duty on January 19, 2008. He died after being struck by a vehicle driven by a suspected smuggler in the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area of California.

The work of a Border Patrol agent is inherently dangerous. In the normal course of their work, they run the risk of heat exhaustion, frostbite, and other challenges from the outdoor environment. Of even greater concern is the threat from smugglers and criminals seeking to illegally cross our borders who engage in violence against our Border Patrol agents.

As more agents, assets, and infrastructure are placed along the border, criminal activity is prevented from continuing with impunity. The unfortunate result of gaining operational control of our borders is an increase in violence targeted at agents. And we have seen a significant spike in the past several years, with nearly 1,000 assaults on agents last year, ranging from rock throwing to sniper attacks and to murder.

Agent Aguilar's death serves as a stark reminder of the risk our law enforcement agents face every day as they seek to secure our Nation's borders. These despicable criminal acts will only strengthen our resolve to secure our borders with additional agents, fencing, vehicle barriers, and technology. The Border Patrol plays a vital role in protecting America, and the sacrifices of its agents will not be forgotten.

I recently conducted an overnight visit on the Southwest border and saw firsthand the challenges and the dangers that these agents face. I returned with the clear resolve to support all the tools, resources, infrastructure, and policies necessary to gain operational control of our borders.

I would like to recognize the excellent work of U.S. law enforcement personnel and the Government of Mexico for tracking down and arresting the primary suspect in the murder of Agent Aguilar on January 22. For the sake of the Aguilar family, the Border Patrol and the justice for Agent Aguilar, I ask the Government of Mexico's continued cooperation and support to extradite this individual to the United States for trial.

The men and women of the Border Patrol face challenges and threats every day with vigilance, dedication to service, and integrity as they work to strengthen our national security and to protect America and its citizens.

I would like to once again extend my condolences to the Aguilar family and sincerely thank Agent Aguilar for his service to our Nation.

I would also like to extend my condolences for the recent passing of Agent Aguilar's mother, Cecilia.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA).

□ 1415

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding time, and let me also thank Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN for the very important resolution, H. Res. 954, that she introduced.

I rise in support of H. Res. 954 and to honor the life of senior Border Patrol Agent Luis A. Aguilar who lost his life in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona, on January 19 of this year. He lost his life on a border filled with dangers for agents who confront organized drug and people smugglers on a daily basis, smugglers who are prepared to go to great and dangerous lengths to protect their profit and to protect the illegal activities they are conducting on the border.

First, let me give my condolences to Mr. Aguilar's family who gave the ultimate sacrifice, his wife, son, and daughter, who have lost an American hero. I'm proud to say that Agent Aguilar lived in Somerton, Arizona. He was originally from El Paso, Texas, but was raising his family in the district that I have the privilege to represent in this Congress.

His life was devoted to this country as he served in the U.S. Border Patrol for more than 5 years. He protected this country and enforced its laws.

For his wife, children, and family, he provided them with a great foundation. He was a devoted family man, actively involved in the lives of his children and his family, making sure that his family was first. Community members could always count on him being there on a T-ball or soccer field cheering on his children and other children.

Luis Aguilar will be remembered as a quiet, yet strong, man who always had a smile on his face for his friends and family.

Mr. Speaker, we may disagree on the nature, the content and the future of an immigration policy for this Nation, but there is no disagreement on the bravery and value of the men and women who carry out this policy for us. In honoring Luis Aguilar and his family, we honor all of them and respect them all.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 954 in memory of Luis Aguilar and in gratitude for his service and the service of his colleagues in the Border Patrol.

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from California, my good friend, Mr. ROYCE.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor senior Border Patrol Agent Luis Aguilar. He was killed 3 weeks ago on January 19. He was intentionally struck by the driver of a vehicle that he was attempting to stop.

And on that day, Border Patrol agents observed both a Ford pickup truck and a Hummer crossing illegally from Mexico into the United States. It was near Yuma, Arizona, and they began pursuit. The drivers of the two vehicles saw that the agents were following them, and they turned back toward the border. But as Agent Aguilar deployed spike strips, he was intentionally struck by the driver of that Hummer.

His death serves for us as another stark reminder of the dangerous environment our Border Patrol faces every day. Violence against Border Patrol agents, I sadly report, is increasing in

the United States. It has gone up 31 percent. Between 2006 and 2007, the number of incidents rose from 752 attacks to 987 against our Border Patrol agents. Agents are being assaulted with an arsenal of weaponry that includes bottles and knives, bats, ball bearings, steel pipes, cinder blocks, slingshots and vehicles.

When I was chairman of the Subcommittee on International Terrorism and Nonproliferation, I held hearings down on the border, both in Laredo, Texas, and in San Diego, and the focus was on border vulnerabilities and on international terrorism. At that time, there had been some reports of international terrorists trying to cross that border.

One thing the Border Patrol asked us for, and they said this would make an immediate impact on securing our borders and securing our Nation, they asked us for a double border fence, as was finally passed in the Secure Fence Act. Many Americans strongly supported that legislation to construct that fence to help slow illegal entry into the United States, and, quite frankly, they are baffled that Congress took such a step back from strengthening our border security, as we did with that omnibus spending bill earlier this year, because that omnibus spending bill gutted the Secure Fence Act. The Secure Fence Act required double fencing. It would put a fence where it was needed most, in areas that have the highest instances of drug smuggling, of human smuggling, and of gang activity.

The omnibus bill that we passed here, that I opposed, removed the two-tier requirement and the list of locations. It also put up numerous bureaucratic and legal hurdles to undermine the fence's completion. It's past time we strengthen operational control of our borders. We need to use every tool available to give the Border Patrol the support they need to help protect Border Patrol agents as they requested.

Again, I just want to recognize the service of Agent Luis Aguilar, killed in the line of duty.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers at this time, and I am prepared to close if Mr. DAVIS is prepared, also.

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. I have another speaker, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to my good friend, Mr. BILBRAY, from California.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, Agent Aguilar, like myself, was born and raised on the border. He knew the challenges that faced the border. He understood the risks, and sadly, his life, as documented, was the price he paid for out-of-control borders.

I just hope that everyone today, when they vote on this bill and support this bill, recognizes that for all too long Border Patrol agents have not only faced the threat of life-and-death situations along the border while they're enforcing our laws, protecting our neighborhoods, and protecting the lives of illegal immigrants crossing the border every day. A story that's not told enough about when somebody crossing the border illegally needs to be saved while they're dying in the desert, drowning in rivers, being attacked by coyotes, it's the Border Patrol agents who are the last straw of survival for so many of these illegals.

Border Patrol Aguilar proved his loyalty to America with his life, and sadly, I just ask all of us to remember that there are Aguilars up and down the border, north and south, all over this country, doing a tough job and, frankly, not getting very much credit, in fact, getting attacked personally and viciously just because they're doing the tough job that the American people want.

I just hope that we understand that our job today is to recognize the sacrifice of the Aguilar family and remember that when Mrs. Aguilar passed away after finding out about her son, I'm sure she would want to send a message of do what you can, Congress, to make sure my other son is safe, protected, and well-provided for in his duties of serving the American people.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'd ask that we recognize the service of not only Agent Aguilar but his mother, his brother, and his entire family, and by doing that, let's be brave enough to send them the resources, both in physical equipment and in the proper laws, that the Border Patrol agents have been asking us to do for a long time so that they do not have to continue to function in this killing zone that we call the border area.

And so I ask strongly the Democrats and Republicans to join together and let's do what we can to avoid this situation in the future. That may mean taking some hits from our friends about building fences or cracking down on illegal employers, doing all those things that we have not done enough in the past, and that, Mr. Speaker, would truly be a good recognition of the service of Agent Aguilar and an appropriate memorial by this Congress.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, might I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Mississippi has 15 minutes. The gentleman from Tennessee has 10½ minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Thank you very much. I continue to reserve, Mr. Speaker. I have no other speakers.

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, as I prepare to close, I want to again thank the Aguilar family and pass on the American people's condolences to the Aguilar family. I want to thank his fellow Border Patrol agents who are willing to protect our freedoms each and every day, and I would like to urge my colleagues in support of this resolution this afternoon.

With that, I yield back the remainder of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to recognize the life of senior Agent Luis Aguilar. The loss of Agent Aguilar not only leaves a big hole in the Border Patrol organization but in the lives of his family.

I'd like to express again my sincere condolences and urge passage of this important resolution.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 954, a resolution honoring the life and career of Senior Border Patrol Agent Luis A. Aguilar who on January 19, 2008 lost his life at the young age of 32 in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona.

A native of my district of El Paso, Texas, Agent Aguilar began his career with the United States Border Patrol on July 21, 2002 after attending the 519th Session of the Border Patrol Academy. Upon graduation, Agent Aguilar was assigned to the Yuma Border Patrol Sector in Arizona.

On the day of Aguilar's tragic death, he was trying to deflate the tires of a Hummer being driven by a suspected narcotics smuggler who was attempting to flee back to Mexico across the Imperial Sand Dunes. The suspect accelerated while swerving and struck Agent Aguilar who was unable to move from the path of the vehicle. Injuries sustained by the impact caused the tragic loss of Agent Aguilar.

Chief Border Patrol Agent Chief David V. Aguilar posthumously awarded Agent Aguilar the Border Patrol's Purple Cross. This medal is one of the highest honors bestowed on an agent and is awarded to those who have sustained life-threatening injuries or have been killed in the line of duty.

I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, Erica and his children, Luis and Arianna. I would also like to ask that the House take a moment to morn the loss of Agent Aguilar's mother, Cecilia Silva, who just last week lost her fight with cancer. To his father, Luis Aguilar, your son was a hero in my eyes and the eyes of many across the nation.

Agent Aguilar committed his life to his job, and his family showed immense courage in supporting him and his mission. As a former Border Patrol agent myself, I know firsthand the dangers that an agent faces while protecting America's frontlines. Aguilar's dedication to his nation should be acknowledged, and today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Agent Aguilar for his service.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 954, honoring the life of senior border patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar, who lost his life in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona. Agent Aguilar's death serves as another stark reminder of the risks our front-line agents and officers face each day.

Aguilar was trying to place spike strips in the path of two vehicles believed to have illegally entered the country from Mexico when one of the vehicles hit him. Both vehicles drove back across the border into Mexico. After over 5 years of dedicated service in the United States Border Patrol, Luis Aguilar selflessly paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States.

The fatal incident occurred about 20 miles west of Yuma in the Imperial Sand Dunes

Recreation Area near Andrade, California, just over the California state line from Arizona. This area is frequently used by smugglers carrying people or drugs. A half hour earlier agents had seen a brown Hummer and a red Ford F–250 pickup crossing from Mexico into the United States. The vehicles traveled west on Interstate 8, and the vehicles turned around, heading back the way they had come with the Border Patrol in pursuit.

Luis Aguilar resided in Somerton, Arizona, and is survived by his mother and father, his wife, Erica Aguilar, his two children, Luis and Ariana, his brother, senior Border Patrol agent Marco Antonio Aguilar, and his sister, Angie Aguila.

Border Patrol agents carry out the vital role of protecting our Nation's borders and ensuring the safety of the United States. Agents work devotedly and selflessly on behalf of the people of the United States, without regard for the peril or danger to themselves; and the United States will forever be grateful for the service of Luis Aguilar and mourn his loss.

I recognize the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and woman who have lost their lives while serving as United States Border Patrol agents. I honor Luis Aguilar for his service as a Border Patrol agent and for his sacrifice to the United States and extend my deepest condolences to the family of Luis Aguilar.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, although we sometimes disagree in the debate over broader immigration policy, we all agree on one thing—that we should recognize and honor the brave Border Patrol agents who risk their lives every day on our border.

Day in and day out, in often harsh conditions over unforgiving terrain, they seek to protect our borders, save from death those economic migrants lost in the desert, and protect our country. They often do battle with drug smugglers and human traffickers who have no respect for authority—or even life. Yet rarely are these agents recognized for their courage or their sacrifice.

Unfortunately, sometimes it takes a tragedy for us to publicly recognize the selfless contributions that these Americans make for their country on a daily basis.

In this case, that tragedy is the death of Luis Aguilar, a Senior Border Patrol agent who lost his life in the line of duty while trying to apprehend suspected drug smugglers near Yuma, Arizona on January 19, 2008.

Agent Aguilar leaves behind his loving wife, Erica; his two children, Luis and Arianna; his brother, Marco Antonio, also a Senior Border Patrol agent; his sister, Angie; and his parents, Luis Aguilar and Cecilia Silva. They have all paid a heavy price for the service Luis Aguilar gave to protect this great Nation.

Today we honor Agent Aguilar and all of the other Border Patrol agents who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, as well as the families of all those who have fallen.

This Nation owes a debt of gratitude to them and all of the other Border Patrol agents who devotedly and selflessly work to keep us safe.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 954, a resolution honoring Senior Border Patrol Agent Luis A. Aguilar, who recently lost his life in the line of duty.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated, brave group of men and women working to secure America's borders. Their efforts and expertise are critical to the success of any border security strategy, and to protecting our nation from dangerous individuals and goods. As the chair of the House Subcommittee on Border, Maritime and Global Counterterrorism, I am familiar with the terrain, conditions, and challenges of the southwest border and I deeply respect and value the work of our Border Patrol agents.

I am saddened to rise today to recognize the loss of one of our dedicated Border Patrol agents. On the morning of Saturday, January 19, 2008, Senior Border Patrol Agent Luis A. Aguilar lost his life in the line of duty as he attempted to stop a suspected drug smuggler fleeing through California's Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area outside Yuma, Arizona. We have heard that Agent Aguilar, an El Paso native and nearly 6-year veteran of the Border Patrol, was not supposed to be working that day. However, he reported to work when he realized he was needed.

Aguilar's father, a bailiff in El Paso for Judge Mary Ann Bramblett, said senior Agent Aguilar felt a strong commitment to his job and to preventing the flow of illegal drugs across our borders from reaching our communities and families. Judge Bramblett, who knew senior Agent Aguilar since he was a boy, said, "One of the ways he felt he could really give back to the country was to serve in the Border Patrol. Serving his country and serving his family were the two most important things Luis had in his life."

Mr. Speaker, Senior Border Patrol Agent Luis A. Aguilar gave his life serving our nation. I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Agent Aguilar's extraordinary sacrifice, and in offering our sincere sympathy to his family, friends, and loved ones.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. 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 Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 954, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. 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.

□ 1430

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2008

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2251) to extend the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission, to provide improved visitor services at the park, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2251

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Acadia National Park Improvement Act of 2008''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF LAND CONVEYANCE AUTHORITY.

Section 102(d) of Public Law 99–420 (16 U.S.C. 341 note) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) Federally owned property under jurisdiction of the Secretary referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be conveyed to the towns in which the property is located without encumbrance and without monetary consideration, except that no town shall be eligible to receive such lands unless lands within the Park boundary and owned by the town have been acquired by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 103(f) of Public Law 99–420 (16 U.S.C. 341 note) is amended by striking ''20'' and inserting ''40''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on September 25, 2006.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 106 of Public Law 99–420 (16 U.S.C. 341 note) is amended by adding the following:

''(c) ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—In addition to such sums as have been heretofore appropriated, there is hereby authorized $10,000,000.''.

SEC. 5. INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER.

Title I of Public Law 99–420 (16 U.S.C. 341 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 108. INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide assistance in the planning, construction, and operation of an intermodal transportation center located outside of the boundary of the Park in the town of Trenton, Maine to improve the management, interpretation, and visitor enjoyment of the Park.

''(b) AGREEMENTS.—To carry out subsection (a), in administering the intermodal transportation center, the Secretary may enter into interagency agreements with other Federal agencies, and, notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, cooperative agreements, under appropriate terms and conditions, with State and local agencies, and nonprofit organizations—

''(1) to provide exhibits, interpretive services (including employing individuals to provide such services), and technical assistance;

''(2) to conduct activities that facilitate the dissemination of information relating to the Park and the Island Explorer transit system or any successor transit system;

''(3) to provide financial assistance for the construction of the intermodal transportation center in exchange for space in the center that is sufficient to interpret the Park; and

''(4) to assist with the operation and maintenance of the intermodal transportation center.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary not more than 40 percent of the total cost necessary to carry out this section (including planning, design and construction of the intermodal transportation center).

''(2) OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary not more than 85 percent of the total cost necessary to maintain and operate the intermodal transportation center.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 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 Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2251 was introduced by my good friend from Maine, Representative MIKE MICHAUD. The legislation addresses several housekeeping matters at the Acadia National Park. Acadia, located on Mount Desert Island on the coast of Maine, is one of our most popular and most visited national parks.

This bill would authorize the park to participate in the construction of a new transit center. Currently, visitors can only catch the park bus at their hotels, meaning that day visitors have no access to the system. The bill would allow the park to participate in the establishment and operation of a planned intermodal center to be located just off the island. This center would provide visitor services, parking, and bus access to day visitors. A variety of Federal, State, and local agencies are involved in establishing the center.

H.R. 2251 would also extend the authorization of the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission for another 20 years, continuing this important forum for the park and local communities to jointly consider issues of importance.

Finally, H.R. 2251 would authorize an additional $10 million for the park's land acquisition budget to enable the park to keep pace with rising property values and providing for prompt payment to willing sellers who regularly offer their lands to the park.

At the hearing in the last Congress, the National Park Service testified in support of similar legislation, and that measure also passed in the Senate. The measure before us today has been updated to address several concerns by the National Park Service, and to cap NPS contributions to the intermodal transportation center.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will significantly improve the experience of visitors to one of our great national parks. Representative MICHAUD and Representative ALLEN are to be commended for their hard work on this legislation.

I urge the House to support H.R. 2251.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

The gentleman from Arizona has adequately explained H.R. 2251, and we're prepared to accept this legislation with a brief clarification from the chairman of the subcommittee on the intent of this bill.

The question we have is, is the proposed intermodal transportation center intended to limit the access to the park by automobile, or is this part of a larger plan to abolish the public's ability to travel through the park by private automobile?

Mr. Speaker, I would yield to the gentleman from Arizona if he is prepared to address that issue right now.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Let me thank the gentleman from Utah for allowing me to try to clarify this point.

The Island Explorer transit system at Acadia is entirely voluntary and, I might add, very, very popular. I can categorically assure the gentleman that there are no plans to ban autos from Acadia. Visitors who want to drive the park's loop roads are welcome to do so, but many have found that riding the bus is much more convenient. So there is a categorical assurance that the intention of this legislation is not now or will be to ban automobiles from Acadia.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Thank you. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate that statement. And with that assurance, we can accept this legislation.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield as much time as he may consume to Representative MICHAUD, the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. MICHAUD. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Acadia National Park Improvement Act.

I would like to thank Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member YOUNG, as well as subcommittee Chairman GRIJALVA and Ranking Member BISHOP, for their work on this measure.

This is a very important bill for the State of Maine as well as the future of Acadia National Park. Acadia National Park is a spectacular and unique landscape of mountains, hills, ponds, marshes and shorelines.

Earlier visitors to Mount Desert Island and its surroundings helped to establish Acadia as the first national park east of the Mississippi. The park is a major engine of the regional economy, bringing in almost $130 million in visitor spending to the region, and supporting over 2,600 jobs.

The Acadia National Park Improvement Act will help the park continue to attract visitors to the area and maintain and preserve their important natural resources. It allows the park to continue to complete the vision laid out in the 1986 law setting the park's boundaries and to enhance the emission-reducing Island Explorer bus system.

Most importantly, this legislation will reauthorize the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission. The commission brings representatives of surrounding towns, the State of Maine, and the Department of the Interior together to make sure all community members are involved in park planning.

I want to thank everyone involved for their hard work on this, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this important bill for the State of Maine.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2251, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

KALAUPAPA MEMORIAL ACT OF 2008

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3332) to provide for the establishment of a memorial within Kalaupapa National Historical Park located on the island of Molokai, in the State of Hawaii, to honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who were forcibly relocated to the Kalaupapa Peninsula from 1866 to 1969, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3332

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Kalaupapa Memorial Act of 2008''.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF MEMORIAL WITHIN KALAUPAPA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Interior shall authorize Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, a non-profit organization consisting of patient residents at Kalaupapa National Historical Park, and their family members and friends, to establish a memorial at a suitable location or locations approved by the Secretary at Kalawao or Kalaupapa within the boundaries of Kalaupapa National Historical Park located on the island of Molokai, in the State of Hawaii, to honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who were forcibly relocated to Kalaupapa Peninsula from 1866 to 1969.

(b) DESIGN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The memorial authorized by subsection (a) shall—

(A) display in an appropriate manner the names of the first 5,000 individuals sent to the Kalaupapa Peninsula between 1866 and 1896, most of whom lived at Kalawao; and

(B) display in an appropriate manner the names of the approximately 3,000 individuals who arrived at Kalaupapa in the second part of its history, when most of the community was concentrated on the Kalaupapa side of the peninsula.

(2) APPROVAL.—The location, size, design, and inscriptions of the memorial authorized

by subsection (a) shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(c) FUNDING.—Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, a nonprofit organization, shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for and payment of the expenses associated with the establishment of the memorial.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 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 Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3332 would provide for the establishment of a memorial within the boundaries of the Kalaupapa National Historic Park on the island of Molokai, Hawaii. It will serve as a remembrance of thousands of Hansen's disease patients who were forcibly separated from family and friends and interned at this site.

Beginning in 1866, when the Hawaii Islands were still an independent kingdom, and continuing through 1969, residents of the islands who were infected with Hansen's disease, also known as leprosy, were isolated from the rest of society at the settlement. In all, 8,000 Hansen's patients were forcibly relocated to the settlement where they struggled to create new lives. The majority succumbed to the disease while living there.

Today, less than 20 percent of the graves and headstones of these former patients can be found in the peninsula. The remaining 80 percent are forgotten on the landscape. A nonprofit organization made up of family and friends of former patients will be responsible for funding and constructing the memorial which will contain the names of all 8,000 patients who were forced to call this settlement their home.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend our colleague, Congresswoman HIRONO of Hawaii, and her cosponsor, Congressman ABERCROMBIE, also of Hawaii, for their efforts to ensure that all families of former residents have a fitting commemoration of their deceased loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, we enthusiastically support H.R. 3332 and urge its passage today as a tribute to the present and past Hansen's patients.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3332 and yield myself as much time as I may consume.

The gentleman from Arizona has again adequately explained this particular bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlelady from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) for as much time as she may consume.

Ms. HIRONO. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 3332.

Kalaupapa is a 2¼-mile-wide shelf of land jutting out beneath sea cliff ranging from 1,600 to 3,000 feet in height on the island of Molokai. It is an incredibly beautiful and isolated area with a unique history.

This bill authorizes the establishment of a memorial at Kalaupapa National Historical Park in the memory of those who were forcibly relocated there because they suffered from or were suspected of having Hansen's disease, or leprosy. Once sent to Kalaupapa, most never saw their homes or their families again.

Kahauliko, Loe, Liilii, Puha, Kini, Lono, Waipio, Kainana, Kaumoana, Nahuina, Lakapu, and Kepihe. These are the names of the first 12 people who were exiled to Kalaupapa on January 6, 1886, 142 years ago.

This poster is a copy of the Kingdom of Hawaii's register, now at the Hawaii State Archives, of those sent to Kalaupapa Peninsula. These first 12 were all Native Hawaiians, nine men and three women. From that day forward until 1969, approximately 8,000 people living in the Hawaii Islands were taken from their families and isolated on Kalaupapa Peninsula, first in Kalawao, and later in the town of Kalaupapa. Because of society's fear of leprosy, which we now call Hansen's disease, food was scarce, and shelter and health care were minimal for the new arrivals. The mortality rate for exiles in the first 5 years was 46 percent due to the poor conditions.

''An Act to Prevent the Spread of Leprosy'' was first signed into law in 1865 by Lot Kamehameha, the King of Hawaii. The act essentially criminalized the disease. Children, mothers, and fathers were forcibly separated. Children born to parents at Kalaupapa were taken away from their mothers and sent to live in orphanages or with other family members outside of Kalaupapa.

The policy was continued in the Republic of Hawaii after Hawaii was annexed by the United States and into statehood. Hawaii's isolation laws for people with Hansen's disease were not repealed until 1969, 10 years after statehood, even though medications to control the disease have been available since the late 1950s.

Nearly 6,700 of the approximately 8,000 people who have died at Kalaupapa, more than 75 percent, lie in unmarked or unidentifiable graves. Their names are known only in the official records, which are not easily accessible.

A memorial listing the names of those who were exiled to Kalaupapa and died there is a fitting tribute and is consistent with the purpose of the park, to preserve and interpret the Kalaupapa settlement for the education and inspiration of present and future generations.

Many have heard of the sacrifices of Father Damien, who is represented by one of Hawaii's two statues in this Capitol, as well as those of Mother Marianne Cope and Brother Dutton, who each gave decades of their lives to care for the patients at Kalaupapa. Fewer know, however, of the courage and sacrifices of the exiles who were torn from their families and all they knew to make a life in this isolated area. It is important that their lives be remembered.

The Kalaupapa memorial will bring these people back to their rightful places in their family genealogy and history. Many families have gone to Kalaupapa to search for the graves of their ancestors; but with only 1,300 marked graves, most are disappointed.

In a letter of support for the memorial, David and Chris Mahelona explained why they, as Native Hawaiians, feel an urgent need for a monument that would list the names of everyone sent to Kalaupapa.

I quote: ''The naming process and the giving of a Hawaiian name is an important and sacred component of traditional Hawaiian culture. It is said that names carry significant mana, spiritual power, and they are actually a part of the person, just like an arm or leg. In ancient Hawaii, a person's name was one of the most precious possessions unique to that individual, and most times related to an event, an ancestor, or a personality trait. In every case, the kapuna (elders) are always consulted. It was the responsibility of the bearer of the name to carry its weight. Therefore, it is important to remember these people by their names at their final resting place.''

I would also like to read the testimony that Kuulei Bell, president of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, submitted to Congress. Kuulei, who contracted Hansen's disease at age 6, is now 74. And I recently visited her at Queens Hospital in Honolulu.

Kuulei testified: ''We need to remember the people who have dedicated their lives and came to Kalaupapa. Father Damien, who we love so much, came to take care of all those in Kalaupapa in the 1800s, and he became one of us, contracted the disease, and so we know how this is.

''And also we know that Mother Marianne gave her aloha and love with all the nuns to come and take care of the patients. They need to be remembered.

''These things are so important, and the monument is a big part of our history and our lives.

□ 1445

''So please consider what we are asking for is our history and for our children to know what happened to many

of our patients. How sad it was for my mother, who had to wait for me to go and she could not even touch me because of the disease. And I could not even touch my children. These are the things that we should consider, how important it is. These are the memories. So please consider these things. I say these things from my heart and I hope that you hear it.''

Kuulei ended her testimony thus: ''Thank you for listening to this. Aloha and much aloha; much, much mahalo.''

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, a nonprofit organization consisting of patient residents at Kalaupapa National Historical Park and their family members and friends, was established in 2003 to promote the value and dignity of the exiles of Kalaupapa and to make certain that the lives of these individuals are honored and remembered through establishment of a memorial or memorials within the boundaries of the park at Kalawao or Kalaupapa.

I want to thank House Natural Resources Committee Chair NICK RAHALL and Parks Subcommittee Chair RAUL GRIJALVA for helping to move this important bill to the floor, and I also want to thank my cosponsor, Congressman NEIL ABERCROMBIE, for his strong support and assistance.

Most of all, I send my heartfelt aloha and mahalo to all the members of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, to all the Kalaupapa patients and their families, and most especially to Kuulei on this momentous day.

I ask all of my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 3332.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I'm once again appreciative of the remarks by the gentlewoman from Hawaii, and I'm also appreciative that now I know how to say ''Kalaupapa.'' Her staff was very kind enough to send over the pronunciation guide, but they didn't put where the accent marks should go; so I didn't know where the emphasis was on this particular word.

But with that, I am still very supportive of this particular act.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, at this time let me yield to my good friend from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) such time as he may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I fully support the provisions of this proposed bill. The bill proposes to establish a memorial to honor the memory of all those people who became victims to the dreaded disease of leprosy, commonly known as Hansen's disease. I certainly want to commend my good friend and colleague the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and our colleague Congressman ABERCROMBIE for their cosponsorship or sponsorship of this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to commend the chairman of our committee, Chairman RAHALL, and our ranking member, Mr. YOUNG, for their support and their leadership in bringing this legislation to the floor.

In 1987, I was honored to be asked by the Polynesian Voyaging Society, under the leadership of my good friend and brother Nainoa Thompson, to serve as a member of the crew of the Hawaiian Polynesian voyaging canoe known as the Hokule'a on which we were able to sail from the island of Runayto near the island of Tahiti. We sailed to Hawaii by means of traditional noninstrument navigation. It took us about 27 days when we landed on the big island of Hawaii. From the island of Hawaii, we went to Kalaupapa. It's Kalaupapa, located on the northern part of the island of Molokai, one of the islands that make up the State of Hawaii. This legislation brings back one of the most memorable experiences of my life, Mr. Speaker, my visit to Kalaupapa.

Kalaupapa is not only a national historical park but a place that has received international attention on account of the circumstances and events surrounding the history of what then took place under the sovereign kingdom of Hawaii in the early 1800s. Before the arrival of the Europeans, there were some 300,000 Native Hawaiians living on these islands. The warrior chief King Kamehameha with some 20,000 warriors and some 900 war canoes finally was able to unite these islands under one rule after some 2,000 years of conflict among the ruling chiefs of these islands.

What also occurred was the illnesses and the many diseases that Europeans brought to these islands, and one of these diseases was leprosy, or Hansen's disease. And the unfortunate situation at the time, having no knowledge or understanding of how they were going to cure it, the Native Hawaiians were not immune to this kind of sickness or illness. So the only way to, in any sense, prevent a health hazard was to send them to an isolated place where many of these Native Hawaiians became subjected to this dreaded disease, leprosy.

In the process, we also had probably, in my humble opinion, Mr. Speaker, one of the great leaders in the world, a Catholic priest originally from Belgium, named Father Damien. Father Damien, if there is anything that I could ever say the epitome of what the pure love of God is, this was one man who voluntarily ministered to these people, who lived in this colony or this settlement. It was full of lepers, and he voluntarily subjected himself even to this contagious disease, after 12 years of helping the people who lived there build chapels, build schools, and even helped bury those who died as a result of this dreaded disease.

Father Damien, as you know and maybe my colleagues are aware, was given as one of the two leaders representing the great State of Hawaii right here in Statuary Hall. And the beautiful story about this Catholic priest was the fact that he voluntarily gave his life in order to serve the people who contracted this dreaded disease leprosy on this beautiful area that is called Kalaupapa.

There was also another gentleman, and it might be as a matter of knowledge to my good friend from the State of Utah. At that time, it wasn't just people who were forced to have to live in this isolated settlement, but it caused so much sorrow and sadness where even those who were loved ones, your wives, your husbands, your daughters, your sons, and one of these leaders voluntarily went because his wife eventually contracted leprosy. His name was Jonathan Napela. He was a Native Hawaiian leader and was a high priest and a member of the Church of Latter Day Saints, commonly known today as the Mormon Church. And because of the love of his wife, he voluntarily went and lived there, and he also contracted the disease of leprosy. It was known as the program of kokua.

The interesting thing about Jonathan Napela was that this Native Hawaiian was able to translate the Book of Mormon from English into the Native Hawaiian language, along with another Mormon elder from Utah by the name of George Cannon. Jonathan Napela spent the last years of his life in this leper settlement because of the love for his wife, Kitty, who also contracted this.

There was a lot of controversy about the life of Father Damien at the time. The relationships between the Protestants and the Catholics were not very positive. In fact, according to the records, a minister of the Presbyterian Church, Reverend Hyde, castigated and literally criticized Father Damien for some of the things that he did. And in response there was another noted leader at that time, an author and a Scotsman from Scotland, who happens to be Robert Louis Stevenson, who had also contracted TB, tuberculosis. And trying to help his health, he spent the last 4 years of his life in my islands, the Samoan Islands. And to this day, Robert Louis Stevenson's grave is still there. Despite the wishes and desires of the Scottish people and the government to return his remains, we said no.

But the point that I wanted to make is that in response to the criticism that Father Damien got from his fellow ministers or those men of the cloth, I want to share with my colleagues Robert Louis Stevenson's response:

''When we have failed, and another has succeeded; when we have stood by, and another has stepped in; when we sit and grow bulky in our charming mansions,'' and he's talking about this minister, now, ''and a plain, uncouth peasant steps into the battle, under the eyes of God, and succours the afflicted, and consoles the dying, and is himself afflicted in his turn, and dies upon the field of honour, the battle cannot be retrieved as your unhappy irritation has suggested. It is a lost battle, and lost forever.''

My point of this is, Mr. Speaker, this national historical park Kalaupapa, I wish every Member of Congress would go and visit, just like my colleague from Hawaii, Congresswoman HIRONO. It's one of the most beautiful areas and sites that anybody would ever want to see north of the island of Molokai.

I wanted to share this with my colleagues because this Kalaupapa is not as unknown as some people may think or believe, and I thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii for having this proposed bill, that we should build a memorial to the thousands of Native Hawaiians and other races who had also contracted this dreaded disease and should be recognized for the sacrifices that they have had to make.

With that, Mr. Speaker, again, I thank my good friend from Arizona for giving me time to speak.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the passage of H.R. 3332, the Kalaupapa Memorial Act of 2007. This measure would authorize Ka Ohana O Kalaupapa to establish a memorial to honor those who were forcibly relocated to Kalaupapa.

Kalaupapa is a National Historical Park located on a remote peninsula of northern Molokai. From 1866 through 1969, about 8,000 people afflicted with Hansen's disease, previously known as leprosy, were relocated to the area now known as Kalaupapa National Historical Park.

Many of the first settlers faced a harsh and difficult life. But the patients who were sent to Kalaupapa eventually built a community that allowed them to endure a life cut off from parents, children, brothers, sisters and friends. Even after medication was developed to control Hansen's disease, many patient residents chose to continue living in Kalaupapa.

The site became a national park in 1980 and is dedicated to preserving the memories and lessons of the past. Kalaupapa is a living memorial to a community that once lived in extreme isolation. It now serves as a place of education, contemplation and quiet beauty. Unfortunately, many of the residents who finished their life in Kalaupapa do not have recognizable graves or grave markers. The memorial established by this bill would serve as a permanent marker and reminder of all 8,000 residents who lived on Kalaupapa.

A little more than 20 patients remain in Kalaupapa. As time passes, the number of former residents of Kalaupapa gets smaller, as do the number of people who remember this part of Hawaii's history. With each passing, the sense of urgency for erecting a memorial becomes more and more heightened. We need to pass this bill as soon as possible so that this memorial becomes a reality before the passing of the next Kalaupapa resident.

My colleague Representative MAZIE HIRONO has worked tremendously hard to bring this bill to the floor today. I commend her efforts and would also like to express my gratitude to Representative NICK RAHALL, Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, and Representative RAÚL GRIJALVA, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. We would not be here today were it not for their support and enthusiasm. I wholeheartedly support this bill, am proud to be an original cosponsor and ask my colleagues for their support of H.R. 3332.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3332, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION OF MUIR WOODS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 868) recognizing the 100th anniversary of the declaration of Muir Woods National Monument by President Theodore Roosevelt.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 868

Whereas Congressman William Kent of California recognized the transcendent beauty and national significance of the coastal redwood trees and he set aside his private land for future generations;

Whereas Congressman Kent donated his lands to be known as Muir Woods in the State of California as the first National monument, presenting them to the United States Government as a gift to the people of the United States;

Whereas Muir Woods provides a keystone for conservation stewardship and a rich natural laboratory to explore the philosophy of its namesake, the admired conservation activist John Muir;

Whereas Muir Woods was recognized 100 years ago to be ''of extraordinary scientific interest and importance because of the primeval character of the forest and the character, age and size of the trees'';

Whereas the Kent donation made it possible for President Theodore Roosevelt to exercise one of the Nation's most unique preservation tools, the Antiquities Act, by declaring Muir Woods National Monument for the American people;

Whereas Muir Woods National Monument is preserved today through the dedicated staff and volunteers of the National Park Service;

Whereas on May 19, 1945 international delegates to the historic Charter Convention of the United Nations met in the beauty and peace of Muir Wood's Cathedral Grove to open the convention and honor the memory of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt; and

Whereas in 1972 Muir Woods National Monument became part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and today attracts up to a million visitors annually: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the foresight of President Roosevelt in using the Antiquities Act in declaring Muir Woods National Monument;

(2) recognizes the 100 years of careful preservation of America's Coastal Redwood forest within Muir Woods National Monument; and

(3) recognizes the natural and historical importance of the Muir Woods National Monument in the State of California and to the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days 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 Arizona?

There was no objection.

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

House Resolution 868, introduced by our colleague from California, Representative LYNN WOOLSEY, recognizes the beauty and the significance of Muir Woods National Monument on its 100th anniversary. Muir Woods National Monument preserves one of the last remaining ancient redwood forests on the Pacific Coast and in the world.

The coast redwood is the tallest species of tree in the world and one of the oldest. The mature trees of the Cathedral and Bohemian groves in Muir Woods reach heights of 250 feet and average between 600 and 800 years in age, with the oldest believed to be at least 1,100 years old.

In 1905, Congressman William Kent, who later went on to introduce the bill that would establish the National Park Service, purchased the land where Muir Woods stands, recognizing the beauty, value, and significance of an uncut, old-growth redwood forest. Eventually, Congressman Kent donated 295 acres to the Federal Government.

On January 9, 1908, using the Antiquities Act, President Roosevelt declared Kent's donated land a national monument, proclaiming that the groves of the redwoods were of ''extraordinary scientific interest and importance because of the unique character of the forests and the character, age, and size of the trees.''

President Roosevelt wanted to name the new monument for Congressman Kent, but Kent insisted that it be named after the venerable conservationist John Muir, who sought to protect some of America's most iconic landscapes for their inherent national beauty. These ancient trees now offer a silent, yet powerful, testimony to Muir's ideals.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate my colleague Representative WOOLSEY, for her commitment and leadership on this matter. We strongly support passage of House Resolution 868 and urge its adoption by the House today.

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

□ 1500

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Arizona has adequately explained the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, my district, just across the Golden Gate Bridge north of San Francisco, includes 100 percent of Marin County and 80 percent of Sonoma County, where we are blessed with many environmental treasures. In fact, it is one of the most beautiful places on Earth, and it is just across the bridge from one of the largest cities in our country.

In this area we have a stand of old-growth redwoods known as Muir Woods, and we consider this our crown jewel. Muir Woods is nearly 300 acres of what I refer to as ''Heaven on Earth'' where its natural beauty has been preserved and protected for everyone to enjoy so that we can enjoy the trees, which are mostly redwoods that stand over 250 feet tall and are, as the chairman just told you, as old as 1,100 years. That is why I am so pleased that Congress is considering H. Res. 868 today, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of President Teddy Roosevelt's declaration of Muir Woods as a national monument.

It is fitting that we honor the centennial of Muir Woods on the floor of the House of Representatives, because it was the actions of Congressman William Kent who represented Marin County at that time who made the national monument possible. William Kent privately owned the land where Muir Woods now stands, and he and his family donated it to the Federal Government to ensure its protection. I am proud to say that 100 years later Congressman Kent's vision is still going strong.

The leadership in conservation that William Kent showed 100 years ago is a valuable lesson for us today. Imagine all the national wonder that could have been saved in the last 100 years, wonders like Muir Woods, that we could be enjoying today had more people been as selfless as he. We in Congress have the power to ensure that 100 years from now people can look back and applaud new conservation efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Muir Woods is a unique sanctuary for the protection of one of Earth's greatest wonders, the coastal redwoods; and its preservation is to be commended. I want to thank Chairman RAHALL, Chairman GRIJALVA, Ranking Member YOUNG, and Mr. BISHOP for bringing my resolution here to the floor today, because working together, Mr. Speaker, working together today, we will ensure that 100 years from now our grandchildren, our great grandchildren and their children will enjoy the Muir Woods bicentennial.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 868, honoring the 100 year anniversary of the Muir Woods National Monument.

Throughout his life, John Muir was concerned with protecting nature to enhance the spiritual side of civilization and progress. His words and deeds led to the establishment of the U.S. National Park System. In addition, John Muir was the founding president of the Sierra Club, which remains one of the leading American grassroots organization for protecting wilderness and the human environment.

On January 9, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt declared the Muir Woods America's 10th National Monument. When he heard of President Roosevelt's act Muir wrote, "This is the best tree-lover's monument that could possibly be found in all the forests of the world."

Today, Muir Woods attracts about 1 million people every year, and inspires them with redwoods over 260 feet high and more than 1,200 years old. Part of the Golden Gate National Parks, Muir Woods is a living and enduring symbol of John Muir's conservation ethic that nature must be preserved if humanity is to continue to thrive on this planet.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and honor the legacy of a great American, his vision of environmental conservation, and the truly remarkable Muir Woods National Monument.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the remainder of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 868.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL QUILT MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 209) expressing the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, located in Paducah, Kentucky, should be designated as the ''National Quilt Museum of the United States''.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 209

Whereas the Museum of the American Quilter's Society is the largest quilt museum in the world, with a total of 13,400 square feet of exhibition space and more than 150 quilts exhibited year-round in its 3 galleries;

Whereas the mission of the Museum is to educate the local, national, and international public about the art, history, and heritage of quiltmaking;

Whereas quilts in the Museum's permanent collection are made by quilters from 44 of the 50 States and many foreign countries;

Whereas the Museum, centrally located in Paducah, Kentucky, and open to the public year-round, averages 40,000 visitors per year;

Whereas individuals from all 50 States and from more than 25 foreign countries have visited the Museum;

Whereas the Museum's Friends, an organization dedicated to supporting and sustaining the Museum, also has members in all 50 States, with 84 percent of members living more than 60 miles from the Museum;

Whereas many members of the Museum's Friends have supported the Museum annually since the Museum began in 1991;

Whereas quilts exhibited in the Museum are representative of the Nation and its cultures thanks to the wide diversity of themes and topics, quilts, and quiltmakers; and

Whereas the Museum of the American Quilter's Society has national significance and support: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, located at 215 Jefferson Street, Paducah, Kentucky, should be designated as the ''National Quilt Museum of the United States''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

House Concurrent Resolution 209 would express the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society in Paducah, Kentucky, should be designated the ''National Quilt Museum of the United States.'' The concurrent resolution was introduced by our colleague, Representative ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky.

Since its establishment in 1991, the Museum of the American Quilting Society has collected and displayed quilts made by quilters from 44 of the 50 States. Today, with a permanent collection of more than 180 quilts and three galleries totaling 13,400 square feet of exhibit space, the facility is the largest museum in the world dedicated to the artistry of quilting and illustrates the significance of quilts and quilting to this Nation.

A friends' group comprised of members from all 50 States has provided the museum with a broad national fundraising support and advocates since its inception 17 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 209 would grant recognition of the House to this museum and the art form it seeks to preserve. A museum of this size, scope, and significance appears worthy of designation as the National Quilt Museum of the United States. We have no objection to House Concurrent Resolution 209 and urge its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 209 and yield myself such time as I may consume.

The resolution has been adequately explained again by the gentleman from Arizona. I would like to commend Congressman WHITFIELD for his work on this resolution that designates the Museum of the American Quilter's Society in Paducah, Kentucky, as the National Quilt Museum of the United States. It's a designation that brings us all a great deal of warmth and comfort and helps tie together the loose ends of our society. I am grateful this resolution has been brought to the floor so that we can finally put this to bed.

The bill's author, Mr. WHITFIELD, wanted to be here today, but his flight has been unavoidably detained because of weather conditions.

I urge the adoption of this resolution and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Arizona. I thank the sponsor of this bill. I add my appreciation and recognition of H. Con. Res. 209, expressing the sense of Congress that the Museum of America's Quilter's Society located in Kentucky should be designated as the National Quilter's Museum of the United States.

Having had the opportunity to have the Traveling Quilters from Alabama come to Houston, I know that quilting is a national treasure, and it is an important part of our history. It is important for this Congress each step of the way to remind Americans of how valuable their history is.

We happen to be in Black History Month; and I know that as we look to honor everyone's history, it is to say that Americans are united, we are one. So I am very proud to acknowledge this resolution and to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I just got off the plane from Texas and I do want to make mention of H. Res. 954. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, the Subcommittee on Immigration, and as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise to honor the life of fallen Border Patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar, who lost his life in the line of duty at Yuma, Arizona, on January 19, 2008. Many times, Americans do not really understand that our Border Patrol agents put themselves in the line of fire, and they are, in fact, first responders on behalf of the people of the United States.

I want to give honor to his family, certainly to his fellow Border Patrol agents, and to acknowledge my deepest sympathy to them and as well to them as a family. As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am forever reminded of their service and have been an advocate for providing them with more resources. We do need to get a complete response to immigration, both through border security and comprehensive immigration reform.

In conclusion, let me say that I want to express again my sadness in the loss of senior Border Patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar and again express my sympathy on behalf of all Americans. We are indebted to his service and, of course, we consider him a national hero.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the kind words from the gentlewoman from Texas in support of this particular resolution.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues and the Resources Committee for allowing this resolution to be considered today. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

The Museum of the American Quilter's Society in Paducah, Kentucky, is a non-profit institution established to educate, promote, and honor today's quiltmakers. The museum started over 16 years ago and is the largest quilt museum in the United States and, in fact, the world. The museum has the largest quilt exhibit space of any quilt museum, with three exhibit galleries, allowing for over 13,400 square feet, and over 150 quilts on exhibit year round. Quilts in the museum's permanent collection are made by quilters from throughout the nation, from Maine to Florida and Pennsylvania to California, having been made by quilters from 44 of the 50 States and a number of foreign countries.

Exhibit themes include educational activities called the "School Block Challenge," which are blocks of quilts made by school children from kindergarten through high school to collectively make one large quilt. Additionally, antique quilts exhibited in the museum are representative of the Nation and its cultures, featuring a wide diversity of themes and topics.

Mr. Speaker, this museum is certainly a national landmark and one that promotes education and diversity, while also displaying our Nation's heritage and traditions. In order that our children and grandchildren are able to treasure these educational and significant features of our Nation we must strengthen and embrace initiatives, such as the National Quilt Museum of the United States. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, located in Paducah, Kentucky, be designated as the "National Quilt Museum of the United States."

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I have no other speakers. I urge adoption of the resolution and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 209.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SANTA MARGARITA RIVER, CALIFORNIA, CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 29) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses from the Santa Margarita River, California, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 29

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) DISTRICT.—The term "District" means the Fallbrook Public Utility District, San Diego County, California.

(2) PROJECT.—The term "Project" means the impoundment, recharge, treatment, and other facilities the construction, operation, watershed management, and maintenance of which is authorized under section 2.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, unless otherwise stated.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SANTA MARGARITA RIVER PROJECT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, acting pursuant to the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902; 32 Stat. 388), and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, as far as those laws are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain the Project substantially in accordance with the final feasibility report and this Act.

(b) CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may construct the Project only after the Secretary determines that the following conditions have occurred:

(1) The District and the Navy have entered into contracts under sections 9(c)2 and 9(e) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to repay to the United States equitable and appropriate portions, as determined by the Secretary, of the actual costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Project.

(2) The officer or agency of the State of California authorized by law to grant permits for the appropriation of water has granted such permits to the Bureau of Reclamation for the benefit of the Department of the Navy and the District as permittees for rights to the use of water for storage and diversion as provided in this Act, including approval of all requisite changes in points of diversion and storage, and purposes and places of use.

(3) The District has agreed that it will not assert against the United States any prior appropriative right the District may have to water in excess of the quantity deliverable to it under this Act, and will share in the use of the waters impounded by the Project on the basis of equal priority and in accordance with the ratio prescribed in section 4(b). This agreement and waiver and the changes in points of diversion and storage under paragraph (2), shall become effective and binding only when the Project has been completed and put into operation and may be varied by agreement between the District and the Secretary of the Navy.

(4) The Secretary has determined that the Project has economic, environmental, and engineering feasibility.

SEC. 3. COSTS.

Upon completion of the construction of the Project, the Department of the Navy shall be

responsible to repay to the Secretary only that portion of the construction, operation and maintenance costs of the Project that the Secretary and the Secretary of the Navy determine reflects the extent to which the Department of the Navy benefits from the Project. Provided that the Secretary is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with the Secretary of the Navy for the impounding, storage, treatment, and carriage of prior rights water for domestic, municipal, fish and wildlife, industrial and other beneficial purposes using Project facilities.

SEC. 4. OPERATION; YIELD ALLOTMENT; DELIVERY.

(a) OPERATION.—The operation of the Project, subject to a memorandum of agreement between the Secretary, the Navy, and the District and under regulations satisfactory to the Secretary of the Navy with respect to the Navy's share of the project, may be by the Secretary, the District, or a third party consistent with section 6.

(b) YIELD ALLOTMENT.—Except as otherwise agreed between the parties, the Department of the Navy and the District shall participate in the Project yield on the basis of equal priority and in accordance with the following ratio:

(1) 60 percent of the Project's yield is allotted to the Secretary of the Navy.

(2) 40 percent of the Project's yield is allotted to the District.

(c) CONTRACTS FOR DELIVERY OF EXCESS WATER.—

(1) EXCESS WATER AVAILABLE TO OTHER PERSONS.—If the Secretary of the Navy certifies to the official agreed upon to administer the Project that the Department of the Navy does not have immediate need for any portion of the 60 percent of the Project's yield allotted to the Secretary of the Navy under subsection (b), the official may enter into temporary contracts for the sale and delivery of the excess water.

(2) FIRST RIGHT FOR EXCESS WATER.—The first right to excess water to be made available under paragraph (1) shall be given the District, if otherwise consistent with the laws of the State of California.

(3) CONDITION OF CONTRACTS.—Each contract entered into under paragraph (1) for the sale and delivery of excess water shall include a condition that the Secretary of the Navy has the right to demand that water, without charge and without obligation on the part of the United States, after 30 days notice.

(4) MODIFICATION OF RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.—The rights and obligations of the United States and the District regarding the ratio, amounts, definition of Project yield, and payment for excess water may be modified by an agreement between the parties.

(d) CONSIDERATION.—

(1) DEPOSIT OF FUNDS.—Moneys paid to the United States under a contract entered into under subsection (c) shall be deposited in the special account established for the Department of the Navy under paragraph (1) of section 2667(d) of title 10, United States Code, and shall be available for the purposes specified in subparagraph (C) of such paragraph. Subparagraph (D) of such paragraph shall not apply to moneys deposited in the special account pursuant to this subsection.

(2) IN-KIND CONSIDERATION.—In lieu of monetary consideration under paragraph (1), or in addition to such consideration, the Secretary of the Navy may accept in-kind consideration in a form and quantity that is acceptable to the Secretary of the Navy, including the following forms of in-kind consideration:

(A) Maintenance, protection, alteration, repair, improvement, or restoration (including environmental restoration) of property or facilities of the Department of the Navy.

(B) Construction of new facilities for the Department of the Navy.

(C) Provision of facilities for use by the Department of the Navy.

(D) Facilities operation support for the Department of the Navy.

(E) Provision of such other services as the Secretary of the Navy considers appropriate.

(3) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—Sections 2662 and 2802 of title 10, United States Code, shall not apply to any new facilities whose construction is accepted as in-kind consideration under this subsection.

(4) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—If the in-kind consideration proposed to be provided under a contract to be entered into under subsection (c) has a value in excess of $500,000, the contract may not be entered into until the earlier of the following:

(A) The end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which a report describing the contract and the form and quantity of the in-kind consideration is submitted by the Secretary of the Navy to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(B) The end of the 14-day period beginning on the date on which a copy of the report referred to in subparagraph (A) is provided in an electronic medium pursuant to section 480 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 5. REPAYMENT OBLIGATION OF THE DISTRICT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The general repayment obligation of the District shall be determined by the Secretary of the Interior consistent with sections 9(c)2 and 9(e) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to repay to the United States equitable and appropriate portions, as determined by the Secretary, of the actual costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Project; provided, however, that for the purposes of calculating interest and determining the time when the District's repayment obligation to the United States commences, the pumping and treatment of groundwater from the Project shall be deemed equivalent to the first use of water from a water storage project. There shall be no repayment obligation under this section for water delivered to the District under a contract as provided in section 4(c).

(b) MODIFICATION OF RIGHTS AND OBLIGATION BY AGREEMENT.—The rights and obligations of the United States and the District regarding the repayment obligation of the District may be modified by an agreement between the parties.

SEC. 6. TRANSFER OF CARE, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE.

The Secretary may transfer to the District, or a mutually agreed upon third party, the care, operation, and maintenance of the Project under conditions satisfactory to the Secretary and the District, and with respect to the portion of the Project that is located within the boundaries of Camp Pendleton, satisfactory also to the Secretary of the Navy. If such a transfer takes place, the District shall be entitled to an equitable credit for the costs associated with the Secretary's proportionate share of the operation and maintenance of the Project. The amount of such costs shall be applied against the indebtedness of the District to the United States.

SEC. 7. SCOPE OF ACT.

For the purpose of this Act, the basis, measure, and limit of all rights of the United States pertaining to the use of water shall be the laws of the State of California. Provided that nothing in this Act shall be construed—

(1) as a grant or a relinquishment by the United States of any rights to the use of water that it acquired according to the laws of the State of California, either as a result of its acquisition of the lands comprising Camp Joseph H. Pendleton and adjoining naval installations, and the rights to the use of water as a part of that acquisition, or through actual use or prescription or both since the date of that acquisition, if any;

(2) to create any legal obligation to store any water in the Project, to the use of which the United States has such rights;

(3) to require the division under this Act of water to which the United States has such rights; or

(4) to constitute a recognition of, or an admission by the United States that, the District has any rights to the use of water in the Santa Margarita River, which rights, if any, exist only by virtue of the laws of the State of California.

SEC. 8. LIMITATIONS ON OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

Unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary of the Navy, the Project—

(1) shall be operated in a manner which allows the free passage of all of the water to the use of which the United States is entitled according to the laws of the State of California either as a result of its acquisition of the lands comprising Camp Joseph H. Pendleton and adjoining naval installations, and the rights to the use of water as a part of those acquisitions, or through actual use or prescription, or both, since the date of that acquisition, if any; and

(2) shall not be administered or operated in any way which will impair or deplete the quantities of water the use of which the United States would be entitled under the laws of the State of California had the Project not been built.

SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, the following—

(1) $60,000,000 (the current estimated construction cost of the Project, plus or minus such amounts as may be indicated by the engineering cost indices for this type of construction); and

(2) such sums as may be required to operate and maintain the said project.

SEC. 10. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and periodically thereafter, the Secretary and the Secretary of the Navy shall each report to the Congress regarding if the conditions specified in section 2(b) have been met and if so, the details of how they were met.

SEC. 11. SUNSET.

The authority of the Secretary to complete construction of the Project shall terminate 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 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 Arizona?

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 29 was introduced by our colleague, Representative DARRELL ISSA, and would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses from the Santa Margarita River in California and for other purposes. Similar legislation introduced by Congressman ISSA passed the House in the two previous Congresses.

Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to this noncontroversial bill, and I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 29.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 29 was introduced by our colleague, DARRELL ISSA, and authorizes the construction of the groundwater recharge and pumping project in the lower Santa Margarita River basin in Southern California.

If constructed, the project would provide much-needed water to the local water utility district as well as to Camp Pendleton, the Marine Corps base, for its military training needs. This project would augment the local water district supply, would relieve future additional demands for constantly limited imported water supplies, and would set aside and preserve valuable environmental habitat.

This project is an excellent example of local and Federal agencies working together to secure safe, dependable water supplies for future generations. This bill is good for water consumers, and it is good for our soldiers. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill, which has been considered by the House twice already. Perhaps the third time will be the charm.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an exchange of letters on this particular piece of legislation.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 4, 2008.

Hon. NICK J. RAHALL II,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR NICK: On October 10, 2007, the Committee on Natural Resources ordered H.R. 29 to be reported. As you know, this measure contains certain provisions that are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Armed Services, and thus, was sequentially referred to the Committee on Armed Services by the Parliamentarian for the House.

Our Committee recognizes the importance of H.R. 29 and the need for the legislation to move expeditiously. Therefore, while we have a valid claim to jurisdiction over this legislation, the Committee on Armed Services will waive further consideration of H.R. 29. I do so with the understanding that by waiving further consideration of the bill, the Committee does not waive any future jurisdictional claims over similar measures. In the event of a conference with the Senate on this bill, the Committee on Armed Services reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees.

I would appreciate the inclusion of this letter and a copy of the response in your Committee's report on H.R. 29 and the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor.

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, January 22, 2008.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,
Chairman Committee on Armed Services, Rayburn H.O.B., Washington, DC.

DEAR IKE: Thank you for your willingness to expedite floor consideration of H.R. 29, which authorizes the construction of facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses from the Santa Margarita River in California.

I appreciate your willingness to waive rights to further consideration of H.R. 29, even though your Committee has a jurisdictional interest in the matter and has received an additional referral. Of course, this waiver does not prejudice any further jurisdictional claims by your Committee over this legislation or similar language. Furthermore, I agree to support your request for appointment of conferees from the Committee on Armed Services if a conference is held on this matter.

Although the Committee's report on H.R. 29 has already been filed, this exchange of letters will be inserted in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of the bill on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,

NICK J. RAHALL II,
Chairman,
Committee on Natural Resources.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 29.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AIRPORT AND AIRWAY EXTENSION ACT OF 2008

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5270) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5270

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2008''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF TAXES FUNDING AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) FUEL TAXES.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4081(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''February 29, 2008'' and inserting ''June 30, 2008''.

(b) TICKET TAXES.—

(1) PERSONS.—Clause (ii) of section 4261(j)(1)(A) of such Code is amended by striking ''February 29, 2008'' and inserting ''June 30, 2008''.

(2) PROPERTY.—Clause (ii) of section 4271(d)(1)(A) of such Code is amended by striking ''February 29, 2008'' and inserting ''June 30, 2008''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on March 1, 2008.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 9502(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking ''March 1, 2008'' and inserting ''July 1, 2008'', and

(2) by inserting ''or the Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2008'' before the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (A).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2) of section 9502(f) of such Code is amended by striking ''March 1, 2008'' and inserting ''July 1, 2008''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on March 1, 2008.

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND OTHER AUTHORITIES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 48103 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (3);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) $2,756,250,000 for the 9-month period beginning October 1, 2007.''.

(2) OBLIGATION OF AMOUNTS.—Sums made available pursuant to the amendment made by paragraph (1) may be obligated at any time through September 30, 2008, and shall remain available until expended.

(3) PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.—For purposes of calculating funding apportionments and meeting other requirements under sections 47114, 47115, 47116, and 47117 of title 49, United States Code, for the 9-month period beginning October 1, 2007, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall—

(A) first calculate such funding apportionments on an annualized basis as if the total amount available under section 48103 of such title for fiscal year 2008 were $3,675,000,000; and

(B) then reduce by 25 percent—

(i) all funding apportionments calculated under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) amounts available pursuant to sections 47117(b) and 47117(f)(2) of such title.

(b) PROJECT GRANT AUTHORITY.—Section 47104(c) of such title is amended by striking ''September 30, 2007,'' and inserting ''June 30, 2008,''.

(c) GOVERNMENT SHARE OF CERTAIN AIP COSTS.—Section 161 of the Vision 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act (49 U.S.C. 47109 note) is amended by striking ''in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007'' and inserting ''in fiscal year 2008 before July 1, 2008,''.

(d) ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 409(d) of such Act (49 U.S.C. 40101 note) is amended by striking ''2007.'' and inserting ''2008.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on September 29, 2007, and shall apply with respect to any final order issued under section

409(c) of such Act that was in effect on such date.

(e) AIRPORT ELIGIBILITY.—The first sentence of section 186(d) of such Act (117 Stat. 2518) is amended by inserting ''and for the portion of fiscal year 2008 ending before July 1, 2008,'' after ''2007,''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5270.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1515

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5270 extends the financing and spending authority for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund. The trust fund taxes and spending authority are scheduled to expire on March 1, 2008. H.R. 5270 extends these taxes at current rates through June 30 of 2008.

On January 29, 2008, the acting administrator of the FAA sent a letter to the Committee on Ways and Means indicating the ability of the FAA to provide services in 2008 will be impeded if this extension is not enacted. I will include this letter from the FAA for the RECORD.

The Committee on Ways and Means reported out a previous extension bill with bipartisan support. This bill will keep the Airport and Airway Trust Fund taxes and operations in place until the long-term FAA reauthorization act is signed into law. I urge the full support of my colleagues for this measure.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, January 29, 2008.

Hon. CHARLES B. RANGEL,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN RANGEL: Thank you for your continued support to the mission of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). As you know, we have a pending reauthorization proposal to establish a cost-based financing system, help address congestion, and make the system more accountable to aviation stakeholders. In the absence of an enacted reauthorization bill, I am writing to you to bring to your attention some serious issues that will impede our ability to provide our services to the country during 2008 if not addressed immediately.

AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (P.L. 110–161) extended the authority to make expenditures from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund only until March 1, 2008. Without an extension of the Trust Fund expenditure authorities, FAA will be unable to obligate funds after March 1 from the Trust Fund. Most notably, our airports, facilities and equipment and research personnel would be immediately sent home, and our remaining personnel funded by the Operations account would follow after funding provided by the General Fund has been fully obligated—most likely in early June. For this reason, we plan to notify employees impacted by the March 1st deadline within the next two weeks.

AVIATION EXCISE TAXES

The Consolidated Appropriations Act only provided a temporary extension of authority for the collection of most of the aviation related excise taxes until February 29, 2008. The authority to collect such taxes should not be allowed to lapse. The uncommitted balance in the Trust Fund is insufficient to sustain FAA operations beyond a few months and a lapse in the authority to collect excise taxes could quickly begin to impact FAA's operations.

AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

Contract authority for the FAA's AIP program expired on September 30, 2007, however Congress, in a series of continuing resolutions, provided temporary and limited AIP contract authority through December 31, 2007. Without contract authority, we are not able to make any new AIP grants. For the airport grant program, we typically view February 1st as a date when airport sponsors need to have some confidence that grant funds will be forthcoming so they can go out with their bids for construction projects to take full advantage of the construction season. Unfortunately, with the gap in AIP contract authority for fiscal year 2008, we are near the point of losing a portion of this construction season and airport sponsors will have to defer critical safety and capacity projects.

We are confident that Congress will address these short-term issues, but time is of the essence in moving toward a resolution of these matters. We are ready to work with you and other members to enact a reauthorization proposal that is consistent with the goals of the Administration.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, to the submission of this letter to Congress.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. STURGELL,
Acting Administrator.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I also rise in support of this legislation. Congress must not stand by while the financing of our Nation's airways are to lapse. The cost to our Nation's economy of doing so would be devastating.

As you know, authorizing legislation permitting the collection of aviation taxes and fees sadly expired at the end of the last fiscal year. Congress since then has extended that authorization through the end of this month in the consolidated appropriations act. It is unfortunate, in my view, that Congress was not able to reach an agreement with the other body on a longer term solution before resorting to temporary extensions.

I feel that the Ways and Means Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee worked well together to put together a workable bill that would continue financing our system with modest changes for a period of 4 years. Four years would have given us enough time to allow this body to devote the necessary time to make a close examination of the financing of the system and consider the long-term changes that technology and the demands of that system are imposing on us, something that I believe the Committee on Ways and Means and the Select Revenue Subcommittee did not have time to accomplish, despite multiple hearings on this issue.

While today's bill will only extend current law authority through the end of June, this is a necessary step in the process. It certainly does not speak well of this Congress that we are not able to do these things promptly with discipline and do so in a timely fashion, but I believe that our committee, Ways and Means, together with the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, have provided value added, and I would like to believe that given some additional time, that we would have had an opportunity to put forward a permanent solution.

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

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to point out that it is my understanding the delay has been in the Senate, not in the House of Representatives, not between the two committees, and not because of disagreement from either side of the aisle here, but in the other body. It is also my understanding the gentleman is going to be supporting the bill in the end. If I am wrong, please indicate for the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Ways and Means Committee for the good work they have done with the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on coming forward today and providing us with an opportunity to do the smart thing, and that is to provide this extension for this trust fund.

Yesterday, in my capacity on the Transportation Security Committee, I hosted the Transportation Security Administrator in my district at one of my large airports. Obviously, the infrastructure of airports, the safety of airports, travels parallel to the security of airports. This is a vital fund for cities like Houston, Texas, which happens to have one of the top 10 airports in the Nation.

Airports are sites used by millions and millions of Americans every single day, and therefore it is important that the delay of the actual completion of a final bill not be used to prevent the flow of dollars to protect our airports and provide safe and secure passage for our travelers.

I understand, as my good friend from New York has indicated, that the delay is in the Senate. This is the right direction to go. I applaud the Ways and Means Committee and Chairman CHARLIE RANGEL, and I rise enthusiastically to support this legislation.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to a senior member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI).

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. ENGLISH from Pennsylvania, for yielding, and I appreciate the hard work that he and members of his committee have done in this area.

I had the privilege of appearing before his subcommittee as we were considering the financing of this legislation. In fact, in September of last year, the House considered and passed a bill that resulted from that hearing, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007, which was H.R. 2881. It reauthorized the FAA for the next 4 years. On several occasions after that, the House passed bills to extend the FAA programs.

Unfortunately, the other body has taken no action on any of these measures; therefore, the authority of the FAA's essential programs and taxes were extended through the end of this month as part of the omnibus appropriations act. Regrettably, those FAA programs and authorities not extended in the omnibus expired on September 30.

Additionally, although the omnibus appropriation bill provided money, it did not extend the FAA's contract authority, and therefore as of December 31, the FAA no longer has the authority to make new obligations, including sorely needed Airport Improvement Program grants to allow airports to complete vital infrastructure improvement projects. The omnibus also included a provision that would prevent the FAA from spending any money of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund after March 1 of this year.

Without some congressional action to extend the FAA's authority on March 1st, the FAA will be facing a partial shutdown. It is unlikely that Congress will be able to send a long-term FAA reauthorization bill to the President for consideration before the February 29 deadline.

We have before us H.R. 5270. This bill would extend the funding and expenditure authority of the FAA through June 30 of this year, 2008. The bill also extends the taxes funding the Airport and Airway Trust Funds through June 30, provides Airport Improvement Program funding through September 30, and extends eligibility for essential air service subsidies and airport grant funding.

Ideally, we should be considering the FAA reauthorization conference report at this time. Unfortunately, that is not the case. Instead, we are considering the third short-term extension of the FAA's authority by the House. However, this bill will ensure that our national aviation system continues to operate until a full FAA reauthorization can be enacted.

There is much work yet to be done on the FAA reauthorization bill. We need to work in a bipartisan and bicameral fashion to pass legislation that the President can sign.

I support this extension in order to allow us time to accomplish this important goal.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my good friend, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the Chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for bringing this bill to the floor and for the support of the Republican side. Mr. ENGLISH, it is good to have you participating, and our colleague on the committee, Mr. PETRI, thank you for your diligent work on behalf of aviation issues.

The House has done its job on aviation. We passed, on September 20, the reauthorization act to extend aviation programs through 2011. Shortly thereafter, we passed another bill to provide a short-term extension of FAA programs. Then in November, we passed another attempt to extend aviation programs in the short term.

Regrettably, our colleagues across the way in the other body have not acted on any of these. If we don't act, frankly, the FAA just simply runs out of money. It will run out of authority to spend money. It will run out of authority to collect the revenues. So the House again, thank goodness the Ways and Means Committee is doing its job of carrying the load, has brought to the floor with our participation and vigorous support an extension of the revenue authority for the FAA programs.

First of all, we extend with this legislation the aviation taxes. Now, that covers 80 percent of FAA's budget. And with an uncommitted cash balance of only $1.5 billion, any lapse in the aviation taxes could put solvency of the trust fund at serious risk.

Don't think it can't happen, because that did happen in 1995 when Congress allowed the aviation taxes to lapse and the Aviation Trust Fund ran out of money. Curiously, ticket prices didn't go down. The airlines just kept charging the same price. They didn't give the consumer during that period of lapse a break. They just kept on collecting taxes, revenues, at the higher level, without giving any kind of a rebate on taxes. We don't want to let that happen again.

The second thing that we do in this legislation is extend authority for the FAA to make expenditures from the Aviation Trust Fund. Without that, on March 1, FAA will face a partial shutdown. They will not be able to pay some 4,000 employees, and a good many of those will be air traffic controllers.

The third provision critical in this legislation is the $2.76 billion in contract authority for the Aviation Improvement Program, that is the construction program for runways and taxiways, the hard side, the air side of the airport. Because the previous authorization expired on September 30, there is no contract authority in place now for the AIP program in fiscal year 2008. No new airport grants can be made.

So without this legislation, not only is FAA going to have to lay off 4,000 employees, they are not going to be able to make grants to airport authorities, we will lose tens of thousands of construction jobs in building airport capacity, and we will lose the ability to meet the needs of aviation capacity out into the balance of this fiscal year.

So the several provisions I have already described, plus many other provisions of the previous law, Vision 100, are continued in this legislation. We extend that authority through to June 30 in order to keep the pressure on the other body to take up our aviation authorization bill, which passed our committee with overwhelming bipartisan support, passed the House with an overwhelming vote, and yet the other body sits over there in splendid isolation as though nothing else in the world matters. And I find that very, very disturbing.

We need to pass this legislation that the House has already acted on and let the Senate pass it and get in to conference with us. We will get this resolved, we can get it passed and get it to the President in very short order. But, meanwhile, we have to take the action embodied in the pending legislation, and I urge its support by an overwhelming bipartisan vote.

This legislation would extend the authorization for aviation programs and taxes through June 30, 2008. Such an extension is urgently needed to address significant budget problems facing the Federal Aviation Administration, FAA, due to the current lapse in Airport Improvement Program, AIP, funding, and the upcoming expiration of both the aviation excise taxes and the authority to make expenditures from the Aviation Trust Fund.

These current and upcoming lapses in FAA's authorities have occurred despite repeated efforts by the House to pass legislation to extend them. The House has acted on three separate occasions to extend the authorization for FAA programs. On September 20, 2007, the House passed H.R. 2881, the "FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007," to reauthorize FAA programs for fiscal years 2008–2011. On September 24, 2007, the House passed H.R. 3540, the "Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2007" to provide a short-term extension of FAA programs. On November 6, 2007, the House amended and passed S. 2265, in a subsequent attempt to provide a short-term extension of FAA programs. The Senate has yet to act on any of these bills, or on any other FAA reauthorization legislation.

As I supported each of these prior attempts to extend FAA's programs and financing, I again support the legislation before us today.

I strongly support the extension of the aviation excise taxes, as proposed in H.R. 5270. These taxes are necessary to support the Aviation Trust Fund, which in recent years has provided about 80 percent of the FAA's budget. With an uncommitted cash balance of approximately $1.5 billion, any lapse in the aviation taxes could put the solvency of the Trust Fund at risk.

In addition to extending the aviation taxes, a second key provision of H.R. 5270 is the extension of the FAA's authority to make expenditures from the Trust Fund. Without this authority, the FAA will face a partial shut-down beginning March 1st, as it will be unable to pay approximately 4,000 of its employees.

The third key provision of H.R. 5270 is that it provides $2.76 billion in contract authority for the AIP. Because the previous FAA authorization act, Vision 100, expired on September 30, 2007, there is currently no contract authority in place for the AIP in FY 2008, and no new airport grants can be made. It is our intent that the full $2.76 billion provided by H.R. 5270 be made available, without regard to any previously enacted rescission.

It is imperative that we reinstate the AIP program immediately. Unless we do so, we will lose the Spring construction season, and will not be able to do much construction this year, even if the program is reauthorized at a later date.

According to the FAA, a continued lapse in AIP funding will affect important safety and capacity projects, including runway safety area projects, letter of intent disbursements, runway safety action team projects, enhanced taxiway and centerline marking projects, and aircraft rescue, firefighting and snow removal equipment. We must act now to extend this important program.

H.R. 5270 also extends several other provisions of Vision 100 so that, until a long-term FAA reauthorization bill is enacted, aviation programs may be continued under the same terms and conditions as were in effect during the previous authorization period.

But this is only the first step. We need to enact a long-term FAA reauthorization bill, which will permit us to go forward on modernization of the air traffic control system, and improvement of our airports, to combat the ever-increasing inadequacies of the current system. Last year, our aviation system had the worst delay record in its history. With the number of air travelers predicted to surpass 1 billion per year by the year 2015, the system is rapidly approaching gridlock. I strongly urge the other body to bring their reauthorization bill to the floor, so we can go to conference and pass a long-term reauthorization of aviation programs.

I thank Chairman RANGEL and Ranking Member MCCRERY of the Committee on Ways and Means for working with the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to include the aviation authorization provisions in H.R. 5270. I also thank my Committee colleagues, Ranking Member MICA, Subcommittee Chairman COSTELLO, and Subcommittee Ranking Member PETRI, for working with me on this critical legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5270.

□ 1530

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I think we have made the case here, Mr. Speaker, that it is important that this legislation go forward to cure an inability of Congress to bring closure on this very, very important issue. This is stop-gap legislation that is necessary to allow America's aviation system to remain airborne, and at a critical time. It is essential that we pass this bill in order to ensure that thousands of FAA employees are not furloughed through congressional inaction. It is also vitally important for communities engaged in an airport construction project, communities like my hometown of Erie, Pennsylvania, that the bill before us reinstates the contract authority for the FAA to issue money under the Airport Improvement Program.

I believe that this is an opportunity for us to get this right in the coming months. It is essential that the House Ways and Means Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the bipartisan leadership of this body engage the Senate in order to pass a permanent solution that provides long-term funding for the FAA in a manner that is consistent with the fundamental changes in that system in order to provide the necessary investment in this essential piece of our national transportation infrastructure. I urge my colleagues to vote for the bill.

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

Mr. CROWLEY. I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for his words of support for this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, let me just point out as well, piggybacking on what he just said about the airport improvement programs grants, that time is of the essence. A failure to move now will further condense the season in which we can actually improve the safety and the aesthetics of our airports. So I thank him for his support, for recognizing the problems not here in this body but with the other body. I thank my friend, as well, Mr. OBERSTAR for pointing that out to us.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5270, the Airport and Airway Extension Act. I want to thank Chairman RANGEL for bringing this to the floor today, as well as Chairman OBERSTAR and Ranking Members MICA and PETRI.

On September 20, 2007, the House passed H.R. 2881, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007, a long-term authorization of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) programs. However, until H.R. 2881 is signed into law, it is important that we extend FAA's programs on a short-term basis.

If Congress does not act before February 29, 2008, the FAA is potentially facing significant FY 2008 budget problems due to the lapse in funding for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), and the upcoming expiration of both the aviation excise taxes and the authority to make expenditures from the Aviation Trust Fund.

To address these problems, H.R. 5270 would extend not only the aviation taxes and expenditure authority, but also AIP contract authority, until June 30, 2008.

This is not the first time we have passed short-term extensions to ensure FAA has the contract authority it needs to make AIP grants. In 1999 and 2000, as Congress was debating what eventually became the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century, or AIR 21, we passed 4 extensions of FAA's contract authority. Moreover, the House acted on three separate occasions last year in an attempt to extend FAA's authorities, including passage of H.R. 2881, the 4-year FAA reauthorization legislation. The Senate has yet to act on any of these measures.

We must ensure that this extension passes without further delay to not only improve safety and combat delays and congestion but to also stimulate the economy.

H.R. 5270 creates $2.76 billion in AIP contract authority to fund the program until June 30, 2008. When annualized, this $2.76 billion equates to $3.675 billion for the full fiscal year 2008. H.R. 5270 will allow the FAA to make AIP grants, so that airports can take advantage of the full 2008 construction season. This, in turn, will put people to work and improve the safety and efficiency of our aviation system.

Aviation is too important to our nation's economy—contributing to $1.2 trillion in output and approximately 11.4 million U.S. jobs—to allow the taxes or funding for critical aviation programs to expire. Until H.R. 2881 is signed into law, we must ensure that FAA has the funds it needs to continue its vital programs.

H.R. 5270 provides a short, 4-month extension to ensure FAA's programs remain fully funded, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. CROWLEY. 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 New York (Mr. CROWLEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5270.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMEMORATING THE COURAGE OF THE HAITIAN SOLDIERS THAT FOUGHT FOR AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE IN THE ''SIEGE OF SAVANNAH''

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 909) commemorating the courage of the Haitian soldiers that fought for American independence in the ''Siege of Savannah'' and for Haiti's independence and renunciation of slavery, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 909

Whereas in the fall of 1779, Haitian soldiers of the Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint Domingue volunteered to join in the fight for American independence;

Whereas the unit was comprised of over 500 men of color from the island of Haiti;

Whereas on October 9, 1779, the soldiers of Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint Domingue served as the largest unit of soldiers of African descent to fight in the ''Siege of Savannah'';

Whereas records show that over 500 men sailed treacherous waters to join the effort against the British;

Whereas over 300 of them lost their lives attempting to drive the British from Savannah;

Whereas the Savannah Monument, a project of the Haitian American Historical Society represents the Haitian soldiers that fought in the ''Siege of Savannah'';

Whereas the Savannah Monument was erected in Savannah, Georgia on Monday, October 8, 2007, to recognize the Haitian involvement in the fight for American independence; and

Whereas the Savannah Monument includes a statue of a 12-year-old drummer boy, depicting Mr. Henri Christophe, who became a leader in Haiti's Revolution to gain independence and renounce slavery: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives commemorates the courage of the Haitian soldiers that fought for American independence in the ''Siege of Savannah'' and for Haiti's independence and renunciation of slavery.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I would like to thank the chief sponsor, my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK), for his introduction of this resolution, which commemorates the courage of the Haitian soldiers who fought alongside our Revolutionary soldiers for gaining independence from Great Britain.

House Resolution 909 also recognizes the establishment of the Haitian Memorial Monument, which celebrates the historical bond between the good people of Haiti and the United States, and demonstrates the significance of our Haitian American community.

Mr. Speaker, the Haitian Memorial Monument, designed by the Haitian-Canadian sculptor Gregroire Anocles, represents the war effort at the Siege of Savannah in the year 1779.

Haiti's involvement in the fight for America's independence some 226 years ago is a source of national pride for many Haitians, and it is long overdue that we attach the proper importance to this Haitian participation.

After returning home, Haitian veterans of the Revolutionary War led their own rebellion and revolution against French colonialism, and eventually received independence from France in the year 1804. Mr. Speaker, in becoming independent, Haiti became the first free country in the Western Hemisphere led entirely by people of African descent.

I strongly support this resolution, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this proposed bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of House Resolution 909, and I join my colleagues in recognizes the valuable contribution and significant sacrifice that Haitians made as they joined the fight for American independence over two centuries ago.

In the fall of 1779, over 500 courageous men volunteered to cross the treacherous waters from Haiti to the U.S., to join our soldiers in the Siege of Savannah. This was no easy feat; yet these men were committed to fighting for America's liberty and independence.

Representing the largest contingent of soldiers of African descent to fight in the American Revolution, these Haitian troops bravely joined in our efforts, forging the friendship between the U.S. and Haiti that has only strengthened in the centuries that followed.

Sadly, such courage had a high price. More than 300 Haitians lost their lives in this battle. Last year, a monument to this glorious sacrifice was erected in Savannah, Georgia. The collaborative efforts of local officials in Georgia and the Haitian American Historical Society of Miami guided this project to completion.

Today, the Savannah monument stands as a tribute to those individual foreign volunteers who joined in the American Revolution and commemorates the historic bond between the U.S. and Haiti.

H. Res. 909 further commemorates Haiti's own struggle for independence and renunciation of slavery. What began as a slave revolt in 1791 ended with Haiti's own independence in 1804. And Haiti was the first nation in the Western Hemisphere to form a government led by the people of African descent and, remarkably, it was also the first nation in the Western Hemisphere to renounce slavery.

For this reason, I am proud to stand with my congressional colleagues in calling for the passage of this important resolution. Yet we must also recognize that there is more to be done.

Despite Haiti's early and historic commitment to democracy, the country continues to languish under the oppression of extreme poverty, disease, and violence. As a significant partner in the region, the U.S. must remain not only cognizant of Haiti's progress but also engaged in its development. We cannot be fully successful as a hemisphere without Haiti fulfilling its potential as a strong and vibrant nation.

I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK) for introducing H. Res. 909 and am proud to join in the commemoration of such courageous individuals.

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I yield such time as he may consume to the chief sponsor of this proposed legislation, my good friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK).

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for the very kind words they have given about this great piece of legislation, this resolution.

I think it is very, very important, Mr. Speaker, that we come together as a country and celebrate the contributions of other countries and the roles that they played in assisting us not only with our independence but making it concrete.

Mr. Speaker, as we look at House Resolution 909, I want to give my sincere thanks to the Committee on Foreign Affairs for bringing this resolution to the floor, and especially shed light on Chairman LANTOS for his forward-leaning and making sure that this resolution made it through the process. And he will be forever missed here in this body. And hopefully his memory will continue on, not only on the committee, but here in Congress.

I think it is also important that we pause to not only thank staff but also thank Haitian Americans throughout this country that have fought very hard on behalf of this country, not only in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters, but have contributed in many other areas. And that is where this bill came about.

The Haitian American Historical Society in Miami, Florida, moved forth with a monument in Savannah of the great battle, and I had an opportunity to go there recently. And there are a number of Haitians and those that care about the well-being of Haiti that wanted to make sure that the contributions of these soldiers were recognized in a way that will be able to allow not only this generation but future generations to understand Haiti's contributions.

When you start talking about 500 freed Haitian slaves traveling to Savannah, Georgia, to be a part of a multinational force to fight on behalf of this country against the Brits at that particular time, and to be in the same city where you had people who look like me that were enslaved, and traveling to Savannah is a very moving experience for every American, because so many battles have taken place there and it is such a historical and beautiful city that you can't help but pause to think about the courage.

So for us to be on the floor, Mr. Speaker and Members, to not only talk but to pass, hopefully, this resolution will be the first time in the history of the Republic that we have actually said thank you to Haiti, that we have said thank you to the families of the 300 to 500 troops that actually traveled to Savannah to fight on our behalf. I don't believe it is too late, but I think that it is very appropriate for us to be on the floor and allow the Members to show their appreciation for their contributions.

As we celebrate not only the contributions of these soldiers but we also shed light with our Members and Americans about the contributions that Haitians have made, I think, as we look at this debate and we look at what we are doing for Haiti right now, we must bring Americans up to speed on the history. The fact that these freed slaves came to Savannah and fought, and the fact that Haiti was one of the first countries to denounce slavery and to fight for their own independence, to fight Napoleon that pushed him to carry out the Louisiana Purchase with the United States of America, these Haitian fighters traveled throughout the Western Hemisphere and played a very strong role in allowing the United States to be who we are.

So when we start talking about assistance for Haiti, it is not like it is a one-way street; it is a two-way street. And I am proud to represent a constituency where we have more Haitians than anywhere else in the United States of America, but Haitians throughout the diaspora, this will be a very proud day for them; and I believe it will be a very proud day for them when we vote in the affirmative.

When we look at the contributions of Mr. Henry Christopher who fought in the American Revolutionary War, to use his experience from the first free government in the Western Hemisphere, and when we look at what the Haitian Americans Historical Society has spent a number of years to be able to not only bring the Haitian American history to the Congress but to also bring to everyday Americans, I think it is very, very important, Mr. Speaker, that Members share with their constituency the contribution of these great men, and to be able to make sure that we share the history of all communities that have come to this country to make us strong.

Once again, I want to thank the committee, and I want to also thank the staff that has worked very hard on it. I know that we have other Members that want to speak in affirming the passage of this legislation. But I am personally moved because I represent a number of individuals that, when we look at immigration policy, when we look at aid to Haiti, when we look at our interventions when coups have taken place in Haiti, as recent as the 82nd Airborne, when we look at those in the State Department that serve within the Foreign Service and the conditions that they have to work under, when we also look at the Peace Corps and other organizations like it, religious institutions, a number of NGOs, that we call nongovernmental organizations, and what they do and where they live in the rural parts of Haiti, providing not only education and food; when we look at their contributions and we look at the conditions they have to work under now as Haiti struggles with natural disasters and struggles with hard economic times, this legislation will help enshrine not only the contributions of Haitians towards the United States, but also Americans returning not only the favor but the goodwill back to the great country of Haiti.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge the Members to vote in the affirmative on House Resolution 909.

□ 1545

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Florida's hard work and thoughtfulness in bringing this bill before the House, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and I join him as a fellow member of the Foreign Affairs Committee to applaud and congratulate the distinguished gentleman from Florida who has a long history of representing Haitians in Florida, and who has a long history of concern for the Haitian people both today and in the past.

As a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and one who has traveled to Haiti and visited individuals who were incarcerated because of their beliefs in democracy, this commemoration is important because it reemphasizes the long-standing friendship between the United States and the Haitian people.

I am saddened by the journey that Haitians have had to take over the last decade from Baby Doc and the oppressive leadership that they have had in past years, and their desire of necessity to flee because of persecution to the United States; and then, of course, the double standard between the wet feet/dry feet immigration policies where many of them have been treated in a discriminatory fashion.

This accolade is long overdue. I might acknowledge the fact that this was in the early years of our beginning. It was in the dawn of October 9, 1779, that this battle was fought on the western outskirts of Savannah, what was unquestionably the second bloodiest battle of the entire 8 years of the American War for Independence. Can we imagine that. These brave soldiers left their soil, many, many miles away from our land, about 750 Haitian freemen fought alongside colonial troops against the British in the Siege of Savannah on October 9, 1779. In a single hour, there fell within the area of a few hundred square yards more dead and wounded than are credited to any other battlefield in the struggle for American independence except for Bunker Hill. The valor of these brave men deserve to be commemorated, and I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation.

Of course, we know that American history is intertwined with many brave persons from places far and wide. But I think this statement today also cements the importance of Haiti today as we fight against the extensive poverty that exists now today, as we try to assist them in building their democratic government, as we try to reemphasize a friendship between the United States and Haiti, and in essence apologize for some of the interventions that could be considered coups that resulted from policies utilized in this country.

I would say this is a very important statement that again reinforces the relationship and again talks about the bravery of these Haitian soldiers.

At a time when we are engaged in a global war on terror, joined by our friends and allies, it is imperative that we recognize the service and dedication provided in the past by foreign countries like Haiti.

Mr. Speaker, I close my words by congratulating Mr. MEEK again for this outstanding legislation; but more importantly, thanking the Haitian people, even though it may be somewhat late.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 909, commemorating the courage of the Haitian soldiers that fought for American independence in the "Siege of Savannah" for Haiti's independence and renunciation of slavery, introduced by my distinguished colleague Congressman KENDRICK MEEK of Florida. This is to be commended because it helps to educate Americans about the significant contributions made by Haitian ancestors.

Mr. Speaker, in the early dawn of October 9, 1779, there was fought, on the then western outskirts of Savannah, what was unquestionably the second bloodiest battle of the entire 8 years of the American War for Independence. About 750 Haitian freemen fought alongside colonial troops against the British in the "Siege of Savannah" on October 9, 1779. In a single hour there fell within an area of a few hundred square yards more dead and wounded than are credited to any other battlefield in the struggle for American independence except for Bunker Hill. The valor of those brave men deserves to be commemorated, and I am proud to cosponsor this legislation honoring their bravery and sacrifice.

The year before, the city of Savannah, Georgia, had been captured by a British expeditionary corps under Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell. On October 9, 1779, there was an attempt to retake Savannah from the British. The siege itself consisted of a joint effort with America, France, and Haiti. This battle represents the Revolutionary War as an international conflict more than any other engagement of the Revolution. It was the first time the French fought alongside the colonial army. This battle reminds us that the contribution of foreign resources, men, money, and material helped lead to the eventual success of the American cause for independence. It is important to provide recognition for the efforts of Haiti and their role in helping to liberate America from British rule.

At a time in our country when we are engaged in a global war on terror, joined by our friends and allies, it is imperative that we recognize the service and dedication provided in the past by foreign countries like Haiti. Many of the foreign allied soldiers, including Haitians, who sacrificed during the process of America gaining freedom and independence, have not been recognized for their contributions to this Nation. Some were never told,

"thank you" for helping to better our society and contributing to our freedom. Too many were forgotten and unrecognized for their diligence, commitment and sacrifices.

As we continue to celebrate the month of February and Black History Month, let us be mindful of the Haitian soldiers and the numerous others of the African diaspora that renounced slavery and aided in the formation of our great Nation. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution honoring the courage of the Haitian soldiers who fought for American independence and renunciation of slavery .

Mr. BOOZMAN. Again, I appreciate the hard work of the gentleman from Florida in bringing this forward. I would urge my fellow Congressmen to vote ''yes'' on this very timely resolution, and having no further speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I thank my good friend from Arkansas for management of this legislation and commend the gentleman from Florida and the gentlewoman from Texas for their eloquent statements concerning this legislation.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 909 introduced by Representative KENDRICK MEEK of Florida commemorating the courage of the Haitian soldiers that fought for American independence in the Siege of Savannah and for Haiti's independence and renunciation of slavery.

H. Res. 909 recognizes the honorable act of the Haitian soldiers of the Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint Domingue who volunteered to join the fight for American independence in the fall of 1779. Already in the fifth year of the American Revolution, Americans were growing weary of gaining independence when the Haitians stepped in. Today, we give them our gratitude for their bravery in sending over 500 soldiers to aid us in our fight for independence. We also remember and honor their sacrifice of over 300 men lost during the Siege of Savannah in October 1779.

I hold Haiti's achievements of being the world's first black-led republic and the first Caribbean state to achieve independence in high esteem. However, Haiti continues to struggle against poverty and instability. This is why we need to commemorate the landmark of the brave actions of the 500 Haitians who fought alongside Americans for our freedom.

It is important that we honor the progress of states in the 21st century continuing the fight against racially driven injustice. I would like to mention that H.R. 3432, which I introduced in August 2007, was signed into law by the President last week on February 5, 2008. This bill called for the establishment of the commission on the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade.

As Haiti still struggles to find her own model of peace and liberty, we extend our support by commemorating the loyalty of Haitians to the U.S. Haitians played a vital role in America's path to independence and freedom.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in support of H. Res. 909 ''Commemorating the Courage of the Haitian Soldiers That Fought for American Independence in the Siege of Savannah and for Haiti's Independence and Renunciation of Slavery.''

This resolution highlights the heroism displayed by 900 Haitian soldiers in Savannah during the American Revolutionary War and is a source of great inspiration and pride for all Haitians. I am not surprised by the indomitable spirit of these Haitian soldiers who so courageously defended America's fight for independence.

On October 9, 1779, the soldiers of Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint Domingue, Haiti, served as the largest unit of soldiers of African descent to fight in the Siege of Savannah alongside American and French forces. The monument in Savannah serves as a tribute to the hundreds of Haitian volunteers who took great risk and traveled by sea to fight for American freedom during the Revolutionary War. Today, I heartily applaud the Haitian soldiers who lost their lives fighting for our country.

MR. FALEOMAVAEGA. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 909, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. 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 THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPION NEW YORK GIANTS FOR WINNING SUPER BOWL XLII

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 960) congratulating the National Football League champion New York Giants for winning Super Bowl XLII and completing one of the most remarkable postseason runs in professional sports history.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 960

Whereas on February 3, 2008, in Glendale, Arizona, the New York Giants achieved the improbable and upset the previously undefeated New England Patriots by a score of 17 to 14 in Super Bowl XLII to win the National Football League (NFL) Championship;

Whereas during the 2007–2008 post season, the Giants were the epitome of determination, fortitude, and resiliency as they made their way through the playoffs and ultimately triumphed over the previously undefeated New England Patriots, who were favored by 12 points to win the championship game;

Whereas quarterback Elisha Nelson ''Eli'' Manning, who had 19 completions for 255 yards and 2 touchdowns, was selected as the Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl XLII;

Whereas the New York Giants' win over the New England Patriots was the most-watched Super Bowl ever, with 97,500,000 viewers, making it the second most viewed American broadcast in television history;

Whereas the Giants achieved one of the most remarkable feats in sports history by winning an NFL record-breaking 11 straight road games, granting them the title of ''Road Warriors'', and in the process became only the second team in NFL history to win 3 playoff games and the Super Bowl away from their home field;

Whereas in each round of the playoffs, when none of the experts thought they had a chance to win, the Giants and their loyal, dedicated, and passionate fans believed they could accomplish what others declared impossible;

Whereas Tom Coughlin, in his fourth season as head coach of the Giants, has gone to the playoffs for 3 straight seasons, and this season lead his team, with the help of Defensive Coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, Offensive Coordinator Kevin Gilbride, and the entire Giants coaching staff, to Super Bowl XLII and brought the Vince Lombardi Trophy back to the Meadowlands;

Whereas the New York Giants organization is one of the most successful in NFL history, boasting 15 Hall of Fame players, appearing in 26 postseasons, winning more than 600 games, 16 NFL divisional championships, and 7 NFL championships, including remarkable title runs in 1987, 1991, and 2008 (Super Bowls XXI, XXV, and XLII) that captivated New York and New Jersey;

Whereas Giants owner and Chief Executive Officer John Mara and Executive Vice President Steve Tisch have done a remarkable job leading this storied franchise with the assistance and dedication of their talented staff;

Whereas the New York Giants have played all their home games in the Meadowlands Sports Complex, located in East Rutherford, New Jersey, since 1976 and have supported Bergen County and the northern New Jersey and New York areas with community outreach projects; and

Whereas the entire Giants franchise has become a model of professionalism, teamwork, and community service in representing the entire New York and New Jersey metropolitan area: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates the National Football League champion New York Giants for winning Super Bowl XLII and completing one of the most impressive seasons in professional sports history.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues today in the consideration of H. Res. 960, which provides for the recognition of the National Football League champion New York Giants for winning Super Bowl XLII and for completing one of the most remarkable postseason runs in professional sports history.

On Super Bowl Sunday, I was in Columbus, Georgia. And when I realized that my flight was scheduled at the very same time as the Super Bowl, I

cancelled my return and had the privilege of watching this extraordinary game at the home of my good friend, Congressman SANFORD BISHOP.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 960 was introduced by Representative STEVE ROTHMAN of New Jersey, and it has the support and cosponsorship of 60 Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting that we consider this resolution today as it highlights and expresses our commemoration of one of sporting history's most exciting wins which occurred on February 3, 2008, when the New York Giants battled back from behind to beat the undefeated New England Patriots by a score of 17–14 to capture the NFL's coveted Lombardi Trophy.

Super Bowl XLII and the perseverance of the New York Giants to become only the second team in football history to go from NFC wild card contender to NFL champion will undoubtedly go down in the record books.

For this accomplishment, we stand to commend the New York Giants franchise, players, coaches, and all of the supportive fans from across the world on a job well done. I urge the passage of this measure.

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

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, this is great fun.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 960 congratulating the New York Giants for their 17–14 victory over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLII.

It was a second straight Super Bowl victory for the first family of football, the Mannings. Peyton Manning led the Indianapolis Colts to the title last year, and his younger brother, Eli, threw two touchdown passes to lead the Giants to victory this year and claim the Most Valuable Player award, like his brother.

Their father, Archie, of course, was a great pro quarterback himself, spending most of his career with the New Orleans Saints.

John Wooden, the greater former UCLA basketball coach, said sports don't build character, they reveal it. So what does this victory say about the New York Giants? It says they are a resilient bunch, entering the playoffs as the number five seed in a six-team NFC field, then defeating a Dallas team who had beaten them twice in the regular season and a Green Bay team in arctic conditions to reach the big game.

There, they stymied an offense that had scored more points, gained more yards, and won more games in a season than any team in NFL history. They did it by keeping that offense off the field. New York owned the ball for nearly 20 of the first 30 minutes. They did it with new heroes such as David Tyree, who scored the go-ahead touchdown. He had never caught a touchdown pass in the NFL before. And they did it with seasoned vets such as Michael Strahan who led a defense that held the Pats to a season low of 274 yards.

So what was revealed of the character of these Giants? That they ignored the conventional wisdom which didn't give them a chance, that they found in each other the strength to do what they couldn't have done any other way, take down the ''next big thing'' in the biggest game of the year. Thanks, Giants, for showing us what is possible when we don't take ''no'' for an answer.

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROTHMAN), the sponsor of this great legislation and a good friend of all of us.

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 960, legislation to congratulate the New York Giants for winning Super Bowl XLII and completing one of the greatest upsets in professional sports history.

I introduced this resolution because I am so proud of this team that plays at Giants Stadium in the New Jersey Meadowlands in East Rutherford, New Jersey. My constituents and I are so honored that we have a Super Bowl champion back in our region.

On Sunday, February 3, in Glendale, Arizona, the New York football Giants achieved the highly improbable by beating the previously undefeated New England Patriots. The score was 17–14, and they went on to win Super Bowl XLII.

The game was the most watched Super Bowl ever with nearly 100 million viewers tuning in to make it the second-most viewed American television broadcast in history.

I offer this resolution to honor the entire Giants organization on their incredible season and on their win. Specifically, I would like to congratulate Giants owner and chief executive officer John Mara; executive vice president Steve Tisch; head coach Tom Coughlin; defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo; offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride, and all of the Giants players and support staff on a job very well done.

The entire Giants franchise has been a model of professionalism, teamwork, and community service in representing the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area.

Their Super Bowl triumph shows that no matter what the odds, a group of determined underdogs can take on a dynasty and emerge victorious. This time, the team that slew Goliath were Giants themselves.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting House Resolution 960 and in congratulating the New York football Giants for their outstanding season and remarkable win in Super Bowl XLII.

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

□ 1600

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, at this time I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the football Giants on their improbable and inspirational Super Bowl victory. House Resolution 960, I'm sure, will get tremendous support here.

On any list of the most memorable moments in sports history, the word ''underdog'' often makes an appearance. We always seem to remember the team that overcame adversity, and we always remember the team that overcame doubt to steal victory from the grasp of a supposedly superior opponent in the last second, against all odds, and against all predictions.

In some ways, we can all see ourselves as underdogs. Sometimes, no matter what you do, how hard you try, it can feel like the whole world is rooting for the other team and the other guy. There are lessons here of perseverance. Whether you are a candidate, whether you are a Congressman, whether you are a truck driver is immaterial.

Maybe this is why the Giants' upset over the heavily favored New England Patriots resonates so strongly with the American people and is sure to be remembered as one of the greatest victories in the history of the National Football League.

At the start of the playoffs, no one believed the Giants would defeat the Dallas Cowboys, their flashy division rivals who had beaten them twice during the regular season, but they did.

No one believed that the Giants would defeat the great Green Bay Packers; but on the frozen tundra of Lambeau Field, and against a living legend, they prevailed.

And no one believed the Giants could compete with New England. The Patriots were the team of destiny. Man, we've heard that on this floor about a lot of things. They had the perfect team, the perfect season to complete.

Only God is perfect, Mr. Speaker. Only God.

No one but the Big Blue faithful believed the Giants had a chance to win that night.

But history is known to repeat itself, and the history of sports is full of great upsets, victorious underdogs, from the miracle on the ice, to Buster Douglas, to Joe Namath. And now, in the same breath, we can say the 2007 football Giants.

Who will ever be able to forget the almost supernatural catch made by Wayne, New Jersey, resident David Tyree? Born in Montclair, went to schools there. Indeed, it was this graduate from New Jersey's Montclair High who caught a not-to-be-believed 32-yard pass from Eli Manning that kept the winning drive alive with only 59 seconds left.

As the final seconds ticked off the game clock, the emotions and excitement were immeasurable. But it was a bittersweet moment for me. I wished my friend and fellow Fordham alumnus, Wellington Mara, the Giants late owner, was alive to witness it.

I congratulate the owners, the coaches and players of the Giants on an incredible season and a historic championship. I wish them the best of luck defending their title next year.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any speakers at this time, except I would have liked to have asked unanimous consent that former Congressman ROGER WICKER, who was a House Member who was sitting here, could speak; but given now he's a Senator, I don't think you would have found that in order. But what he said to me was how proud he is that Archie Manning, who was his classmate at Ole Miss, had these two remarkable sons in Eli and Peyton, and he thinks it reflects well, I think, on Ole Miss, and certainly on his dad.

But I'd also like to express something else. For those of us who are not the sports fans that others may be, it was a tremendously proud moment for us to see the New York Giants put their best team forward in the last game of the season against the New England Patriots when the outcome of the game didn't matter to New York, but it mattered to people like me and others who feel that the obligation of pro sports is to always play their best and always put their best team forward. And I think that remarkable game which they almost won led ultimately to the remarkable games that followed and to their ultimate victory.

This is a kick. This was a game that I'll remember the rest of my life because it had so much to do about character.

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any additional speakers at this time. It's just obvious that we have some Members on this floor today who are very proud of the New York Giants.

Thank you very much for the time. I yield back the balance of my time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 960.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. 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.

DR. CLIFFORD BELL JONES, SR. POST OFFICE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3468) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1704 Weeksville Road in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the ''Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3468

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

SECTION 1. DR. CLIFFORD BELL JONES, SR. POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1704 Weeksville Road in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, shall be known and designated as the ''Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. 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 ''Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to join my colleagues today in the consideration of H.R. 3468, which seeks to name a postal facility on the campus of Elizabeth City State University in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, after a great American, Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Mr. Speaker, this bill has the support of the entire North Carolina delegation.

Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr., was born in Washington County, North Carolina, a very rural part of my congressional district. He and his family relocated to Virginia, and Dr. Jones spent his formative years in Hampton. Later he attended Lutheran College in Greensboro, North Carolina. In 1923, Dr. Jones received a Bachelor of Science degree from the great Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina; and Dr. Jones earned a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1927 from the historic Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. Shortly after being awarded his dental degree, Dr. Jones began his professional life in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, where he practiced general dentistry for 66 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am particularly proud to sponsor this legislation because my father and Dr. Jones were very close friends. They were classmates at Shaw. They were classmates at Meharry, and they fought together in World War I and spent their lifetimes in service to their community.

Dr. Jones participated in many local and community activities in Elizabeth City. He was one of the first African Americans to run for the city council in Elizabeth City in 1957 and was defeated by only 28 votes. Later, in the 1960s, Dr. Jones was appointed to serve on the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County School Board. He served as a deacon at the Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, and as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of the Albemarle. He was a proud trustee emeritus of Elizabeth City State University.

As I said a moment ago, a veteran of World War I, he was a member of American Legion Post 223.

Dr. Jones was a member, as was my father, of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, and was a 32-degree Mason.

Dr. Jones was a member of numerous professional organizations that included the Eastern North Carolina Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Society, and the North Carolina Dental Society, among others.

Dr. Jones was the recipient of several awards and honors throughout his professional career. He received the Meharry Medical College President's Award for Service to Mankind. I accompanied Dr. Jones and my father back to Meharry for their 50th reunion in 1977. It was a great occasion.

Twice Dr. Jones was awarded the Delta Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Certificate of Honor, and I'm sure the Speaker would take great pride in that, as the Speaker of the House today, the acting Speaker, is an Omega, for exceptional service to the citizens of northeastern North Carolina in the field of dentistry.

He was awarded a certificate of appreciation from the City Council of Elizabeth City for his invaluable services on the city's human relations committee.

Dr. Jones dedicated the better part of his 99 years serving mankind in his profession and through his community and involvement.

Sadly, Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr., passed away several years ago and leaves a rich history.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Dr. Jones for his outstanding service to my home State of North Carolina and to our country.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''aye'' on H.R. 3468.

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

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the passing of this bill designating the post office in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office.

Dr. Jones led an honorable life serving his country, profession, and community with dignity for well over half a century.

A veteran of World War I, Dr. Jones returned home to earn his bachelor of science from Shaw University and ultimately his doctorate of dental surgery from Meharry Medical College Dental School in 1927. He began his professional career in Elizabeth City, North

Carolina, and found himself at home. He practiced general dentistry there for 66 years.

Outside of the office, he remained extremely active in his community. With the encouragement of other council members, including the father of Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Dr. Jones ran for city council in 1957. He was defeated by just 28 votes. Though he did not win the seat, he was one of the first African Americans to run for city council.

In the 1960s, Dr. Jones served on the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County School Board and as deacon at his church.

Throughout his life, Dr. Jones' contributions were recognized by those whom he touched. Among his many honors he received the Meharry Medical College President's Award for Service to Mankind and a special recognition award for loyalty and service to the dental profession from the Old North State Dental Society.

Though not a native, Elizabeth City lost one of their own when Dr. Jones passed away in 1995 at the age of 99.

I'm happy to rise today in support of this legislation honoring a dedicated professional, a wonderful human being, and a symbol of this community.

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind words.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3468.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRIVATE JOHNATHON MILLICAN LULA POST OFFICE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3532) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5815 McLeod Street in Lula, Georgia, as the ''Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3532

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

SECTION 1. PRIVATE JOHNATHON MILLICAN LULA POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5815 McLeod Street in Lula, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the ''Private Johnathon Millican Lula 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 ''Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1615

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to join my colleagues today in the consideration of H.R. 3532 which seeks to name a postal facility in Lula, Georgia, after Private Johnathon Millican, a distinguished and heroic American serviceman.

H.R. 3532, which was introduced by Representative DEAL of Georgia, was introduced on September 14, 2007, and was considered and reported by the Oversight Committee on January 29, 2008, by a voice vote.

This measure has the support of the entire congressional delegation from the State of Georgia and provides us with yet another opportunity to pay tribute to a member of our country's armed service.

Johnathon Millican served his country proudly as a member of an airborne artillery brigade based out of Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, where I was a few weeks ago, and it is very cold out there, Mr. Speaker.

Private Millican gave his life in his service to our country when, on January 20, 2007, his unit was attacked by enemy insurgents in Karbala, Iraq. While Private Millican was only 20 years old when he lost his life in the line of duty, his service and faithful commitment to preserving the liberties and freedoms on which our Nation is built are sure to live on forever.

Mr. Speaker, let's remember and pay tribute to the ultimate sacrifice made by Private Millican. I urge the swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, a mere 20 years old, Private First Class Johnathon Millican of Trafford, Alabama, displayed wisdom beyond his years when he once said, ''You don't have to love the war, but you have to love the warrior.''

It is an honor for me to speak today about Private Millican, a true American hero who epitomizes bravery and loyalty to his country and fellow comrades.

Soon after graduating high school in 2005, Johnathon Millican enlisted into the Army and was assigned to the 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment from Fort Richardson, Alaska. In Karbala, Iraq, on January 20, 2007, Private Millican was off duty in a communications room talking with his wife, Shannon, when an attack started. The attackers fired several rounds and a grenade into the room, and tragically, he and four fellow officers lost their lives. Private Millican had been in Iraq for just 3 months.

Family and friends will forever remember Johnathon Millican's dedication to the cause of freedom and his commitment to bringing that cherished freedom to the people around the world where he served. It is with gratitude for his bravery and sacrifice and for the sacrifice of those who loved him that I ask all Members to join me in naming the Lula, Georgia, postal facility located on McLeod Street in his honor.

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any additional speakers. I will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, at this time it is my privilege to recognize the very distinguished Member from Georgia (Mr. DEAL) for as much time as he would consume.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Army Private First Class Johnathon Miles Millican, dedicating the United States Post Office located in Lula, Georgia, as the ''Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office.''

Twenty-year-old Private First Class Johnathon Millican, a Hall County, Georgia, native, was killed by insurgents in Iraq while conducting a dismounted operation in Karbala on January 20, 2007. Private First Class Millican was off duty in a communications room talking with his wife when the attackers fired several rounds into the room with an AK–47 and one of them tossed in a concussion grenade. Courageously, he covered the grenade with his body, attempting to protect his comrades from the enemy intrusion. Private First Class Johnathon Millican was later awarded the Silver Star Medal of Honor for his courage, valor, and dedication for his fellow soldiers.

Johnathon Millican had attended Lula Elementary, East Hall Middle School, and East Hall High school in my home County of Hall. While in high school, Johnathon was active in the community, working the concessions stand at the community ballpark and coaching a 5-year-old T-Ball team. After graduating from high school in 2005, he moved to Locust Grove, Alabama, before enlisting in the Army. Johnathon was a member of the 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment from Fort Richardson, Alaska. Johnathon Millican left behind his wife, Shannon; his parents, Mitchell and Angie Millican; and Mary and Ronald Lykins and sisters, Amber'le, Ashley, and Amanda.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to rise today to pay tribute to this courageous young man and to join my constituents

of Lula, Georgia, in naming the ''Private Johnathon Millican Post Office.'' This honor will serve as a lasting reminder of the true recognition that is deserving of a fallen hometown hero who sacrificed his life to save the lives of his fellow soldiers.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD a copy of the letter from Mr. Milton Turner, the Mayor of the City of Lula, requesting that this post office be named the ''Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office.''

CITY OF LULA,
Lula, GA, August 20, 2007.

Subject: Consideration of Honorarium for PFC Johnathon Millican.

Congressman NATHAN DEAL,
Wachovia Center, Jesse Jewell Parkway, Gainesville, GA.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN DEAL: This letter represents the request of the City of Lula to recognize and honor the sacrifice and contributions made by a local young man, a fallen hero, Private First Class Johnathon Millican with the recognition and honor of his service and dedication to his country the naming of the Lula Post Office located on McLoud Street. Our 20-year-old young hero (a Hall County Native), was killed by insurgents in Iraq on Jan. 20, he had covered an enemy concussion grenade with his body attempting to protect his comrades from the enemy intrusion and was one of five U.S. soldiers killed during the attack in Karbala.

Johnathon had attended Lula Elementary and East Hall Middle School and High School only recently moving to Locust Grove Alabama before enlisting in the Army. Millican was a member of the 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment from Fort Richardson, Alaska.

PFC Millican was off duty in a communications room exchanging e-mails with his wife when the Jan. 20 attack started. The attackers fired several rounds into the room with an AK47 and one of them tossed in a grenade. In an earlier interview, Mitchell Millican told The Birmingham News his son was on one knee facing the door ''ready to shoot'' at that point and ''He could just as easily have jumped behind a desk or ducked down or whatever, but he chose to cover the grenade'' Mitchell Millican said ''and, to me, that shows character''.

We know of your commitment to our service men and woman and know how moved you were at his loss; this honor would help to establish the true recognition deserving of a fallen hero. Also we would encourage your efforts to move forward the campaign to have the pentagon award PFC J. Millican with the ''Medal of Honor'' a process which we realize could take months or even years.

Further we hope to have the opportunity in the near future to honor Jonathon's heroics here in Hall County and depending on your guidance will await some possible timetable for suggested dedication. Please advise the city of your schedule allowing your attendance and participation.

Best regards,

MAYOR MILTON TURNER.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to express my full support for H.R. 3532, naming the Federal post office in Lula, Georgia, in honor of PFC Johnathon Millican. It is a fitting tribute to a brave solider.

This recognition from the community where Johnathon spent his boyhood comes in addition to the inspiring ceremony held last July 28 at Locust Fork High School in Alabama, where Johnathon received his diploma. It was my great privilege to participate in the ceremony, in which Johnathon's wife and father were presented with his posthumous Silver Star award.

Johnathon's actions during the raid on Karbala on January 20, 2007 are the embodiment of the scriptural passage that says there is no greater love for a man than to lay down his life for his friends. His valor saved the lives of his fellow soldiers, and he died defending freedom.

At this time, allow me to introduce the remarks I made during the ceremony into the RECORD.

The actions of Johnathon Millican embody the same scriptural passage that we've heard at funerals of many of our veterans. It is: Greater love has no man than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

Johnathon's life was short, but his legacy will stand.

His father shared with me a conversation he had with Johnathon just before he graduated here. Many of Johnathon's classmates were planning for college. Others had lined up a job. Still others were talking about how they were going to spend their summers, the things they were going to do.

Johnathon had already made another decision. He was going to enlist in the Army. The call to duty to serve his country was strong in the aftermath of 9/11.

Johnathon knew there would be personal sacrifices involved. He knew the fight would not be easy. In fact, his father reminded him that it could be dangerous. Johnathon accepted that. But Johnathon believed in the mission. From Iraq, he posted an observation on the Internet which I wish everyone in this country would observe.

The quote is, ''You don't have to love the war but you have to love the warrior.''

One definition of warrior is ''someone notable strength of spirit.''

Johnathon resoundingly demonstrated those qualities this past January 20th, when insurgents broke into the government compound in Karbala.

I think it is Johnathon's valor and our concern for all our young men and women in the field that brings us together. The Silver Star Award has given each and every one of us an opportunity to thank Johnathon and his family in a tangible way for his service and his courage. I very much appreciate each and every one of you who have come out this morning to show your love, your compassion, and your gratitude to Johnathon and his family.

It's a struggle to find the right words at a time like this. I think it's best to go to the soldiers in the field. Let me read from the email sent to me this week from Iraq by Captain Tom Morris, who was Johnathon's commanding officer.

''As a commander of troops in combat, losing your soldiers is harder than losing family members. Speaking at Johnathon's memorial service was the hardest thing I ever had to do.

''It brings me great pleasure to know that he is being awarded the Silver Star and that there will be a memorial at his high school in his honor. I believe the most important thing to do is to tell his story to those who do not know it, especially those who attend his school.

''I will always remember him, especially his deep southern accent and that he was a country boy who was the toughest there was and that nothing really bothered him. I can only hope that I can be as strong, both mentally and physically, as he was.

''He will be missed, but never forgotten. He was my soldier, friend, and fellow paratrooper.''

''Hero'' is an overused word these days. It's used to describe a TV actor or football player. There is a difference between fame and worthy accomplishment.

The reason we need to tell Johnathon's story is so people, especially our young men and women and boys and girls, do understand the difference between celebrity and heroism. The students who go past the memorial here at Locust Fork High School will know that a real hero walked their halls.

To conclude, a passage from Corinthians (16:13) is appropriate for Johnathon and all of the soldiers who protect us. It reads:

''Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be men of courage, be strong.''

These words apply perfectly to Johnathon, and why he is deserving of the Silver Star being presented to his family today.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any additional speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3532.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JAMAL RASHARD ADDISON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4203) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, as the ''Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building,'' as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4203

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

SECTION 1. SPECIALIST JAMAAL RASHARD ADDISON POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the ''Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building''.

(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 ''Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 4203, as amended, which names a postal facility in Lithonia, Georgia, after Army Specialist Jamaal Addison, the first soldier from Georgia to lose his life while serving in Iraq.

H.R. 4203, which has the support of the entire congressional delegation from the State of Georgia, was introduced by my friend, Representative Henry ''Hank'' Johnson, Jr., of the State of Georgia on November 15, 2007, and was considered by and reported from the Oversight Committee by voice vote on January 29, 2008.

Mr. Speaker, the measure before us pays tribute to the life and service of Army Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison by renaming the post office in his hometown of Lithonia, Georgia, after him.

A brave member of the 507th Ordnance Maintenance Company in Fort Bliss, Texas, Army Specialist Jamaal Addison died, unfortunately, on March 23, 2003, as a result of an enemy ambush near Nasiriyah, Iraq. Army Specialist Jamaal Addison was born on October 7, 1980, in the very town of Lithonia and spent his entire childhood there until enlisting in the United States Army in March of 2000.

As we pay tribute to this heroic American citizen, let's also take a moment and recollect on the thousands of men and women in uniform currently serving abroad in order to protect us here at home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we all proudly commemorate both the life and unfortunate death of Army Specialist Jamaal Addison by passing H.R. 4203. I want to commend the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) for bringing forth this legislation and getting the entire delegation to support it.

At this time, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill designating the United States postal facility located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia as the ''Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building.'' A native of Georgia, Army Specialist Jamaal Addison was a ''quiet, yet driven young man with a very gentle spirit.'' An honor roll student and member of the Junior ROTC, Jamaal graduated from Lakeside High School in Tucker, Georgia, in 1998.

His love of video games fostered a passion for computers. Driven by his desire to start his own computer business, Jamaal saw the military as an opportunity to develop his expertise as a computer technician. Enrolling in the Army in 2000, Specialist Addison spent a year in Korea before he was sent to the Middle East as part of the 507th Maintenance Company in the first days of the Iraqi War.

On March 23, 2003, the 507th convoy was ambushed and, tragically, Jamaal Addison lost his life. A dedicated husband, father, brother, and son, Specialist Addison was the first Georgian to pay the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq. His determination and caring spirit lives on through the Jamaal Addison Motivational Foundation, an organization founded by his mother, Patricia Roberts, to provide young members of the community with the opportunity to experience ''wide options available to them to lead successful lives'' and to ''strive to achieve his or her highest potential.''

I urge the passage of this bill in honor of an ambitious, caring, and dedicated American who sacrificed his life while serving his country, a true American patriot.

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON), the author and sponsor of this legislation, a friend who serves on the Armed Services Committee and the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4203, my bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, as the ''Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building.''

The war in Iraq continues, and no matter what our differing opinions are on it, it is imperative that we honor those who have fallen serving our country. Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison was one of the first to meet an untimely end, and it is my privilege to stand here today to honor him.

Jamaal was born on October 7, 1980, to Patricia M. Roberts and Kevin B. Addison. He was the first Georgia soldier to lose his life in the Iraq war. He is survived by his parents and his 6-year-old son, Jamaal RaShard Addison, the 2nd. Jamaal was a lifelong resident of the Fourth District of Georgia, which is where I represent, and he was raised in the City of Lithonia for most of his life from 1981 to 1998.

He attended Henderson Mill Elementary School, Henderson Middle School, and Lakeside High School. Motivated by the opportunity to train as a computer technician and to help provide for his family, Jamaal joined the ROTC at Lakeside High School in Decatur, Georgia, in 2000.

After enlisting in the United States Army, Jamaal completed his basic training at Fort Benning and also at Fort Gordon in Georgia before serving a year in Korea. As a member of the 507th Maintenance Company, Jamaal was part of the initial invasion of Iraq. He was killed just days after he arrived there on March 23, 2003, when his convoy took a wrong turn and was ambushed near Nasiriyah. He was just 23 years old.

□ 1630

Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison was the first Georgia soldier to pay the ultimate price in the Iraq war. Out of this tragedy, however, has come some good in the form of the Jamaal Addison Motivational Foundation, Inc., founded by Jamaal's mother, Patricia Roberts.

The foundation works with young people to offer opportunities for positive growth and to expose youth to the wide options available to them to lead successful lives. It offers youth an 8-week program designed to motivate, teach, and inspire them to develop into citizens of stature to give back to the community.

I've had the pleasure of working with Mrs. Roberts and have seen firsthand the tremendous impact that this foundation has had upon our community. Jamaal's father, Kevin Addison, is a career postal worker; and so renaming this post office is a particularly fitting tribute to a fine young man who was an excellent father as well.

Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison paid the ultimate price by giving his life in service to his country. He was the first of too many Georgians to perish in Iraq. This year marks the fifth anniversary of his untimely passing, and I am very pleased to be able to offer this bill in his memory.

America's fallen soldiers are heroes who deserve our enduring support. I ask my colleagues and all Americans to recognize those who have fallen and those who are currently serving by supporting this legislation.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. 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 North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4203, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, as the 'Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building'.''

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SERGEANT JAMIE O. MAUGANS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5135) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Greenway Street in Derby, Kansas, as the ''Sergeant Jamie O. Maugans Post Office Building.''

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5135

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

SECTION 1. SERGEANT JAMIE O. MAUGANS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201

West Greenway Street in Derby, Kansas, shall be known and designated as the ''Sergeant Jamie O. Maugans Post Office Building''.

(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 ''Sergeant Jamie O. Maugans Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in consideration of H.R. 5135, which seeks to designate a postal facility in Derby, Kansas, in honor of Sergeant Jamie O. Maugans, the first soldier from Kansas to lose his life in Operation Enduring Freedom. That's the war in Afghanistan.

H.R. 5135 enjoys the support of the entire congressional delegation from the State of Kansas and was introduced by my colleague, Representative TODD TIAHRT, on January 23, 2008. The measure was taken up by the Oversight Committee on January 29, 2008, and was passed by voice vote.

H.R. 5135 calls for honoring Sergeant Maugans' service to our country by designating the post office in his home town of Derby, Kansas, as the Sergeant Maugans Post Office Building.

A graduate of Derby High School and a former student of the University of Kansas and Cowley County Community College, Sergeant Maugans served diligently as a member of the armed services since 1997.

Sergeant Maugans was an ordnance disposal specialist and stationed in San Diego, California, before being deployed to Afghanistan in the fall of 2001. On April 15, 2002, while deposing of ordnances near Kandahar, Afghanistan, Sergeant Maugans was killed along with three other soldiers in his unit when rockets which he was attempting to dismantle exploded.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the swift passage of H.R. 5135. And I apologize for not pronouncing the sponsor of the legislation's name correctly. I suspect I did not.

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

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, in deference to the gentleman who introduced this bill, TODD TIAHRT, who is a member of the Appropriations Committee and is also on its Defense subcommittee and also a member of the Intelligence Committee, I'm going to insert my statement into the RECORD and then yield him as much time as he might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill, designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Germany Street in Derby, Kansas, as the "Sergeant Jamie O. Maugans Post Office Building."

A native of Derby, SGT Jamie Maugans was the first casualty of the global war on terror from the 4th Congressional District in Kansas.

A graduate of Derby High School, Sergeant Maugans attended the University of Kansas and Cowley Community College before joining the Army. Stationed in San Diego serving as an ordnance disposal specialist, he deployed to Afghanistan shortly after the attacks of 9/11 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

On April 15, 2002, while disposing of ordnance near Kandahar, Afghanistan, Sergeant Maugans, along with three others, lost his life in an accidental ordnance explosion.

Described by his friends as one of the "kindest, most gentle-hearted people on the planet," Jamie Maugans died preserving the lives of his fellow soldiers and the freedom of this Nation. I urge that we accept this bill to honor that spirit of sacrifice embodied by Sergeant Maugans.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank the gentleman from North Carolina for carrying this bill and also the gentleman from Connecticut for yielding to me and for the great job he's doing here in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I am also honored to have to carry this bill. And, today, Congress has the honor to approve the bill, naming the post office in Derby, Kansas, after a true American hero, SGT Jamie O'Dell Maugans.

Sergeant Maugans was the first casualty of the global war on terror from the 4th District of Kansas, a district that has experienced 12 casualties in this war. A Derby native, Sergeant Maugans graduated from Derby High School and attended Cowley County Community College and the University of Kansas before joining the Army.

When the terrorists attacked our Nation on September 11, 2001, Jamie was serving as an ordnance disposal specialist stationed in San Diego, California. Shortly after those attacks, he was deployed in Afghanistan in connection with Operation Enduring Freedom. On April 15, 2002, while disposing of ordnance near Kandahar, Afghanistan, Sergeant Maugans was killed.

The explosion also took the lives of three other soldiers, including fellow Kansan, SSG Justin Galewski from Olathe. Jamie was only 27 years old.

Sergeant Maugans left behind a loving family and friends in Kansas. I know his mother, Kathy Wurdeman, and his father, Bryce Maugans, his step-mother, Mary Maugans, and his brother and four sisters are very proud of Jamie and his service to this country. I am honored to have worked with the Maugans family and the Derby community on this effort.

Although this bill names the Derby Post Office building after Sergeant Maugans, this endeavor is not only a way to honor Jamie, but a way to honor all those from Kansas who have died in defense of this Nation from radical Muslims.

As the first casualty from my district, Jamie's life and memory are a representation of all those who have lost their lives in the global war on terror. I hope this effort will be a reminder to everyone in south central Kansas of the sacrifice that so many veterans have made for our country and our freedoms.

Let me take just a few moments to read the names of all those from the 4th District of Kansas who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan so that their sacrifice is honored:

SGT Jerry W. Mills, Jr., from Arkansas City, Kansas, died on November 29, 2005.

SGT Evan S. Parker, also from Arkansas City, died on October 26, 2005.

SGT Alexander J. Funcheon from Bel Aire died on April 29, 2007.

PFC Class Ryan R. Cox from Derby died on June 15, 2001.

SPC Joseph F. Herndon II, also from Derby, died on July 29, 2004.

SPC Dustin K. McGaugh from Derby died on September 30, 2001.

SGT Willsun Mock from Harper died on October 22, 2006.

SPC Eric C. Palmer from Maize died on June 24, 2007.

SSG David R. Berry from Wichita died on February 22, 2007.

PFC Chad E. Marsh from Wichita died on February 17, 2007.

And 1SG Timmy J. Millsap from Wichita died on April 25, 2005.

In addition, at this time I will submit a statement for the RECORD and include all the names of Kansans who have died in the global war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, below are the names of the fallen heroes from Kansas who have died in the global war on terror. These brave men paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to a grateful Nation. Although we are naming the post office after one of their comrades, I hope this effort honors all those who have died in defense of America.

Staff Sergeant Clinton Lee Wisdom from Atchison died on November 8, 2004.

2nd Lieutenant James Michael Goins from Bonner Springs died on August 15, 2004.

Lance Corporal Brian A. Escalante from Dodge City died on February 17, 2007.

Private 1st Class Shane R. Austin from Edgerton died on October 8, 2006.

Staff Sergeant Dustin W. Peters from El Dorado died on June 11, 2004.

Corporal Juan C. Cabralbanuelos from Emporia died on January 31, 2004.

Sergeant Christopher R. Kruse from Emporia died on November 13, 2007.

Specialist David J. Lane from Emporia died on September 4, 2007.

Sergeant 1st Class Travis S. Bachman from Garden City died on August 1, 2007.

Specialist Clinton R. Upchurch from Garden City died on January 7, 2007.

Corporal Richard A. Bennett from Girard died on May 27, 2006.

Sergeant William W. Crow Jr. from Grandview Plaza died on June 28, 2007.

Sergeant Jessie Davila from Greensburg died on February 20, 2006.

Specialist John Edward Wood from Humboldt died on October 7, 2006.

Sergeant Christopher S. Perez from Hutchinson died on May 23, 2005.

Sergeant Courtney D. Finch from Leavenworth died on July 24, 2007.

Corporal David M. Unger from Leavenworth died on October 17, 2006.

Lance Corporal Jose S. Marin-Dominguez Jr. from Liberal died on May 14, 2006.

Staff Sergeant Henry W. Linck from Manhattan died on December 7, 2006.

Lance Corporal Christopher B. Wasser from Ottawa died on April 8, 2004.

Staff Sergeant Kevin L. Zeigler from Overland Park died on August 12, 2006.

Private 1st Class Peter D. Wagler from Partridge died on January 23, 2006.

Specialist Joseph L. Lister from Pleasanton died on November 20, 2003.

Sergeant Ian C. Anderson from Prairie Village died on January 15, 2007.

Corporal Michael Raymond Speer from Redfield died on April 9, 2004.

Private Dustin L. Kreider from Riverton died on March 21, 2004.

Specialist Lucas A. Frantz from Tonganoxie died on October 18, 2005.

Private Jeremy L. Drexler from Topeka died on May 2, 2004.

Specialist Kyle G. Thomas from Topeka died on September 25, 2003.

Specialist Don Allen Clary from Troy died on November 8, 2004.

Sergeant Jacob Lee Butler from Wellsville died on April 1, 2003.

Specialist Michael D. Brown from Williamsburg died on October 16, 2007.

Sergeant Benjamin C. Morton from Wright died on May 22, 2005.

Staff Sergeant Justin J. Galewski from Olathe died on April 15, 2002.

Sergeant Michael C. Barry from Overland Park died on February 1, 2003.

Specialist David E. Hall from Union Town died on February 25, 2004.

Corporal Jeremiah S. Cole from Hiawatha died on August 16, 2006.

Sergeant 1st Class Bernard Lee Deghand from Mayetta died on September 15, 2006.

Sergeant Charles J. McClain from Fort Riley died on October 31, 2006.

Sergeant Jeffery S. Mersman from Parker died on November 9, 2007.

Sergeant Jerry W. Mills, Jr., from Arkansas City died on November 29, 2005.

Sergeant Evan S. Parker from Arkansas City died on October 26, 2005.

Sergeant Alexander J. Funcheon from Bel Aire died on April 29, 2007.

Private 1st Class Ryan R. Cox from Derby died on June 15, 2003.

Specialist Joseph F. Herndon II from Derby died on July 29, 2004.

Specialist Dustin K. McGaugh from Derby died on September 30, 2003.

Sergeant Willsun Mock from Harper died on October 22, 2006.

Specialist Eric C. Palmer from Maize died on June 24, 2007.

Staff Sergeant David R. Berry from Wichita died on February 22, 2007.

Private 1st Class Chad E. Marsh from Wichita died on February 17, 2007.

1st Sergeant Timmy J. Millsap from Wichita died on April 25, 2005.

Mr. Speaker, by naming this post office building the Jamie O. Maugans Post Office, I hope that everyone in south central Kansas will come to know and remember this young man and his sacrifice. Furthermore, I hope that we can all recommit ourselves to honor those who have fallen in battle in defense of this Nation. I ask my colleagues to support this important effort.

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5135.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 281) celebrating the birth of Abraham Lincoln and recognizing the prominence the Declaration of Independence played in the development of Abraham Lincoln's beliefs.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 281

Whereas Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, was born of humble roots on February 12, 1809, in Hardin County, Kentucky;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln rose to political prominence as an attorney with a reputation for fairness, honesty, and a belief that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln was elected and served with distinction in 1832 as a captain of an Illinois militia company during the Black Hawk War;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln was elected to the Illinois legislature in 1834 from Sangamon County and was successively re-elected until 1840;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln revered the Declaration of Independence, forming the motivating moral and natural law principle for his opposition to the spread of slavery to new States entering the Union and to his belief in slavery's ultimate demise;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln was elected in 1846 to serve in the United States House of Representatives, ably representing central Illinois;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln re-entered political life as a reaction to the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854 which he opposed;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln expounded on his views of natural rights during the series of Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858 declaring in Charleston, Illinois that natural rights were ''. . . enumerated in the Declaration of Independence, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'' and these views brought Lincoln into national prominence;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln, through a legacy of courage, character, and patriotism, was elected to office as the 16th President of the United States on November 6, 1860;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln believed the Declaration of Independence to be the anchor of American republicanism, stating on February 22, 1861, during an address in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at Independence Hall that, ''I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence . . . I have often inquired of myself, what great principle or idea it was that kept this Confederacy so long together. It was not the mere matter of separation of the Colonies from the motherland; but that sentiment in the Declaration of Independence which gave liberty, not alone to the people of this country, but, I hope, to the world, for all future time. It was that which gave promise that in due time the weight would be lofted from the shoulders of men'';

Whereas, upon taking office and being thrust into the throes of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing all slaves in southern States that seceded from the Union on January 1, 1863;

Whereas, on November 19, 1863, Abraham Lincoln dedicated the battlefield at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania with the Gettysburg address, which would later be known as his greatest speech, that harkened back to the promises of the Declaration of Independence in the first sentence: ''Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth, on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal'';

Whereas Abraham Lincoln was reelected to the Presidency on November 8, 1864, by 55 percent of the popular vote;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln gave the ultimate sacrifice for his country, dying six weeks into his second term on April 15, 1865;

Whereas the year 2009 will be the Bicentennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and the United States will observe 2 years of commemorations beginning February 12, 2008; and

Whereas all Americans could benefit from studying the life of Abraham Lincoln as a model of achieving the American Dream through honest, integrity, loyalty, and a lifetime of education: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) requests that the President issue a proclamation each year recognizing the anniversary of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln and calling upon the people of the United States to observe such anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(2) encourages State and local governments and local educational agencies to devote sufficient time to study and appreciate the reverence and respect Abraham Lincoln had for the significance and importance of the Declaration of Independence in the development of American history, jurisprudence, and the spread of freedom around the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in consideration of H. Con. Res. 281, which celebrates the birth of Abraham Lincoln and recognizes the prominence the Declaration

of Independence played in the development of Lincoln's beliefs.

H. Con. Res. 281 enjoys the support and cosponsorship of 54 Members of Congress and was introduced by Representative DONALD MANZULLO of Illinois on January 23, 2008. A similar measure, Mr. Speaker, S. Con. Res. 65, has been sponsored by our friend, Senator RICHARD DURBIN.

As we honor Abraham Lincoln, it is important to note that the United States Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission was established by this Congress in 2000 to plan the national observance of the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth in 2009.

The mission of the commission is to commemorate the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln, emphasizing the contribution of his thoughts and his ideals to America and to the world and serving as a catalyst for strengthening freedom, democracy, and equal opportunity for all.

The commission, which is co-chaired by Senator RICHARD DURBIN and Representative RAY LAHOOD, is focused on informing the public about the impact Abraham Lincoln had on the development of our Nation and finding the best possible ways to honor his accomplishments.

The commission states: ''During the gravest crisis in American history, Lincoln preserved the Union, led the effort to eradicate slavery, and articulated the best aspirations of American democracy. We propose recalling these accomplishments in ways that will enlighten and inspire us both today and tomorrow. Remembering our past, we can better light the way to our future.''

For the next 2 years, there are numerous events scheduled to commemorate Abraham Lincoln. They include a rededication of the Lincoln Memorial here in Washington, DC, in 2009, citizenship ceremonies at Lincoln sites throughout that year, a redesigned 2009 penny series and $5 bill series, a 2009 bicentennial commemorative dollar coin and commemorative stamps.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln, on the 199th anniversary of his birth in Hardin Country, Kentucky.

In the history of this great Nation, the Presidency of Abraham Lincoln can be counted among the best of the best. President Lincoln saved the Union not only from its dissolution through the Civil War, but from its own immoral practice of slavery.

From his earlier years in Kentucky and Illinois to his time in the State legislature and his term in this House, Abraham Lincoln developed a political animus fueled by an unshakeable belief in the natural rights espoused by the Founding Fathers four score and 87 years before he dedicated that sacred ground at Gettysburg. Those natural rights were most clearly enumerated by the Declaration of Independence as life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Addressing Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1861, President Lincoln credited the wisdom of the Fathers with absolute clarity. ''I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence,'' so he spoke.

President Lincoln's service to his country began in 1832 when he served with distinction and was elected to the rank of captain of an Illinois militia company in the Black Hawk War. That military service preceded his entry into politics when he was elected to the State legislature in 1834, where he served the citizens of Sangamon County until 1840.

In 1846, President Lincoln moved on to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving one term before he decided not to seek reelection and return to private practice as a lawyer. Spurred by the turmoil that gripped the Nation after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, Lincoln decided to reenter the public arena, lending his clarion voice to the cause of liberty.

□ 1645

While speaking on the repeal of the Missouri Compromise in Peoria, Illinois, in July, 1854, then former Congressman Lincoln declared, ''No man is good enough to govern another man without the other's consent.''

In August 1858, Lincoln wrote, ''As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy.''

In his letter to Massachusetts Representative Henry L. Pierce in 1859, Lincoln wrote, ''Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves.''

In 1860, Abraham Lincoln took his political and moral philosophy to the White House in the midst of a national crisis that would lead the Nation to civil war. Abraham Lincoln's singular vision that the Union must be preserved guided this Nation through its darkest days.

Reelected with a clear majority in 1864, Lincoln saw the forces of liberty prevail as the war ended with the Union intact and slavery abolished. On April 15, 1865, a mere 6 weeks into his second term, President Lincoln was struck down by an assassin's bullet.

Two hundred years after he was born and 143 years after he sacrificed his life for his country, Abraham Lincoln is bound up in the mystic chords of our national memory as the man who fulfilled the promises of liberty and equality and humanity first put forth in our founding Declaration.

Mr. Speaker, the originator of this resolution, DON MANZULLO, is on a plane, so obviously we can't yield him time. But I do want to point out that he offered this resolution and he has a statement which will be inserted into the RECORD.

I would just like to say that on the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, Carl Sandberg, addressed Congress in this Chamber after it had officially adjourned. I highly recommend his address to anyone who loves this great American President.

Mr. Sanderg pointed out that Lincoln went to Gettysburg believing he would lose the next election, and in spite of that, instead of doing what political consultants would urge someone to do today, speak angrily about the South who couldn't vote for him, to unite the North to support him, Sandberg pointed out Lincoln spoke of the ''brave men living and dead who fought here.'' He didn't speak of North or South. This magnificent President was trying to heal the Nation. That came first. And as Carl Sandberg points out, this was at a time when American families had their sons fighting on both sides, and in one particular instance in one battle, a family lost both sons, one in Confederate gray and the other in northern blue. And they buried them on top of each other, with these words ''Only God knows which one was right.''

We can never study enough about this great President. The lessons he teaches us are lessons that we all could benefit from, still today, and in the future.

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for his passion and for his comments on the life and work of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 281 celebrates the birth of Abraham Lincoln and recognizes the prominence the Declaration of Independence played in the development of his beliefs.

I am honored and pleased to stand with my friends in the Illinois delegation as we honor our 16th President on his 199th birthday and kick off the nationwide bicentennial celebration of his birth.

Abraham Lincoln has achieved universal recognition as one of the greatest Presidents in American history. Today we recognize the life and legacy of the man who had the moral courage and political acumen to end the abominable practice of slavery in America and to save an imperiled Union from secession and civil war.

We also emphasize the prominent role the Declaration of Independence played in President Lincoln's political philosophy. President Lincoln often cited the Declaration of Independence as a basis for his opposition to slavery and as his inspiration for saving the Union. On his inaugural journey to Washington, President Lincoln stopped in Philadelphia at the site where the Declaration of Independence had been signed and declared, ''I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence.'' In the Gettysburg Address, he defined the end of the war as a rededication to the ideals of that founding document.

H. Con. Res. 281 calls upon the President to issue an annual proclamation recognizing

the anniversary of the birth of our 16th President. It recognizes the activities of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, which initiates two years of commemorations beginning on February 12, 2008. It also encourages local governments and schools to spend sufficient time studying President Lincoln and his devotion to the Declaration of Independence. I urge my colleagues to give their enthusiastic support to this important legislation.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great honor and a sense of humility as the senior Republican from the Land of Lincoln that I offer this resolution to celebrate the birthday of our Nation's 16th President. I want to first offer my deep thanks and gratitude to the chairman and ranking minority member of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Mr. WAXMAN of California and Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, respectively, for allowing this resolution to come up on the floor to coincide with President Lincoln's birthday. I recognize that this was an unusual procedure and that normal committee protocol was waived to expedite consideration of this resolution to time with Lincoln's birthday today. I also want to offer my profound appreciation to my good friend and fellow Illinoisan, Representative DANNY DAVIS of Chicago, who made all of this possible to happen today.

Abraham Lincoln was born 199 years ago today to Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks at Knob Creek Farm near Hodgenville, Kentucky, in Hardin County. Today starts a series of celebrations over the next 2 years to commemorate the life of Abraham Lincoln based on the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act, which was signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 2000. These commemorations include a special kick-off ceremony at Lincoln's boyhood home, the redesign of the Lincoln penny, a special bicentennial postage stamp, a rededication of the Lincoln Memorial, and a special joint session or meeting of Congress for ceremonies and activities related to Abraham Lincoln. I am absolutely delighted that the House will join in this kick-off celebration in Kentucky, albeit delayed because of an ice storm, with the debate over this resolution. This resolution will continue honoring Lincoln's legacy beyond the next 2 years by requesting the President to issue a proclamation every year in his honor as he does for many other great figures of American history.

In the fall of 1816, Thomas and Nancy Lincoln packed their belongings and their two children—Sarah, 9, and Abraham, 7—and left Kentucky bound for the new frontier of Spencer County in southern Indiana. Abraham Lincoln lived in Indiana for the next 14 years until he was 21 years old. However, in October 1818, when Abraham was 9 years old, his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, died. His feelings for her were still strong some 40 years later when he said, "All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

In 1830, Thomas Lincoln, then re-married, decided to move the family to another new frontier—this time to the tiny village of Decatur, Illinois, located in Macon County. Hard working and intellectually inquisitive, Abraham Lincoln's first foray into public service came in 1832 when he was elected and served as a captain of an Illinois militia company during the Black Hawk War. Following his military service, Lincoln was elected to the Illinois legislature in 1834 from Sangamon County and was successively reelected until 1840. In 1846, Abraham Lincoln was elected to serve in this great House, where he ably represented central Illinois in the seat now held by my good friend and colleague, Representative RAY LAHOOD.

Lincoln grew to prominence as an attorney and a legislator with a reputation for fairness, honesty, and a belief that all men are created equal, endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights. He founded these beliefs in the ideals of the Declaration of Independence—a document which, as President, he would cite frequently as his inspiration for saving the Union and as the basis for his opposition to slavery. During a speech at Independence Hall in 1861, Lincoln stated, "I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence . . . [it is these sentiments] which gave liberty, not alone to the people of this country, but, I hope, to the world, for all future time." Lincoln's belief in the principles espoused by the Declaration formed the motivating moral and natural law principle for his opposition to the spread of slavery and his belief in slavery's ultimate demise.

Lincoln found his belief in the equality of men to be directly at odds with the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1856. This legislation promulgated the concept of "popular sovereignty"—the idea that State citizens should be able to determine the presence of slavery in their State by popular referendum. Lincoln's strong feelings against the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act propelled Lincoln to return to politics, and he began a bid for the U.S. Senate.

During his campaign for the Senate, Lincoln engaged in a series of seven debates with his opponent, Stephen Douglas. Now known as the Lincoln-Douglas debates, Lincoln's eloquence and studied opposition to the spread of slavery brought him into national prominence.

The second of these debates was held in Freeport, Illinois, a city in the district that I am privileged to represent, and was the origin of what is now known as the "Freeport Doctrine." Cornered by Lincoln into choosing between the notion of popular sovereignty or the prohibition against outlawing slavery put forth by the infamous Dred Scott Supreme Court decision, Stephen Douglas responded that slavery could be prevented from any territory by the refusal of the people living in that territory to pass laws favorable to slavery. Likewise, if the people of the territory supported slavery, legislation would provide for its continued existence. While this doctrine would see Douglas reelected to the Senate over Lincoln, it would be a key factor in his loss in the 1860 Presidential election.

Lincoln's performance in the debates won him national prominence and a reputation for courage, character, and patriotism. These factors played heavily into his election to office as the 16th President of the United States on November 6, 1860.

Upon taking office, Lincoln was thrust into the throes of the Civil War. Leading a partitioned Union, Lincoln relied heavily on his political ideals born of the Declaration of Independence. On January 1, 1863, Lincoln issued what would become the most iconic document of his Presidency—the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing all the slaves in southern States that seceded from the Union. His commitment to the promises of the Declaration of Independence were further evidenced in the opening lines of his greatest speech at Gettysburg: "Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth, on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

On November 8, 1864, Abraham Lincoln was reelected to the Presidency by 55 percent of the popular vote. He continued to act as a courageous and principled leader until he was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth on April 14, 1865. Abraham Lincoln died on April 15, 1865.

Abraham Lincoln's profound and courageous belief in the equality of men and the sacredness of the American Union propelled him forward as one of the greatest Presidents our Nation has known. Last Sunday, at a White House ceremony honoring Abraham Lincoln, President George W. Bush said, "he, of all the successors to George Washington, none had greater impact on the presidency and on the country . . . He was a fabulous man, a great President. His life was one of humble beginnings, and steadfast convictions. And so we celebrate his deeds, we lift up his ideals, and we honor this good man."

Lincoln is a hero to so many of us here in this House on both sides of the aisle, as he is to me. The prominence of President Abraham Lincoln is an undisputed fact of American history. The man best known for freeing the slaves and saving an imperiled Union has attained iconic status among historians and citizens alike as evidenced by best selling books such as Team of Rivals by Doris Kearns Goodwin that documented the political genius of Lincoln in winning the Presidency and governing the Nation.

And yet, this man of great genius, compassion and acumen lacks official Federal recognition for the day of his birth, February 12, because what is popularly known as President's Day is legally Washington's Birthday. While I do not wish to diminish the contributions George Washington made to the establishment of this great country, this resolution will finally give Lincoln his due without the cost of a separate Federal holiday by simply requesting the President each year to issue a proclamation honoring this great man and encouraging the people of the United States to observe his birthday with appropriate ceremonies and activities. The resolution also encourages State and local governments and local educational agencies to study and appreciate the reverence and respect Abraham Lincoln had for the Declaration of Independence in the development of American history, jurisprudence, and the spread of freedom around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Abraham Lincoln today and in recognizing the profound influence the Declaration of Independence had upon Lincoln's political philosophy as a model for us to emulate.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. 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 North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 281.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 11, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on February 11, 2008, at 4:12 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits the Economic Report of the President and the 2008 Annual Report of the Council of Economic Advisers.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110–83)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Joint Economic Committee and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Over the past 6 years of economic expansion, the American economy has proven its strength and resilience, Job creation grew uninterrupted for a record period of time, inflation remains moderate, unemployment is low, and productivity continues to grow. The economy is built upon a strong foundation, with deep and sophisticated capital markets, flexible labor markets, low taxes, and open trade and investment policies.

Americans should be confident about the long-term strength of our economy, but our economy is undergoing a period of uncertainty, and there are heightened risks to our near-term economic growth. To insure against these risks, I called upon the Congress to enact a growth package that is simple, temporary, and effective in keeping our economy growing and our people working.

There is more we should do to strengthen our economy. First, we must keep taxes low. Unless the Congress acts, most of the tax relief that we have delivered over the past 7 years will be taken away and 116 million American taxpayers will see their taxes rise by an average of $1,800. The tax relief of the past few years has been a key factor in promoting economic growth and job creation and it should be made permanent. We must also work together to tackle unfunded obligations in entitlement programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, I have laid out a detailed plan in my Budget to restrain spending, cut earmarks, and balance the budget by 2012 without raising taxes.

Second, we must trust Americans with the responsibility of homeownership and empower them to weather turbulent times in the market. My Administration has acted aggressively to help credit-worthy homeowners avoid foreclosure. We launched a new initiative called FHASecure to help families refinance their homes. I signed legislation to protect families from higher taxes when lenders forgive a portion of their home mortgage debt. We have also brought together the HOPE NOW alliance, which is helping many struggling homeowners avoid foreclosure by facilitating the refinancing and modification of mortgages. The Congress can do more to help American families keep their homes by passing legislation to reform Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, modernize the Federal Housing Administration, and allow State housing agencies to issue tax-free bonds to help homeowners refinance their mortgages.

Third, we must continue opening new markets for trade and investment. We have an unprecedented opportunity to reduce barriers to global trade and investment through a successful Doha round. The Congress should also approve our pending free trade agreements. I thank the Congress for its approval of a good agreement with Peru, and ask for the approval of agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea. These agreements will benefit our economy by providing greater access for our exports and supporting good jobs for American workers, and they will promote America's strategic interests. I have asked the Congress to reauthorize and reform trade adjustment assistance so that we can help those workers who are displaced by trade to learn new skills and find new jobs.

Fourth, we must make health care more affordable and accessible for all Americans. I have proposed changes in the tax code that would end the bias against those who do not receive health insurance through their employer and would make it easier for many uninsured Americans to obtain insurance. This reform would put private health care coverage within reach for millions. My Budget also improves access to health care by increasing the power of small employers, civic groups, and community organizations to negotiate lower-priced health premiums. These policies would encourage competition among health plans across State lines, help reduce frivolous lawsuits that increase patients' costs, and promote the use of health savings accounts.

Fifth, we must increase our energy security and confront climate change. Last year, I proposed an ambitious plan to reduce U.S. dependence on oil and help cut the growth of greenhouse gas emissions. I am pleased that the Congress responded, and I was able to sign into law a bill that will increase fuel economy and the use of alternative fuels, as well as set new efficiency mandates on appliances, light bulbs, and Federal Government operations. In my State of the Union Message, I proposed that we take the next steps to accelerate technological breakthroughs by funding new technologies to generate coal power that captures carbon emissions, advance emissions-free nuclear power; and invest in advanced battery technology and renewable energy. I am also committing $2 billion to a new international clean technology fund that will help developing nations make greater use of clean energy sources. Additionally, my Budget proposes to protect the economy against oil supply disruptions by doubling the capacity of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Finally, a strong and vibrant education system is vital to maintaining our Nation's competitive edge and extending economic opportunity to every citizen. Six years ago, we came together to pass the No Child Left Behind Act, and no one can deny its results. Now we must work together to increase accountability, add flexibility for States and districts, reduce the number of high school dropouts, and provide extra help for struggling schools.

Many of these issues are discussed in the 2008 Annual Report of the Council of Economic Advisers. The Council has prepared this Report to help policymakers understand the economic conditions and issues that underlie my Administration's policy decisions. By relying on the foundation and resilience of our economy, trusting the decisions of individuals and markets and pursuing pro-growth policies, we should have confidence in our prospects for continued prosperity and economic growth.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 2008.*

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 8, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II

of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 8, 2008, at 2:22 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 273.

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 67.

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 68.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 12, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 12, 2008, at 10:30 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Res. 446.

That the Senate passed S. 2071.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the passing of the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the whole number of the House is 429.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. BALDWIN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 954, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 909, by the yeas and nays;

H. Con. Res. 281, by the yeas and nays.

The vote on H. Res. 960 will be taken tomorrow.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENIOR BORDER PATROL AGENT LUIS A. AGUILAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 954, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 954, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 357, nays 0, not voting 71, as follows:

[Roll No. 43]

YEAS—357

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Clarke
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Hoyer
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
LaHood
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reynolds
Richardson
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Welch (VT)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman (VA)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—71

Ackerman
Bartlett (MD)
Bean
Blumenauer
Bono Mack
Brown, Corrine
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Cantor
Chandler
Clay
Costa
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (KY)
Davis, Tom
Doyle
Engel
Flake
Franks (AZ)
Gilchrest
Green, Gene
Gutierrez
Hayes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Honda
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Jefferson
Johnson (IL)
Kagen
Kuhl (NY)
Lampson
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lowey
Mack
Marchant
McCrery
Murtha
Ortiz
Paul
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Regula
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Schmidt
Space
Spratt
Sullivan
Terry
Towns
Udall (CO)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Wilson (OH)
Wynn

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1855

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMEMORATING THE COURAGE OF THE HAITIAN SOLDIERS THAT FOUGHT FOR AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE IN THE ''SIEGE OF SAVANNAH''

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 909, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 909, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 361, nays 0, not voting 67, as follows:

[Roll No. 44]

YEAS—361

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Hoyer
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
LaHood
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reynolds
Richardson
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Welch (VT)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman (VA)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—67

Ackerman
Bean
Blumenauer
Bono Mack
Brown, Corrine
Burton (IN)
Cantor
Chandler
Costa
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (KY)
Davis, Tom
Doyle
Engel
Flake
Franks (AZ)
Gilchrest
Green, Gene
Gutierrez
Hayes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Honda
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Jefferson
Kagen
Kuhl (NY)
Lampson
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lowey
Mack
Marchant
McCrery
Moore (WI)
Murtha
Ortiz
Paul
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Regula
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Schmidt
Space
Sullivan
Terry
Towns
Udall (CO)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Wilson (OH)
Wynn

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that there is 1 minute remaining in this vote.

□ 1904

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 44, had I been present, I would have voted ''yea.''

ANNOUNCING THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE TOM LANTOS

(Mr. STARK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, as dean of the California delegation, it is my sad responsibility to make the formal announcement to the House of Representatives about yesterday's passing of our good friend and colleague, TOM LANTOS of California.

I ask that we observe a moment of silence to honor TOM's legacy of service to his constituents, the House of Representatives, and the people around the world for whom he sought human rights. He will be sorely missed.

The SPEAKER. Members will please rise and observe a moment of silence in memory of our esteemed colleague, the Honorable TOM LANTOS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

The SPEAKER. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 281, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BALDWIN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 281.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 357, nays 0, not voting 71, as follows:

[Roll No. 45]

YEAS—357

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)

Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Hoyer
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
LaHood
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reynolds
Richardson
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Sutton
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Welch (VT)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman (VA)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—71

Ackerman
Bean
Berkley
Blumenauer
Bono Mack
Boyda (KS)
Brown, Corrine
Burton (IN)
Cantor
Chandler
Costa
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (KY)
Davis, Tom
Doyle
Engel
Flake
Franks (AZ)
Gilchrest
Green, Gene
Gutierrez
Hayes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Honda
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Jefferson
Kagen
Kuhl (NY)
Lampson
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lowey
Mack
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McCrery
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Ortiz
Paul
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Regula
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Schmidt
Space
Stupak
Sullivan
Terry
Towns
Udall (CO)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Wilson (OH)
Wynn

□ 1913

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber today. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 43, 44, and 45.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, Tuesday, February 12, 2008, I was absent from the House due to travel complications.

Had I been present I would have voted:

On rollcall No. 43—"yes"—H. Res. 954, honoring the life of senior Border Patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar, who lost his life in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona, on January 19, 2008;

On rollcall No. 44—"yes"—H. Res. 909, commemorating the courage of the Haitian soldiers that fought for American independence in the "Siege of Savannah" and for Haiti's independence and renunciation of slavery;

On rollcall No. 45—"yes"—H. Con. Res. 281, celebrating the birth of Abraham Lincoln and recognizing the prominence the Declaration of Independence played in the development of Abraham Lincoln's beliefs.

□ 1915

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE TOM LANTOS, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 975

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Tom Lantos, a Representative from the State of California.

Resolved, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of applicable accounts of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my distinguished colleague from California (Mr. DREIER) have half of my time to manage.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the Speaker, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank him for the formal notification of the Congress that he presented earlier to the House of Representatives, and thank him for bringing us this opportunity to express our sadness over the passing of our colleague, TOM LANTOS.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, yesterday morning when I received the very sad news of Chairman LANTOS's passing, that call was followed very quickly by a call from the President of the United States expressing to me as Speaker, but through me to each and every one of you, his sadness over TOM's passing and his words of praise for TOM LANTOS's leadership. I told the President how appreciative I knew we would all be of his kind words and that I would convey them to this House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, you know that the House, not only the House, the Congress, the country, has lost one of its most talented leaders, and the world, indeed the world, has lost one of its greatest champions for human rights with the passing of Chairman TOM LANTOS. He was a statesman, he was a gentleman, and he will be deeply missed.

As the only Holocaust survivor ever elected to Congress, TOM LANTOS devoted his public life to shining a bright light on the dark corners of oppression. From his earliest days in the House, when he founded with Congressman JON PORTER the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, to his final days as

chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, he used his powerful voice to stir the consciousness of world leaders and the public alike.

Because he had lost his mother and so much of his family in the Holocaust, his wife, Annette, his two daughters, Annette and Katrina, his grandchildren and great grandchildren were the center of his universe.

Madam Speaker, I told some of our colleagues earlier that TOM and Annette were a team in every way. Whether it was establishing the Human Rights Caucus or working together for the benefit of his district and our country, they were a team. And all who knew TOM knew how devoted he was to his family and to Annette, whom he adored. They worked as a team, bringing great intellect, experience, and compassion to their outstanding work in public service.

Annette was alone after the Holocaust as well, and when they married, they had two daughters, Annette and Katrina, who produced this wonderful family of 18 grandchildren. Two daughters, 18 grandchildren. They said to their parents, you lost your families in the Holocaust. We are bringing to you a new family. And how proud TOM was for all of that.

Having lived the worst evil known to mankind, TOM LANTOS translated his experience into a lifetime commitment to the fight against anti-Semitism, for Holocaust education, and commitment to the State of Israel.

TOM LANTOS was not only a champion of human rights. He was an expert on foreign affairs and diplomacy and the security of our country. He had a rare combination of extraordinary knowledge, great wisdom, extraordinary skill and judgment, and a great moral compass.

He rallied us to the cause of defending basic human freedom within the borders of the most powerful countries and in the most remote places in the world. He stood tall in the sometimes lonely fight for the people of China and Tibet. I was proud that we had the opportunity to work together, with the President of the United States in a bipartisan way, to honor the people of Tibet by presenting the Congressional Gold Medal to the Dalai Lama last year. TOM, along with Congresswoman ROS-LEHTINEN, were coauthors of that legislation. Thank you, Congresswoman ROS-LEHTINEN.

He fought to end the genocide in Darfur and recently helped enact legislation to crack down on the Sudanese regime. He worked to strengthen sanctions against the military junta in Burma and worked for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi. In just his first year as chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman LANTOS also helped enact the 9/11 Commission recommendations to better protect the American people.

Throughout his three decades in the House, TOM LANTOS always used his experience and intellect to empower the powerless and give voice to the voiceless throughout the world.

Here at home, TOM LANTOS championed working families. Working families had no better friend in the Congress of the United States than TOM LANTOS, and he was a strong leader in protecting our family for the future.

He also authored key provisions of our landmark energy bill, which the President signed into law. Thanks to TOM LANTOS, that law includes provisions that will help the United States assume a greater leadership role in the world to fight climate change.

He will long be remembered for his efforts to expand and protect the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, which is one of the Nation's most visited national parks and a treasure for Bay Area residents. I had the privilege of serving with TOM as we shared representation of the City of San Francisco, and it was one of the privileges of my service in Congress, to work with him on behalf of the people of San Francisco.

Congressman LANTOS was also well known for his strong support of infrastructure improvements, including the expansion of BART service and other mass transit solutions. Though his leadership was felt around the world, he always remained a fierce advocate for his constituents in the 12th Congressional District.

TOM LANTOS called himself ''an American by choice.'' America is a stronger nation, a more caring nation, a nation more true to its founding ideals, because TOM LANTOS chose to call this land his home.

My thoughts and prayers are with Annette, dear Annette, their daughters Katrina and Annette, his 18 grandchildren, and his great grandchildren. I hope it is a comfort to them that so many people throughout the entire world mourn their loss and are praying for them in this sad time.

Good-bye, TOM, my friend. It was an honor to call you colleague, a privilege to serve with you, and a joy to be your friend.

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, TOM will be remembered as a passionate advocate for human rights around the world and a strong voice for better schools and a cleaner environment. The obituaries and my colleagues tonight will fill in many details and have much praise for the wonderful job that TOM did in his period here. I just tried to pick out a few things that he will be remembered for.

As the Speaker mentioned, he worked to give a voice to the voiceless in Burma, Tibet, wherever oppression raised its ugly head. In Congress, as in life, he was a doer, a leader, a fighter. Two years ago, TOM was arrested in front of the Sudanese Embassy for protesting the genocide in Darfur.

He swam every morning at 5:30 until recently. He was a man who enjoyed and lived life to its fullest.

As has been mentioned, he is survived by a large and wonderful family he loved, and they loved him. Without saying, our sympathy goes to TOM's wife and childhood sweetheart, Annette, their two daughters, Annette and Katrina, and their many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

To appreciate, I guess, all that TOM accomplished, we ought to think a little bit about his life before joining us here in Congress. He grew up in Hungary and survived Nazi labor camps. He arrived in the United States in 1947 on an academic scholarship. And at Customs, you think it is a problem to take off your shoes now, at customs he was greeted and they immediately confiscated his only possession, a Hungarian salami. So they were as thorough then as they are now.

He married Annette in 1950, and he also received bachelor's and master's degrees in economics and then moved on to San Francisco. He received those at the University of Washington in Seattle. He moved to San Francisco and began a 30-year career teaching economics at San Francisco State. In 1953, he received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California at Berkeley.

TOM was elected in 1980. Three years later he cofounded the Congressional Human Rights Caucus.

Last month, he announced to us that he had been diagnosed with cancer and would not seek reelection. In that announcement he said, and I quote him here, ''I will never be able to express fully my profoundly felt gratitude to this great country.''

Similarly, this House and our country will never be able to fully express our gratitude for TOM's decades of service. He will be missed by his colleagues, constituents, family, and the people whose basic human rights he fought for every day.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the balance of my time be controlled by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN).

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, as is very evident, this is a sad day and evening for the House of Representatives, and, of course, the Lantos family, and for all of the American people and all who are lovers of freedom.

''Tom Lantos devoted his life to shining a bright light on dark corners of oppression.'' That was a quote from Speaker PELOSI in her official statement in responding to the tragic news of TOM's passing.

I am going to quote Speaker PELOSI once again, Madam Speaker. ''Tom Lantos devoted his life to shining a bright light on dark corners of oppression.''

We have heard that TOM LANTOS is the lone survivor of the Holocaust to ever serve in the Congress of the United States. We know of his tremendous accomplishments. We know the

fact that 58 years ago this coming July he and Annette were married. And we know that he had an absolutely wonderful family.

His two daughters did provide those 18 grandchildren and two great grandchildren, and I have to say that I personally have had the opportunity to spend time with all of them. The reason is that I am one of Annette and TOM's neighbors here on Capitol Hill, and we always knew when the Lantos household was filled over at Justice Court, because kids were running around all over that area, and it was such a wonderful thing.

When I heard the Speaker say today what TOM's daughters said to him, the fact that he lost his family in the Holocaust would lead them to provide him with a family that he no longer had, obviously they did. I have known of no parent or grandparent to be prouder of their children and grandchildren than Annette and TOM LANTOS have been of their wonderful family, and having heard Speaker PELOSI's words, I now have an even greater understanding of the importance of the role that Annette and Katrina played in providing them with that family.

□ 1930

We got the news I read this morning in the paper that just last week the Prime Minister of Hungary was scheduled to present TOM with the highest honor that Hungary bestows on anyone; and, sadly, he was too ill to receive that honor. But we know that TOM regularly described himself as one who was born Hungarian, but was American by choice; and I think that underscores the extraordinary importance of immigration and the great importance of what it is that has made the United States of America as great as it is.

One of the things, I am the first Republican to stand up but I am going to be turning this over to the distinguished ranking member on the Committee on Foreign Affairs in just a few minutes, but as the first Republican to stand up, I have to say that one of the greatest things about TOM LANTOS is that he regularly transcended political party. He was known for the wonderful working relationship that he had with the former chairman of his committee who, as we all know, passed away sadly last year, our colleague Henry Hyde.

And I regularly, as a member of the Rules Committee, had the opportunity to see Henry Hyde and TOM LANTOS come together, arm in arm, working together on behalf of a very positive foreign policy for the United States. Now, don't get me wrong, there were more than a couple of occasions, especially in the last couple of years, where there was disagreement between Henry Hyde and TOM LANTOS. But time and time again, both men demonstrated their extraordinary patriotism and their commitment to the greatness of the United States of America.

On January 2, just last month, our friend TOM announced that he would not be running for reelection. Of course, he had gotten the news of his illness. And in that statement announcing his retirement, Madam Speaker, he said, ''It is only in the United States that a penniless survivor of the Holocaust and fighter in the anti-Nazi underground could have received an education, raised a family, and had the privilege of serving the last three decades of his life as a Member of the United States Congress. I will never be able to express fully my profoundly felt gratitude to this great country.''

Madam Speaker, one of the things that I regularly say about the United States of America, and I think like most of the people who are here in this Chamber at this moment, we were born here; and people who were born here can have a tendency to take the greatness of the United States of America for granted. But I will say that TOM LANTOS demonstrated fully, through every single aspect of his life, the profound appreciation that an immigrant has for something that many of us who are native born have a tendency to take for granted. And I regularly fight against that, and seeing someone like TOM LANTOS has played a big role in inspiring me. And I know there are other great immigrants who serve in this Congress and obviously in this country as well. And I think that his life underscores that.

As I look over and see our distinguished majority leader, Mr. HOYER, I am reminded of the great work that he did on the Helsinki Commission and, as has been stated on the issues that Mr. STARK raised, environment and other issues. But when it came to fighting on behalf of human rights, in 1983 Annette Lantos became the volunteer director of the Human Rights Caucus because of her extraordinary commitment to that cause. And, obviously, it was led by TOM through these so many years.

And I will just say that for me, personally, I was elected with TOM in November of 1980, 28 years ago this coming November; and this is a professional loss, but obviously for so many of us, a very profound personal loss. And I want to say to all of the family members how much I have appreciated the friendship. Our thoughts and prayers are with them. And the world is a better place, the world clearly is a better place for the life of TOM LANTOS.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, and ask unanimous consent that my colleague from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) be able to manage the balance of our time.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased and honored to yield to our majority leader 1 minute.

Mr. HOYER. I thank my friend for yielding. This is a sad day not only for this institution, for those of us who were TOM's friends, clearly for his family, but it is a sad day for our country. TOM LANTOS had a backbone of steel and a heart of commitment, compassion, and courage.

DAVID DREIER just mentioned my service on the Helsinki Commission. As chairman of that body for the House, with my friend CHRIS SMITH, we shared responsibility for focusing on the human rights of people, particularly within the European theater and particularly in the Soviet Union, and we worked very hard at that. But no Member of this body has been a stronger voice, a more compelling voice for the rights of individuals, whatever their background, wherever they lived, and whatever the excuse was for acting against them or undermining their rights. When TOM spoke, especially on matters dealing with human rights, America's role in the world, the importance of confronting and defeating dictatorial regimes, both the left and right, his words contained a moral clarity and intellectual gravity that was seldom matched.

Those of us who had an opportunity to be with TOM when we met with people from around the world knew that TOM LANTOS would be candid, diplomatic, but certain in his message. TOM, quite simply, was a man of great substance, an immigrant to America, like so many immigrants before him and after, but few matching his contribution to our great country.

Speaker PELOSI indicated that TOM referred to himself as an American by choice. He was a great humanitarian. His remarkable life serves as an inspiration to all of us, to his family, and to his country. He was an indomitable spirit. His life story of course is well known, and I will not repeat it here. Others will talk more specifically.

Last month, TOM was unable to attend the United Nations Annual Commemoration of the Holocaust. However, his daughter Katrina, married to one of our colleagues, Dick Swett, delivered his remarks, which called on the international community to, and I quote, ''dedicate ourselves to stopping current tragedies such as the genocide in Darfur, and to preventing such inhuman cruelty in the future.''

Tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions around this globe have lost an extraordinary voice for them, individually and collectively.

TOM went on to note that the ''veneer of civilization is paper thin.'' That is a lesson for all of us. We know that the mob can be uncaring of human rights, of individuals. TOM LANTOS focused on that issue when he said that that veneer is very thin. JOHN LEWIS, another great humanitarian and champion of individual rights and civil liberties. He went on to say, ''We are its guardians, and we can never rest.'' Not only did he say that, but he lived his life without rest for those he saw beleaguered.

Until his last day on this Earth, TOM LANTOS never rested because of what he had seen and experienced. He was an indefatigable advocate for human

rights and human decency. And now with his passing it falls to us to honor his enduring legacy, not just by speaking on this floor of what he did, but committing ourselves to continue his advocacy for liberty and human rights.

There is no more fitting tribute to this wonderful man who lived a wonderful life marked by hardship, tragedy, and also triumph, and who now is at rest in God's hands.

Madam Speaker, I especially want to speak of Annette. You cannot speak of TOM LANTOS without speaking of Annette. I don't know of any couple that I have ever met that was in fact, as well as in marriage-ceremony verbiage, two people who became one, kindred spirits born of equal experience, equally committed with a passion and a courage and an untiring commitment on behalf of those who needed a voice. Annette is with us still and, therefore, TOM is with us still. May we honor him, remember him, and hold high the torch that he held so high, so successfully for so long.

God bless you, TOM LANTOS.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As we gather in this hallowed place to honor the life and work of our beloved colleague, TOM LANTOS, our sorrow at news of his death is tempered by our admiration for his extraordinary contributions to our great country. An unfailingly gracious and courageous man, TOM was recognized by colleagues as a leader who left an enviable legacy of service to our country. We were fortunate indeed to have known him. Annette and the entire Lantos family have our heartfelt condolences.

TOM and Annette's heroic journey to America through extraordinary adversity is well known to us all and is the topic perhaps for a future biographer who can adequately capture the tenor of life under the oppressive yolk of fascism during those terrible times more than half a century ago.

TOM's unsurpassed work as a champion of human rights and for human dignity cannot be separated from his fiery trials through which he passed as a young man.

His life bears witness to the endurance of the human spirit. As a colleague, TOM enjoyed the respect of his peers across the political spectrum, because all of us admired him as an ardent American patriot.

During our many meetings together, when we met with foreign leaders here and abroad, his love of country was always evident. He understood an old truth that all of us would do well to relearn: united we stand, and divided we fall.

To be sure, TOM could be a vehement critic of an administration policy during House debate. But he would not hesitate to remind a visiting group of European parliamentarians to temper their criticism of U.S. policy or risk being labeled as hypocrites for their feeble resistance to genocide at Auschwitz or at modern-day death camps in Sudan.

His defense of the national security policies would surprise and perhaps rankle some, but not those of us who knew TOM as an unbeatable foe of Communist tyranny.

All of us here tonight have so many stories to share about TOM, about his life with Annette, and his vital work; and we will surely honor him in the months ahead in other appropriate ways. It is fitting, though, that we honor the life of this great patriot, for it was his work and his life that enriched us. So tonight, rather than merely mourn his passing, let us thank God that TOM lived among us and left such a strong legacy for us to follow.

I often said to TOM before our committee hearings that it was a great testament to a wonderful Nation that two naturalized citizens, witnesses to the evils of communism and oppression, would serve as chairman and ranking member of the committee charged with developing and overseeing our foreign policy efforts. And I cannot fully explain to TOM and his family my deep gratitude to TOM for his service and for his dedication.

And, Annette, our prayers are with you and your family. And how odd to say, as Mr. HOYER pointed out, how odd to say ''Annette'' without saying ''Tom and Annette,'' for they were a unit. Thank you, TOM. Godspeed, my friend.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1945

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize for 2 minutes the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER).

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today in support of this resolution. Like all of my colleagues, I was deeply saddened to learn that our good friend, the distinguished gentleman from California, TOM LANTOS, had passed away. And he was our good friend, unfailingly courteous and kind and helpful to all.

TOM has left an inspiring legacy, and his passing is a great loss to our country and to the entire world. Throughout his life, TOM devoted himself to human rights and to the cause of persecuted racial, religious, and ethnic minorities. As a survivor of the Holocaust, and the only survivor ever to serve in Congress, he had seen firsthand real evil, and he became a tireless advocate for human rights.

As a youth, he was a member of the anti-Nazi underground, and his life's work was built on opposing anti-Semitism and all forms of racism and oppression and attempted genocide, and on supporting Israel, the country that emerged as the haven for the survivors and refugees from the Holocaust.

Congressman LANTOS once said, ''I will never be able to express fully my profoundly felt gratitude to this great country.'' But it is this Nation that will never be able to express adequately its gratitude to this great man. His life and devotion to human rights should serve as an inspiration to us all.

My thoughts and prayers, our thoughts and prayers, and those of a grateful Nation, are with Annette and with the rest of TOM's family and friends during this sad time. And in this hour of bereavement, as we mourn the loss of this great man, what can we finally say other than to thank God for TOM's life and work, and to repeat that ancient refrain, ''The Lord giveth, the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord.''

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), a member of our Foreign Affairs Committee, and someone who worked so closely with Chairman LANTOS on human rights issues worldwide.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my good friend and colleague from Florida for her yielding and for her very eloquent remarks, and for all of the fine statements that have been made on behalf of Chairman TOM LANTOS.

Madam Speaker, as I think we all know, Chairman LANTOS was one of the most gifted, articulate, smart, persuasive, and compassionate, and, I would add, courageous Members of Congress ever to serve. Over the years, I, like so many other colleagues here in this Chamber, got to know and deeply respect and honor this great man. We traded places as chairman and ranking member of the International Human Rights Subcommittee and worked seamlessly on North Korea, Sudan, human trafficking, child labor, Jewish Refusniks, and China, just to name a few of the very difficult issues that were confronted.

In the 1980s, Mr. LANTOS played a significant role in dismantling atheistic communism in Eastern Europe, including his native Hungary, as well as in the Soviet Union.

A Holocaust survivor, TOM LANTOS had a special, well-focused empathy for those who suffered torture, degrading, or inhumane treatment. He was especially vocal and determined when it came to liberating political prisoners, and was a champion on behalf of the Dalai Lama and Burma's Aung San Suu Kyi.

TOM LANTOS was bold and he was incisive with both friend and foe alike, more often I am happy to say with the latter. In confronting dictatorship, he refused to allow the banalities and excessive niceties of modern-day diplomacy to obscure his clear and compelling message concerning freedom, democracy, and human rights.

On the issue of anti-Semitism, he had no equal. In the days immediately prior to the infamous September 11 attacks on America, TOM LANTOS brilliantly defended both the United States and Israel at the U.N. racism conference held in Durban, South Africa, a

world conference that deteriorated into an anti-Semitic hatefest. His insights and recommendations are of particular importance and relevance as the United Nations gears up for what is likely to be Durban II.

He wrote at the time, ''For me, having experienced the horrors of the Holocaust firsthand, this was the most sickening and unabashed display of hate for Jews I have seen since the Nazi period.''

He went on, however, in a positive vein to say, ''The U.S. must urge friendly Middle Eastern countries to recognize the link between hatemongering and violence. Arab states, meanwhile, need to look deeply within themselves, analyze their missteps, cease the inflammatory lies, and embrace the path of openness and political reform, realizing their citizens' positive energy.''

He went on to say, ''We cannot defeat terrorism if our coalition partners continue to peddle the hate that breeds it.

''The Cold War ended with the collapse of international communism, but in the resulting vacuum, radical forces bent on spreading fundamentalist ideologies have arisen, propelled by the very globalization developments they often sustain. The U.N. World Conference on Racism provided the world with a glimpse into the abyss of international hate, discrimination, and indeed, racism. The terrorist attacks on September 11 demonstrated the evil such hate can spawn. If we are to prevail in our war against terrorism, we must take to heart the lessons of Durban.''

Vintage TOM LANTOS, and as always, a man who was almost like a prophet, speaking boldly, incisively, and with great clarity. Finally, I want to say, Madam Speaker, that my wife, Marie, and I will deeply miss our dear friend TOM LANTOS, and our prayers are with and for Annette and his family at this most difficult period of time.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I recognize for 2½ minutes TOM's colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO).

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

Madam Speaker, and to all of the Members of the House, I rise this evening with a sad heart. The first thing I want to say is to offer my special condolences to Annette Lantos, the love of TOM's life, actually as has been said earlier this morning, childhood sweethearts, to his two exceptional daughters, to his son-in-laws, 18 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

I have known TOM LANTOS for many decades, long before I came to the House of Representatives. And I remember that November of 1980 where I think he was the only Democrat that won in challenging a Republican. It was a real upset in the 12th Congressional District. And so tonight I am thinking about the people of the 12th Congressional District because they not only handed him a victory, he never forgot it, and he used his public service to fulfill the great responsibility and the charge that they gave to him.

Our congressional districts are next door to one another. TOM always said that he stood between the Speaker and myself because his congressional district was between ours.

TOM LANTOS was truly a gentleman. He was a gentleman with old world manners. He was a scholar. He taught economics. When he spoke, everyone knew he was scholarly, and so the old term ''a scholar and a gentleman'' really belonged to TOM.

He was an immigrant, and I think, during these times when immigrants are not fully appreciated, that TOM LANTOS should remind us of what comes to this country in terms of immigrants. He came here, as he said, penniless, but he came here and brought his hopes and aspirations. Who would have thought when TOM LANTOS came through Customs and the Immigration Service that he would one day come to the House of Representatives and, in the day after he died, that all of these accolades that he so is deserving of would be said about him.

A poet wrote, ''And so he passed on, and then all the trumpets sounded on the other side.'' God rest your soul, TOM. Thank you for what you have given to America and thank you for what you did in the House of Representatives. Thank you for what you did for the people of the 12th Congressional District. We are forever grateful.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) to share her thoughts about our beloved friend, TOM LANTOS.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for yielding to me.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to say good-bye to a good man and a cherished colleague. Chairman LANTOS was one of those most respected and distinguished Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, and he will be missed.

During his 14 terms in this body, he championed the causes of people everywhere who face oppression and cruelty. Through his leadership of both the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Human Rights Caucus, he guided U.S. policy with morality and integrity.

As I listened to Ms. ESHOO, she used the same words as I would say of him. He was truly a gentleman, one of those rare breeds of old world statesmen who brings clarity and respect to our national debate. And while he was indeed an accomplished speaker, Chairman LANTOS inspired not only by his words but by his own personal story. I think we will all remember him standing here in this Chamber, straight rail posture, and saying ''after you, my dear,'' always the gentleman.

From his tragic experiences in the Nazi camps to his rise in Congress, he showed how one truly remarkable individual can overcome the worst sort of tyranny and achieve great things.

So to Chairman LANTOS's wife and daughters and grandchildren and great grandchildren, I send my thoughts and prayers. We can all take comfort in the fact that he had a full life with a legacy that will never be forgotten.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), the distinguished chief deputy whip.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to pay tribute to our friend and colleague, TOM LANTOS, this good and decent man, an American by choice, but a citizen of the world. He was a warrior for human rights, a warrior for justice and fairness. He spoke up and he spoke out for people around the world.

Madam Speaker, the world community has lost a powerful voice for human rights and for human dignity.

How do you honor a man? How do you pay tribute to a man like TOM LANTOS? We could name buildings, streets, schools, post offices, but the best way for us to honor TOM LANTOS is to pick up where he left off, continue to fight for human rights, continue to fight for peace, continue to build a world community at peace with itself.

TOM, thank you for all you did to make us all free. We will miss you my friend, my colleague, my brother.

□ 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, Mr. HUNTER, a member of the California delegation who worked so closely with Chairman LANTOS on a range of issues.

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I can't match the eloquent statements about TOM that have been made by my colleagues; but I thought I might share just a few thoughts that came to my mind, not only today, but every day that I saw TOM LANTOS.

First, he was a guy of extreme competence. And if you wanted to get to the heart of a matter quickly, and you wanted to probe a situation in foreign affairs quickly, or a matter of national policy, and you had a national leader, international leader in front of you, and TOM LANTOS was asking questions, he did a great cross-examination. And he brought the facts out very quickly. But, you know, lots of people can do that.

There were some special qualities that TOM LANTOS had that reflected and illuminated his life and always impressed me every time I saw him. One was his great dignity. He walked in dignity. And it wasn't a pride; it wasn't an egotistical thing. It was a respect for his fellow man that emanated from him and seemed to illuminate the room when he walked in, and when he took his place, and when he asked questions, and when he worked on these important issues of the day.

He was a man of great principle. And, Madam Speaker, I think that it must surprise many folks who watch this, watch the leadership in this Nation, and look at this Capitol, look at this body, in this city, where so much talent is focused on powerful national interests, that we have leaders like TOM LANTOS, perhaps the finest leaders, the ones with the greatest talents, who focus those talents not on powerful interests or the protection of those interests, but, in fact, on the interests of those who have no station, who have no money, and in many cases have no hope.

And I think that's a great trademark of this Nation and certain special leaders, like TOM LANTOS, that gives us, gives this country respect from those around the world, not just people who live in places of power or who occupy places of power in foreign governments, but all those around the world who look at this American forum here, this forum of leadership and governance in Washington, DC, and who saw people like TOM LANTOS, perhaps tough to figure out in many ways, but when it got right down to it, they understood that in this country, the dignity, the value of human beings is still very central to this wonderful country that we call America.

So it's with a lot of sadness that I see TOM LANTOS, a guy who came in the same year I came in, in 1980, along with Mr. DREIER, leave us. And I just hope that we all look at that model now and again when we have tough and difficult times, because the last great quality that TOM LANTOS had was conciliation. And you could have fierce fights on issues, and yet he had that wonderful quality of being able to reconcile with his adversaries and find common ground in the next great issue that was before you.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER).

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I want to say a word about my friend, TOM LANTOS. I had the opportunity to travel with TOM, and I served with him some 20 years here. Believe me, a giant of a man has fallen. As grief stricken as we are here, we need to know that throughout the world tonight there are people who were touched by TOM LANTOS in many ways whose hearts are broken.

And to his beloved Annette, and to his daughters and family that he loved so much, we give our great condolences and our love forever.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to TOM's colleague from California, and the subcommittee chair on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman BRAD SHERMAN.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, we're all deeply saddened by the passing of TOM LANTOS. He not only made history here in Washington; he embodied history, having survived the Holocaust. And he didn't just survive the Nazis; he fought them in the anti-Nazi underground during World War II. His personal history added to the gravitas of everything he said and everything he did here in Washington. TOM was our Nation's most passionate, eloquent, and respected advocate for human rights, for democracy and for freedom. TOM never bowed to political pressure in the face of any humanitarian atrocity.

As our friend, GARY ACKERMAN, pointed out, in a town with too many sheep, TOM LANTOS was a lion, for Darfur, for Tibet, wherever human rights were trampled. And of course TOM LANTOS led the walk out in 2001 from the Durban South Africa U.N. conference when that conference degenerated into an anti-Semitic hatefest.

Madam Speaker, I came here as a tax professional expecting to serve on the Ways and Means Committee someday. And when that day arrived, TOM LANTOS convinced me to stay involved instead on the Foreign Affairs Committee. He convinced me with his words, but more than that he convinced me with his example. He was courteous, gracious, beyond what you expect; but more than that, he was passionate and he was eloquent. And he was an example of what it is to be a great advocate for human rights here in Congress. He will indeed be missed, not only by Annette and the entire LANTOS family, but also by people around the world.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, we will continue to reserve for two more speakers, and then we'll recognize Mr. SHAYS.

Mr. BERMAN. I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes, Madam Speaker, to the gentlelady from California, TOM's colleague from California, LOIS CAPPS.

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, what a privilege it is to join my colleagues today in paying tribute to our fellow Californian, the Honorable TOM LANTOS, who so wonderfully represented his constituents during his three decades in Congress.

As we know now, TOM LANTOS' journey from Hungary to the Halls of Congress was an extremely remarkable one. His life told the story of the fulfillment of the American Dream. He embodied that dream and, equally important, he knew not to take what America offered him for granted.

Even as he rose to leadership, he continued to champion the cause of human rights for oppressed people around the world, his signature issue. He was fiercely loyal to those attributes of this Nation, which had attracted him here to the country he chose to become a citizen of.

Who of us will forget TOM LANTOS' first action, becoming chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, holding some of his first hearings as chairman to address the human rights violations occurring today in Darfur?

By never forgetting his own roots, he became an advocate for all the lessons of humanity that we needed to learn from the experiences of the Holocaust, never forgetting that he served here as one who had survived that terrible tragedy and dedicated, as he was, to seeing that it would never reoccur.

He made sure that we all knew, and such a lesson I have, that those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

I learned so much from my colleague, TOM LANTOS. I can just see him sitting in his regular spot there. So our heartfelt condolences are extended to Annette, to the children, to the 18 grandchildren, one of whom I had the privilege of hearing as she testified to our Health Subcommittee. Beautiful opera singer. TOM was so proud of her. Courageous enough to talk about her rare health condition.

We celebrate his life tonight dedicated to our commitment to not letting his many achievements go unforgotten.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to another colleague of TOM's from California, the gentlelady from California, BARBARA LEE.

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to honor the courageous life of our dear friend and colleague, Chairman TOM LANTOS.

I am deeply saddened by the loss of Chairman LANTOS, and I would like to first offer my deepest condolences to Annette, his family, friends and staff, and of course California's 12th Congressional District.

And I have to thank Mrs. Lantos and TOM's entire family for sharing this great human being with the entire world.

Chairman LANTOS was an exceptional human being, and we're hearing much of this tonight. But I've always said, To know him was to love him.

His life embodied the true meaning of courage and the power of the human spirit. As the sole member of his family to survive the Holocaust, Chairman LANTOS made it his life's mission, and we all know it was his life's mission, to fight for the oppressed.

Throughout his years in Congress he fought tirelessly to ensure human rights issues always had an important and visible place within these Halls. And as the founder of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, he continually reminded us that combating injustice anywhere and everywhere in the world was not only the right thing to do, but it was our duty as elected representatives of the people.

I had the privilege to work alongside this giant of a human being on so many issues. As a former member of the Foreign Affairs Committee for 8 years, we worked together on a number of issues that we both cared passionately about, including legislation to combat the global HIV/AIDS pandemic, to end the genocide in Darfur, to address the needs of orphans and vulnerable children, and, of course, to end the occupation of Iraq.

And I will always remember the respect, and his wisdom and his insight and his guidance, as he helped me navigate the legislative process with the late Chairman Henry Hyde on the HIV/AIDS legislation. I imagine that they are, at this moment, renewing their wonderful friendship.

I will also miss our personal conversations, especially about his grandchildren, my grandchildren, his great grandchildren. He knew all of their names, and he knew all of their birth dates.

Also, we have to remember TOM loved animals; his deceased Gigi and of course now Chippy. I mean, it was amazing that this giant of a human being was such a gentle man.

I know that we must rededicate ourselves to TOM's life. His spirit is in us, and I will miss him. I will miss his love. May he rest in peace.

What a gentleman.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to Mr. SHAYS from Connecticut, a former member of our Peace Corps, who served, along with his wife, a good team, just like TOM and Annette, and who shared TOM's faith in the human spirit, and a fighter for human rights as well.

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Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, as a new Member of Congress, TOM LANTOS took me under his wings. He was my chairman of the Labor and Health Subcommittee of the Government Reform Committee, and I was one of its most active members. I got to know this man up close, and I know no one like him.

TOM LANTOS adored his wife, Annette, his two magnificent daughters, Annette and Katrina, and all of his glorious grandchildren and now great-grandchildren. He simply adored them all.

A Holocaust survivor, TOM LANTOS could not be intimidated by anyone. He was brilliant, passionate, courageous, tough almost to the point, let's face it, of being brutal, but he was also kind, gentle, loving, and lots of fun. He had a great sense of humor.

TOM was the most eloquent person I have ever known. It was hard sometimes not to feel inadequate in his presence, but the fact is, he would never have wanted you to feel that way. He would always make me feel like the best was always ahead of me and that I should think big thoughts.

He was a natural teacher. He taught by example and by the questions he asked, and he expected you to grow and to be a better person. That was your duty. And your duty, also, was to be of service to others.

It is no secret that TOM and Annette were both, are both, very strong-willed people. I marvel at how they were able to be such a powerful team and raise such a truly unbelievable, fantastic, magnificent family. They were, and are, an awesome couple.

TOM LANTOS loved America. And yes TOM LANTOS adored his wife, Annette. He adored his two daughters, Annette and Katrina, adored his grandchildren, adored his great-grandchildren. And you could be his friend if you were willing to listen to him talk about all of his loved ones.

But woe be to any man that sought to marry his daughters or his granddaughters. They were mere mortals. He expected more for his daughters and granddaughters.

I would say his son-in-laws, his grandson-in-laws, are very brave souls. Can you imagine going up to TOM and saying, ''I would like to marry your daughter''? That would take true courage.

Now, granddaughters-in-law were another story. They were deemed worthy. He embraced them immediately.

I hope, I truly hope and pray Congress finds a way to immortalize this great man in important legislation that will forever bear his name. We have Pell grants, and Fulbright Scholars. Those are names that I have heard almost all of my life. TOM LANTOS deserves to have this kind of recognition.

TOM LANTOS believed in smart power for this country. He advocated a strong military, wise diplomacy, and strategic use of economic power. But TOM wasn't just a great man of this Nation. He was a great man in this world.

Let me say it slightly differently. He is a great man of this Nation. He is a great man of this world. His light will be forever and we cannot forget him.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, this side has no further requests for time, and I would like to offer our remaining time to the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from California will control the balance of the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. BERMAN. I thank the gentlewoman very much for doing that and appreciate her and all the comments of our colleagues from that side of the aisle. I think they were a fitting tribute to TOM and his bipartisan approach to foreign affairs and to issues that go far beyond party divisions.

I am pleased to yield 2½ minutes to another of TOM's colleagues from California and the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Ambassador DIANE WATSON.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I want to add my remarks to those of my colleagues, but I have got some personal things to tell you.

Yes, he had that compassionate spirit. His unwavering concern for individual human rights and his deep knowledge of the world were an inspiration to us all. I remember when my predecessor passed away, I got a call at my embassy saying that if you should come to Congress, there is a place on Foreign Affairs for you. I hadn't even said I was going to come. Well, the results were I did.

I sit with honor among my colleagues on Foreign Affairs. I had the privilege to be trained at the State Department twice with his son-in-law, one of those rare specimens of humanity that he allowed to marry Katrina, his daughter. And I said to TOM after Katrina in Louisiana, ''I'm so sorry that Katrina has to go around through life after this terrible, terrible hurricane and present herself as 'Katrina.' ''

He said, ''She's strong like I am. She can survive.''

But I knew that when he called on me to lead the delegation to Italy, something that he looked forward to every year to continue our dialogue with Great Britain, I knew something was not right, but that proud, distinguished, tall-standing human being never uttered a word. And so I kind of knew something was up.

When I got back, I said to him, ''Thank you for the honor of going to Portofino and leading the group in your place.'' He said, ''Ambassador, you deserve that,'' and never said another word.

Then he called us together and he said, ''Travel, learn what is happening around this globe.'' And that is what we are doing. We are carrying on his legacy by learning the world, knowing it the way he did.

We will certainly miss this giant of a human being.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, with the death of Congressman TOM LANTOS, the world lost an inspiring leader who dedicated his life to religious freedom and human rights.

Now, it has been noted that TOM was the only Holocaust survivor to serve in Congress, and I think it's important to note that with the sun setting on this generation of Americans, he will very likely remain the only Holocaust survivor to have served here.

His leadership and guidance served as the moral conscience of America's commitment to protecting human rights. He lived the concept of ''never again,'' and he stood against persecution all over the globe.

For me, I would like to get a little bit personal myself. As a newer Member of Congress, I can tell you that since I got here, TOM LANTOS always made me feel like my grandfather was looking out for me. He always had a word of encouragement, always made me feel good about myself. If I felt a little shaky, I could turn to TOM, and he would tell me, ''Honey, it's okay. Go out and just do your best. You are going to do great.'' He would always offer those words of encouragement. So that was really an incredible feeling to have that kind of support.

As a young Jewish American, I can tell you that we all believed that Representative LANTOS served as a role model for what we want public service to be. His dedication to lifting up oppressed people throughout the world

serves as our personal inspiration. And I know that his service was a tremendous source of pride for the Jewish community across this country and for his constituents.

I, and countless others, feel a deep sense of loss in his passing, but we take solace in the knowledge that the world is a better place because of this great individual.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman representing the State that TOM had such close connections to, the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. HODES).

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, it was with great sadness that I learned of TOM LANTOS' passing yesterday. As our colleague and our friend, we knew him to be a man of incredible courage and strength, a man who had overcome unimaginable adversity to serve as a voice for justice against the dark forces of human evil.

TOM was born to Jewish parents in Hungary. He was 16 when Hitler's army marched in to occupy his birth country in 1944, and he tragically lost much of his family in the Holocaust. TOM courageously escaped from forced labor camps not once, but twice.

Here in Congress, he rose to the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee with the unique perspective and the power of real moral authority. Promoting human rights for all is a part of his lasting legacy. Those who follow TOM LANTOS in that cause have a high bar to match.

TOM and his beloved wife, Annette, were blessed with a wonderful and extraordinarily talented family, including my dear friend, his daughter, Dr. Katrina Swett, TOM's son-in-law, Ambassador Dick Swett, our former colleague who held the seat I now hold. They and their family are my neighbors in my home State of New Hampshire. TOM was a frequent visitor to the Granite State, a remarkably devoted father, mentor, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was a patriarch in the best sense of the word, and on behalf of all of New Hampshire's citizens, we mourn TOM's passing as one of our own.

I am honored to have served with such a remarkable and accomplished individual. He was the first Member of Congress to welcome me when I arrived. He was an inspiration to me.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this time. I know they will take solace in the lasting legacy that their beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather left us.

He showed us that even in the darkest corners of the human experience, one strong, clear voice, one irrepressible beacon of light can stand as an unwavering candle whose flame will never go out.

Thank you, TOM.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlelady from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, so many of us have risen and expressed how heavy our heart is tonight. Those of us who served on the Foreign Affairs Committee with the late Chairman TOM LANTOS see every day, as we come into that room, his regalness, his royalty, but yet his humbleness. We also get to see the family, his wonderful staff, and his lovely and solid friend, bride, wife, and enormously important person, his wife, Annette.

I got to see them working together. I saw TOM's passion in the committee room. He was not afraid of hard issues, and I am so proud to have been able to have joined him as a member of his Human Rights Caucus and to serve in his absence on a number of occasions when we talked about the abuse of children around the world or the abuse and the violence against women around the world.

TOM was a fighter. We know that as the only Holocaust victim and survivor to have come to this place. He talked unwavering about human rights and the standing up against despots, and he never feared in doing so. The Human Rights Caucus became part of him. When you saw TOM walking, you knew he exuded a fight for human rights.

He also was concerned that we continue to fight in this Congress against oppressive regimes. So even though there are advocates for China and Russia, Burma, and certainly there is constant opposition from the Sudanese Government, he never wavered on Darfur. You heard someone say he was even arrested.

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I've been proud to stand with him on these fights.

He led the fight to end wartime sex slavery by the military; another resolution recognizing the massacre of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire as genocide; and, yes, he held hearings condemning Internet giant Yahoo's complicity with Chinese oppression of dissidents. And I tell you, he didn't worry about whether that was a constituent; he only worried about human rights.

Thank you, TOM, for letting us know your family. I met his daughter, Katrina, and Dick in New Hampshire. What a wonderful spirit they had. I am certainly saddened by his loss, but the fighter he was should live in us.

TOM, rest in peace. May God bless you. We fight on with you.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 975, "expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Tom Lantos," and to express my profound sadness upon the passing of my extremely distinguished colleague.

Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I mourn the passing of my colleague Congressman TOM LANTOS. Chairman LANTOS was an extraordinary leader, a man who demonstrated, by his life, that one individual truly can make a difference. As the only Holocaust survivor ever to serve in Congress, Congressman LANTOS brought a moral voice to Washington, and he relentlessly drew U.S. attention to those suffering throughout the world. It has been my extreme honor and privilege to serve on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, under Chairman LANTOS' leadership.

Since he was elected to Congress in 1981, Congressman LANTOS has used his position in Congress to combat violations of fundamental human rights. Almost immediately following his election, Congressman LANTOS established the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, which, for over two decades, has focused congressional attention on struggles against oppressive regimes and human suffering across the globe, including in China, Russia, Burma, and Darfur. I have been proud to stand beside him, as a member of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, and I know my colleagues share my commitment to ensuring that his work here in Washington continues.

As a fierce advocate of human rights, he continually pressed the Bush administration to take steps to prevent the state-sanctioned massacre and rape of hundreds of thousands of people in Sudan's Darfur region. On April 28, 2006, I was honored to stand side by side with Congressman LANTOS and protest the role of the Sudanese Government in carrying out genocide in the Darfur conflict.

As chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Congressman LANTOS did not shy away from controversial issues. Under his leadership, the committee passed a resolution calling on the Japanese Government to end wartime sex slavery by its military, and another resolution recognizing the massacre of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire as genocide. He has brought landmark anti-trafficking legislation before the committee, held hearings condemning internet giant Yahoo!'s complicity with the Chinese suppression of dissidents, and, tomorrow, the committee is scheduled to consider a groundbreaking reauthorization of the PEPFAR global AIDS relief program.

Congressman LANTOS was a truly courageous man, and a true leader for our Nation. His legacy is best expressed in his own words, "It is only in the United States that a penniless survivor of the Holocaust . . . could have received an education, raised a family and had the privilege of serving the last three decades of his life as a Member of Congress. I will never be able to express fully my profoundly felt gratitude to this great country."

I offer my condolences to the family of Congressman LANTOS: his wife Annette; his two daughters, Annette and Katrina, and 18 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. I also join with other Members of Congress in mourning the passing of an extraordinary person, leader and colleague.

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution, and in recognizing our distinguished colleague.

REP. TOM LANTOS (D-CA) DIES

Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA), an important voice for Tibetan freedom, died today at the age of 80. He had served 14 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Born into a Jewish family in Budapest, Hungary, he twice escaped from a forced labor camp in Szob during the Nazi occupation of his country. The second time, he was sheltered by Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. After the Soviet army liberated Hungary, he discovered that his parents and

most of his family had been killed during the occupation.

The only Holocaust survivor ever to serve in Congress, Rep. Lantos was chairman of the United States House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He was also co-chairman and founder of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, a group dedicated to raising awareness about human rights violations around the world.

Rep. Lantos was a tireless supporter of the Tibetan independence movement and His Holiness the Dalai Lama. His contributions are too numerous to count, so I'll point you to one of the most recent: his speech in San Francisco for the 2007 Tibetan Uprising Day. He also joined Richard Gere and Robert A.F. Thurman in talking about his friendship with and admiration for His Holiness as part of A&E Biography's 1997 documentary Dalai Lama: Soul of Tibet. In addition, Rep. Lantos was the driving force behind the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to His Holiness last year. When the House of Representatives ultimately voted to give His Holiness the honor, he said:

''In his quiet but persistent way, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has devoted his life to asserting the Tibetan people's rights, lifting their spirits and upholding their dignity. By his humble personal example, through his prolific writings and in his addresses to audiences in every corner of the earth, the Dalai Lama has provided exceptional service to humankind. Such a vast contribution to the betterment of our world deserves special recognition and support. After nearly three decades of friendship with His Holiness, I am deeply honored and proud to have rallied my colleagues to award him the Congressional Gold Medal. We can now look forward to the day when he once again meets with members of Congress—this time to stand before us all to receive this unique and well-earned honor.''

Mr. BERMAN. I am pleased to recognize my friend and colleague from Tennessee, Mr. STEVE COHEN, for 2 minutes.

Mr. COHEN. ''Tom,'' as he would insist on being called, was a special person. I'm a freshman, and he befriended me in my first year.

Back, I think it was last January, there was an article in The Hill, and it described my apartment. And my apartment was described as spartan, and that's probably effusive. And we had a Judiciary Committee meeting with Justice Pryor and Justice Alito, I think there were just six or seven or eight of us there, and I choose to go to that meeting rather than the Yom HaShoah program at Statuary Hall. And I felt bad about that because I had attended all those programs in Tennessee and felt strong about the Holocaust. And I rushed up here at the end and I saw Mr. LANTOS and I went up and I said, Mr. LANTOS, I'm sorry, I missed the meeting. He said, First of all, it is TOM. And I said, Well, okay, TOM. And I said, I went to this Judiciary meeting and I made a mistake; I should have come here, I know. And he said, No, you didn't; you did the right thing going where you belonged. You belonged in committee. You can go again next year. And then I walked away and he stopped me and said, And by the way, I read about you in The Hill. If you need some help with interior decorating, you give me a call.

He was a special person. He had a wonderful sense of humor. And when I had problems with bills and votes that I didn't feel comfortable with, I would go to him; and he was grounded and helped me with them, just as he did Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

America has lost a great leader, and I feel like I have lost a member of my family. I am fortunate to have known him. JOHN LEWIS and TOM LANTOS are the two saints of Congress; we've lost one, we have another.

Mr. BERMAN. I am pleased to recognize the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. RUSS CARNAHAN, for 2 minutes.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Chairman, my deepest condolences to the Lantos family. Thank you for sharing him to perform his remarkable public service here.

It is, indeed, an honor and a privilege to have known TOM and Annette Lantos, a remarkable American success story, a remarkable American love story.

I first met Mr. LANTOS as a new Member after the 2004 elections and was awed by him. His life story and internationally renowned fierce voice for human rights everywhere will continue to lead and inspire us for years to come.

I am truly indebted to TOM LANTOS for his gentlemanly demeanor and generous time and advice for me as a new Member of this House and on his Foreign Affairs Committee. His giving nature, keen intellect, and passionate advocacy were part of the decency in what is right about this House of Representatives.

Mr. Chairman, TOM, we will miss you, but not soon forget you.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield to TOM's good friend, chairman of the Asia Subcommittee of House Foreign Affairs Committee, ENI FALEOMAVAEGA from American Samoa, 2 minutes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from California, our chairman-to-be of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and also my good friend and distinguished ranking member of our committee, the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

Madam Speaker, I, too, would like to express my most profound sorrow and to extend my sympathies to Chairman LANTOS' dear wife, Annette, and their two daughters and 18 grandchildren.

It is my privilege to participate in this Special Order and pay special tribute to our colleague and chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the gentleman from California, Congressman TOM LANTOS.

Without equal, Madam Speaker, Chairman LANTOS was a champion and advocate throughout the world for the basic rights and dignity and decency of all human beings, regardless of race, color, gender, or religious affiliations. TOM LANTOS truly believed that in this troubled world of ours there is only one race, and that is the human race.

I am without words in how I can best describe the life of this giant among men. And in this Chamber of Congress, there is no word or phrase more dear to TOM's heart than that of ''human rights.'' And forever I will remember him as a teacher and a mentor whenever the subject of human rights is being debated or under discussion in this institution.

As others have said earlier, Chairman LANTOS would not have had it any other way other than for us to continue the fight and to advocate for human rights whenever necessary, and for that matter, also to defend freedom and democracy throughout the world. We have a saying in the islands, Madam Speaker, to my friend TOM LANTOS, ''Ia manuia lau faiga malaga''; may you have a great voyage in the afterlife, my friend, Chairman TOM LANTOS.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for the balance of the time.

Mr. BERMAN. I thank the Speaker.

A great deal has been said about TOM LANTOS this evening, wonderful, eloquent words that captured just the profound effect that he had on this institution. Many serve in this institution. Some leave a mark on their districts of their presence here; some leave a lasting mark on the institution. It's hard for me to think of anyone who left such a mark around the world as Chairman LANTOS did in so many different areas.

You read that statement that DAVID DREIER read earlier, and I'm going to read it again because it captures his love of this country. He and Annette, they were the greatest Americans because they knew what the alternative had been, and they paid back with their work and with their gratitude what America offered them.

This is TOM LANTOS' words after he is diagnosed with a very advanced stage of esophageal cancer, ''It is only in the United States that a penniless survivor of the Holocaust and a fighter in the anti-Nazi underground could have received an education, raised a family, and had the privilege of serving the last three decades of his life as a Member of Congress. I will never be able to express fully my profoundly felt gratitude to this great country.''

He not only loved America; he hated tyranny and oppression. And I served with TOM on the committee for 26 of his 28 years in the Congress, and that anger and hostility and willingness to fight against dictatorship and tyranny covered the dictatorships of the communist regimes, and it covered the dictatorships and the oppression of the rightwing authoritarian regimes. He wasn't one side or the other; he was against tyranny for human rights. Stood firm.

It's very easy for us to attack forces that have no direct impacts on our district; it doesn't take that much courage to do that. TOM LANTOS, notwithstanding what some company in his

district might be making in terms of sales to a particularly oppressive country, stood firm and constantly dealt with the pressures coming back from his own constituents about our livelihood, our jobs, because he couldn't tolerate the notion that, in effect, American companies, American individual interests, American corporate interests were giving governments around the world the tools of that repression.

In closing, I just want to tell one story. It was a profound experience for me, I'll never forget. I had the opportunity to see TOM a few weeks ago at his home here in Washington with Annette, with Katrina, with their granddaughter and with a baby grandson, which, by the way, was one part of what gave him his strength was this unbelievable family structure. And he looked much better than he had looked in his last few weeks here, and he talked about being at peace. Yes, he would have loved to have been able to be here a few years longer, but for him, he felt what a wonderful life he had had, what a wonderful family, what a country, the colleagues. He was at peace with what awaited him. And there was a serenity and a strength there that just was stunning to me. I'll never forget it.

To the family, to Annette, our prayers are with you. And you know that the work he did, the lives he affected around the world, his presence will be maintained long after his passing.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, we have lost a dear friend and colleague in the House of Representatives. The world has also lost a great humanitarian.

As the only Member of Congress to survive the Holocaust, Congressman LANTOS had a deep understanding of the value of freedom and the need to pursue human rights around the globe. He brought life experiences to his work that nobody else could.

On a personal note, I was extremely saddened when I heard the news of his passing. After arriving back in Washington today and seeing the flags at half mast, it set in that he won't be with us any longer.

I will miss him.

He was always very gracious during my conversations and dealings with him. I would listen closely when he spoke because what he had to say was always important. I urge my colleagues to honor Chairman LANTOS' memory and fight for human rights and justice around the world with the same passion that he did.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, yesterday, the United States Congress lost a dear friend, a true humanitarian, and a real statesman, Chairman TOM LANTOS of California.

I extend my deepest sympathies to TOM's dedicated wife Annette, his daughters Annette and Katrina, and to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We are thinking of them during this difficult time and hope they will find solace in knowing that their husband, father, and grandfather was a true hero and role model for so many of the people he touched.

Chairman LANTOS was unrelenting in his lifelong commitment to defending the oppressed. He decisively chose to serve his fellow human beings, often at great personal risk to himself. After escaping from Nazi labor camps in World War II, young TOM fought in the underground Nazi resistance and continued to fight for justice. His ability to triumph through tragedy is truly inspirational.

TOM embodied the American dream. In the summer of 1947, TOM was awarded a scholarship to study in the United States. He arrived in New York City with no money and only a Hungarian salami which was quickly seized by U.S. customs officials. With his incredible persistence and deep intellect, he soon earned his Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Berkeley. TOM was always thankful for the opportunities given to him by the United States and America is blessed to have had such a loyal citizen and distinguished leader.

Continuing his dedication to others, TOM served the American public and people of the world as an exemplary Member of Congress. He founded the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and most recently served as Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Standing by his convictions, TOM was arrested at the Embassy of Sudan for protesting human rights violations in Darfur. As a result of this brave action, the President renewed his call for a stronger international presence in Darfur. TOM continually defended those too often ignored by the international community. People of the world are indebted to him for his strong leadership in promoting human rights.

I am honored to have served in Congress with Congressman LANTOS and to have worked together on significant legislation defending the international human rights of women. His support was paramount to the achievement of many gains for women's human rights.

Together, we were able to provide direct assistance to advance the status of women in Afghanistan. We also collaborated on landmark legislation to stop human trafficking. I am deeply grateful for his commitment to the women of the world.

Chairman TOM LANTOS will always be remembered with respect and gratitude. He consistently gave voice to the voiceless and was their champion. His legacy of upholding human dignity will continue to inspire future generations of Americans.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I mourn the passing, and commemorate the courageous life, of my dear friend and colleague, Congressman TOM LANTOS of California.

Congressman LANTOS began a lifetime of passionate work for human rights as a young man when he escaped a forced labor brigade to join an underground resistance movement against the Nazis in his home country of Hungary. A Jewish survivor of the Holocaust, he was just a teenager when he undertook this important work, which began over 60 years of efforts to fight for human rights across the world.

Congressman LANTOS' life of work on behalf of human rights culminated with over two decades of service in Congress, where he never failed to champion causes that he felt were just. In 1983, Congressman LANTOS became a founding co-chair of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, a caucus on which he served for the remainder of his life. Under Congressman LANTOS' leadership, this caucus was on the forefront of efforts to protect women's and children's rights, to free political prisoners, to preserve religious freedom and to halt ethnic cleansing.

In recent years, Congressman LANTOS directed his focus to ending the ongoing genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan, which has already claimed the lives of over 400,000 people. In 2006, he was among a group of 11 individuals who were arrested for committing civil disobedience outside the Sudanese Embassy in protest of the genocide. I can only say that it was an honor to follow in this wonderful man's footsteps by doing the same thing myself a few short weeks later.

Beginning last year, when Congressman LANTOS became Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, he brought the crisis in Darfur and the recent violent crackdown on democracy activists in Burma to the forefront. It also must be noted that, under Chairman LANTOS' leadership, the Foreign Affairs Committee finally began long-overdue oversight of the war in Iraq.

Congressman LANTOS' inspiring leadership will be sorely missed, not only in this Congress, but by people around the world. I wish to send my deepest condolences to Congressman LANTOS' friends, family and constituents for the loss of this irreplaceable man of good will.

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I come to say good-bye to a beloved colleague and friend.

The sudden news of Chairman TOM LANTOS' passing has left those who had the privilege to know him without adequate words to express our grief.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his caring wife Annette and to his family. I wish them strength and clarity during this difficult time.

TOM's life and accomplishments reached far beyond his contributions as a legislator.

Many words have been written about TOM's experiences as a youth in Nazi occupied Europe. But none of us will ever be able to speak here with the same level of experience and understanding that he had when referring to genocide, suffering, the suppression of human rights, and the denial of human dignity.

TOM carried a personal sense of responsibility to fight for those who cannot always speak for themselves: the underprivileged, the subjugated, the oppressed. It was evident in his words and actions, in every piece of legislation he crafted, and in every hand he warmly shook.

His convictions were never more evident than in his work to establish the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. He founded the Caucus to focus attention on human rights abuses around the world. Not only did he work to raise awareness and increase the scrutiny of abusive practices around the globe, he worked to stop heinous acts against our fellow women and men and to bring peaceful solutions to the conflicts that led to such atrocities.

His unwavering optimism and prudent leadership will be missed.

My words cannot satisfactorily articulate the loss that his death brings to me, the House of Representatives, and to the Nation he loved and served.

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, TOM LANTOS was one of the kindest, most sincere people I have ever met. It was both an honor and a pleasure to serve the people of the Bay Area with a man of his integrity. His belief in universal human rights for every man, woman

and child defined his career in Congress as well as how he lived his life. America is honored that TOM LANTOS chose to be a citizen of our great democracy, and the world is a better place because he fought to make it so. His passing is a loss to the Congress, the Bay Area, and the United States, and everyone who believes in fairness and equality. My thoughts are with his wife Annette and his entire family at this very sad time.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Congressman TOM LANTOS.

It was with great sorrow that I learned of the passing of my esteemed colleague.

When I asked TOM LANTOS for his support in defending a group of women who the Japanese Army forced into prostitution during World War II, I knew that if anyone would understand the pain of war, it would be him. For Congressman LANTOS, human rights violations were not just an abstraction. He saw his family decimated by the Nazis during the same war. He himself had suffered through the horrors of a labor camp.

After surviving the horrors of the Holocaust, Congressman LANTOS dedicated his life to advocating for the rights of others. He spoke for those who had no voice through his tireless advocacy as the founder of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

A fellow member of the Bay Area delegation, Congressman LANTOS has been a mentor to me. His thirst for justice and advocacy of progressive ideals will live on in all those he inspired during his fruitful life.

Congressman LANTOS will be missed by everyone who had the privilege of working with him. I send my deepest condolences to his family, and echo his wife Annette's comments that her husband's life was ''defined by courage, optimism, and unwavering dedication to his principles and his family.'' TOM LANTOS will forever remain a role model and inspiration to me.

I will miss him dearly.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, it is with tremendous sadness that we mourn the passing of Chairman TOM LANTOS—an inspiring colleague and an outspoken champion for human rights around the world. His passing will leave an enormous void in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he has served for 28 years and was admired and respected for his strength, leadership and unwavering commitment to democracy and freedom.

It was my honor to serve for 4 years as a member of the House International Relations Committee in which Representative LANTOS was my ranking member. He was a mentor and strong leader as a Democrat and as an American. I will miss TOM as a colleague and a friend.

I extend my heartfelt prayers and condolences to TOM's wife, Annette, who was his constant companion and an inspiration in her own right, along with their two children, seventeen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The U.S. House of Representatives and the United States of America have lost a hero, and he will be sorrowfully missed.

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our friend and colleague, the gentleman from California, TOM LANTOS.

Our Nation has lost a true leader, and the world has lost its foremost champion of human rights. While involved in many different issues throughout his illustrious career, it is TOM LANTOS' work on behalf of suffering people throughout the world that best exemplifies the type of man he was.

Born on February 1, 1928 in Budapest to Jewish parents, TOM LANTOS faced unspeakable horror early in his life. He escaped a Nazi forced labor camp twice, the second time thankfully finding himself under the protection of Raoul Wallenberg, likely saving his life. He later learned that his parents and much of his family perished at the hands of the Nazis.

As the only survivor of the Holocaust serving in the House, he understood, in a way no one else could, the type of suffering man can inflict upon others. He was the founder and co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, and truly was a leader in standing up for the smallest and weakest in our global community. No injustice escaped his attention, no matter what corner of the world was involved, and he would fight doggedly to right any wrongs.

He earned an academic scholarship that brought him to the United States, where he earned his bachelor's, master's and eventually doctorate degrees and entered the world of academia, before he decided to enter the political arena, serving 14 terms here in the House. He rose through the ranks to become the distinguished chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, a position that allowed him to continue his battle for the common man who might otherwise not have a voice.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to travel with him and his wife Annette on a trip to South Korea, Cambodia, and Vietnam in January, 2001, hosted by then-Minority Leader Gephardt. I am proud to call him not only my colleague, but also my friend.

I join with all of my colleagues in extending our thoughts and prayers to TOM's bride of almost 58 years, Annette, his two daughters, his 17 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He will truly be missed.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to speak on the passing of an esteemed colleague and a true friend, former Congressman TOM LANTOS.

TOM's dedication, passion, and fervent commitment to human rights will be deeply missed by our Nation and, indeed, around the world. As the only Holocaust survivor ever elected to Congress, TOM fought every day to give voice to the voiceless and make true our commitment to the words ''never again.'' Only 16 when he was rounded up in his native Hungary by the Nazis where he saw most of his family perish, TOM was a living embodiment to the ideals of courage and human rights.

First elected to Congress in 1980 after a distinguished career in academia, TOM was a tireless advocate on behalf of his constituents and a fine public servant. Representing parts of San Francisco as well as his hometown, San Mateo, TOM zealously represented the interests of his District and, speaking as a Member of the California delegation, I was proud to serve with him and call him friend.

While TOM had a remarkable career of over a quarter of a century in Congress, it was his last year as chairman of his beloved House Foreign Affairs Committee that he seemed to relish the most. From that perch, he was able to advance the cause of human rights and to shine a light on long ignored parts of the globe.

TOM is survived by his loving wife Annette, by his two daughters, Annette and Katrina; by 17 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, maybe because I, too, lost many family members in the Holocaust, I felt a special affinity for TOM LANTOS. His story was an integral part of him. I was moved every time he described himself as the only Holocaust survivor in Congress. And so were many others.

TOM was eloquent, passionate, insightful, elegant—and fierce in his advocacy. His questions of witnesses before his committee could be withering. He had a point of view and was unblinking in his efforts to communicate it.

In personal terms, TOM was a lovely human being—devoted to Annette, his daughters and that enormous crowd of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. But he was also devoted to his colleagues, this institution, to our country, and to achieving peace in the Middle East.

At a time of such entrenched partisanship—which he deplored—we desperately need more, not fewer, Toms. Sadly, that is not likely to happen.

I shall miss him terribly.

Shalom, haver.

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to address the House for one minute.

I rise today to remember a respected colleague, and to celebrate a life filled with courage, love, and service.

With the passing of Representative TOM LANTOS yesterday, this body and this country lost a champion for human rights and life everywhere.

A quick look at Representative LANTOS' life shows us what a remarkable man he really was.

Born in Hungary, he fought in the underground struggle against the Nazis in Europe and twice escaped from labor camps as a teenager.

Later, as the only Holocaust survivor to ever serve in Congress, he used this experience to work against the forces of oppression, intolerance, and genocide.

Representative LANTOS was also known as a dedicated family man. He and his dear wife Annette were usually inseparable—and all of my colleagues in the House knew of his dedication to his 17 grandchildren.

So let us take this time to recognize and mourn our dear friend Representative TOM LANTOS—a fierce defender of human rights, and true leader who worked to improve the world for both the free and oppressed alike.

The thoughts and prayers of Barbara and I are with his family, friends, and constituents at this difficult time.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the legacy of human rights champion LANTOS TAMÁS PETÉR and expressing great sympathy on the passing of this great American.

As a member of the freshman class of the 110th Congress, TOM LANTOS was certainly a colleague that I admired and looked toward for guidance. I am especially glad that under our new majority he was able to serve as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, a post that he held with distinction. There was an air about him, of European old-worldliness and charm, that I will never forget. It was a great honor to have served with a man of such character and integrity.

TOM is famously quoted as saying that he was an ''American by choice.'' And how only in this country, could ''a penniless survivor of the Holocaust and a fighter in the anti-Nazi underground . . . have received an education, raised a family and had the privilege of serving the last three decades of his life as a member of Congress.'' As a naturalized U.S. citizen myself, I hope to give back to this Nation as much as TOM did in his many years of public service.

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to TOM's beloved wife, Annette Tillemann Lantos, his daughters Annette Tillemann-Dick and Katrina Swett, his 18 grandchildren, and his 2 great-grandchildren. Thank you for sharing TOM with us and with the world. His example of courage and integrity will continue to inspire us.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, yesterday morning a friend and colleague, Representative TOM LANTOS, passed away.

Throughout his life, Congressman LANTOS fought for liberty. As a young man in Hungary during World War II, he opposed the spread of Nazi fascism and survived the Holocaust. During his 27 years in Congress, Congressman LANTOS earned a reputation as a leader for human rights and democracy around the world—in particular as the Ranking Member and the Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

I had the privilege of working with Chairman LANTOS as a fellow member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Together, we were able to strengthen the partnerships between the United States and nations throughout the world. Chairman LANTOS brought an unmoving optimism to both his life and his career that served himself and his adopted nation of America well.

TOM LANTOS was a beloved and respected member of the House of Representatives, and he will be dearly missed. During this difficult time, our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Annette, their two daughters, and his entire family and friends.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and thank my colleagues.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3521, PUBLIC HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2007

Ms. SLAUGHTER, from the Committee on Rules (during consideration of H. Res. 975), submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–524) on the resolution (H. Res. 974) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3521) to improve the Operating Fund for public housing of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5349, PROTECT AMERICA ACT OF 2007 EXTENSION

Ms. SLAUGHTER, from the Committee on Rules (during consideration of H. Res. 975), submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–525) on the resolution (H. Res. 976) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5349) to extend the Protect America Act of 2007 for 21 days, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

IRAN STILL LIVES IN THE STONE AGE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the Iranian Government still lives in the Stone Age. Two Iranian sisters will be stoned to death after a court convicted them of adultery. One sister's husband was upset that he and his wife didn't get along, so he planted a video camera in their home while he was away. A videotape showed the two sisters in the company of other men, but did not show either woman engaged in a sexual act.

The husband turned the videotape over to the adultery police to prosecute the women. These two sisters were tried twice for this so-called crime. The first trial resulted in a conviction, and the women were convicted of illegal relations. Each sister received 99 lashes. But it gets worse: a second trial convicted the two sisters of adultery and they were sentenced to death.

Last year, Jafar Kiani was stoned to death for alleged adultery. Now these two sisters are next in line for the savage rock throwing. Doesn't anyone think lashing and stoning is a bit severe for adultery? I guess the Iranian Government has never heard of cruel and unusual punishment. And where is the outcry from the world of women's rights groups when they are needed to protest these acts from the Stone Age?

And that's just the way it is.

□ 2045

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BALDWIN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FRANKS of Arizona addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REMEMBERING AND HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE SHOOTING AT KIRKWOOD CITY HALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight on a sad occasion in the loss of loved ones in the Kirkwood, Missouri, community, part of which I represent and part of which is represented by my colleague Representative AKIN of St. Louis County, and tonight we want to talk about that incident.

This close-knit community of Kirkwood, Missouri, struggles this week over the loss of loved ones. The wounded, especially Mayor Mike Swoboda, who remains hospitalized, and the chill to public servants and citizens from the violence in Kirkwood City Hall at the level of democratic government closest to the people.

I saw firsthand last Friday night at the Kirkwood community's candlelight vigil the way this community has come together through this tragedy, uplifted by ordinary people performing extraordinary acts of heroism, caring, and love. The hearts and prayers of all Missouri and the Nation go out to the families now grieving.

First, our obligation is to care for the wounded and honor the lost, who were lost while on duty in the high calling of public service. We lost two city council members, Councilwoman Connie Karr and Councilman Michael Lynch; two police officers, Officer Tom Ballman and Officer William Biggs; and Public Works Director Kenneth Yost.

We search our hearts and minds to understand what went wrong that terrible day this past week, to honor their public service, and to learn from this breakdown in the public square. Rightly, we come together to let them know they are not alone in their suffering. We know each and every one of them found purpose in life helping others and as public servants in the public good. One person, Dick Reeves, posted a comment on the St. Louis Post Dispatch site that impressed me and it summed up how to deal with this tragedy. He said, ''If something positive comes out of this horrific tragedy, please let it be that in the memory of these good people, each and every one of us dedicates ourselves to treating our elected officials and each other at home, work, school, play, and while driving with respect, decency, and kindness. We can do it. Let our actions be their monument.''

And I would like to yield to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN).

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great tragedy that occurred in Kirkwood, Missouri, in my

district this last Thursday. On what seemed to be a typical night in what has long been considered an almost idyllic community, Charles Lee Thornton shot and killed Police Sergeant William Biggs outside of the Kirkwood City Hall.

After entering City Hall, Mr. Thornton then shot and killed four dedicated civil servants and severely wounded the mayor before he himself was shot and killed by responding Kirkwood police officers.

Today, Kirkwood Mayor Mike Swoboda continues to struggle for his life.

Those killed in the City Hall were Police Officer Tom Ballman, Councilwoman Connie Karr, Councilman Mike Lynch, and Public Works Director Kenneth Yost. Kenneth Yost had served in that position for 35 years.

As Kirkwood and surrounding communities lay to rest officers and public servants, one cannot help but be moved by the deep sense of faith expressed by the family and friends they have left behind. What has also become so clear is the deep commitment that these individuals had for their community.

With that service in mind, I would like to refer to Matthew 20:28, which states: ''Among you, whoever wants to be great must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the willing servant of all, like the Son of Man; He did not come to be served but to serve and to give up his life as a ransom for many.''

OH WHERE, OH WHERE CAN THE PHANTOM AIR BASE BE?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE. Oh where, oh where has the American air base gone? Oh where or where can it be? With its 6,000 phantom troops and 32 million missing dollars, oh where, oh where can it be?

Madam Speaker, let me explain. Corruption has struck again, and just like times in the past, it's at the taxpayers' expense.

Government investigators recently uncovered the newest scam in contracting. This time it's a phantom air base in Iraq, purchased by the U.S. taxpayers at the tune of $32 million.

Madam Speaker, here it is, or here it's supposed to be. This is a photograph of the location in Iraq where the air base is, or where it was supposed to be built. But you can see that there is nothing to see because it was never built.

Last month the Inspector General at the Defense Department released a report about money spent to help train and equip Iraqi military and police forces. The contracting project in question was awarded to Ellis Environmental Group, a U.S. company based out of Florida, in 2006. The U.S. Air Force paid the company $32 million for this project, this air base in Iraq. The construction contract would have involved the creation of barracks and offices for 6,000 Iraqi troops in Ramadi, the capital of the Anbar province.

But the project had to be abandoned before anything was ever built when the Iraqi Defense Ministry failed to obtain this desert land for the base.

So what happened to the $32 million the Air Force doled out to Ellis Environmental? The alarming answer is no one knows. And the company won't say.

An Air Force spokesman says the contractor set up a camp for construction workers and began design work for the headquarters before the project was halted. But nothing was ever built. All we know now is that none of the $32 million the U.S. paid out to these contractors was returned to U.S. taxpayers. The Air Force is set to begin an audit of the project, but no one knows how long that's going to take.

The Inspector General report documents more abuses. And USA Today Matt Keller, reporter, said the findings show ''the military didn't keep adequate records of equipment for the Iraqis ranging from generators and garage trucks to thousands of guns and grenade launchers. Separately, the United States has launched a criminal investigation into allegations that weapons it bought for the Iraqi soldiers ended up in the hands of insurgent and terrorist groups.''

Madam Speaker, this ought not to be.

In the meantime, Ellis Environmental Group has changed its name.

If a crime has been committed, these outlaws responsible need to be held accountable. Madam Speaker, war profiteers that make money off of war by building ''phantom'' military bases like this one should be prosecuted. This type of conduct fits the definition of war crimes. Maybe we should build a real prison for war criminals out in this desert in the sands of Iraq to house thieves that steal American money.

So, Madam Speaker, oh where, oh where has the American base gone? Oh where, oh where can it be? With its 6,000 phantom troops and 32 million missing dollars, it's where, oh where no one can see.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. YARMUTH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURGESS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FISA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Well, here we go again, Mr. Speaker. As Yogi Berra once put it, ''This is like deja vu all over again.''

When the Director of National Intelligence, Admiral McConnell, came to the Congress for help, he was only given a 180-day authority to conduct surveillance which he described at the time as necessary to close our ''critical intelligence gaps.'' Of course, that authority expired on February 1, and the 2-week extension of the Protect America Act expires this Friday. Now, while the Democratic majority's so-called RESTORE Act passed by this body recognized the need to defend our Nation beyond 180 days, it would also have repealed core provisions requested by Admiral McConnell, and it also contained a sunset date approximately 2 years from now. While the other body has just passed this evening a 6-year extension of the new FISA bill, it remains to be seen how this will be reconciled with the RESTORE Act passed by this body.

It is certainly my hope that this body will affirm the bipartisan agreement reached by the Senate this evening. It is in concert with the outline of a bill supported by 21 Members of the majority side in a letter they sent to the Speaker just several weeks ago. In my estimation, there is no issue of greater importance to our Nation at

the present time. The surveillance of foreign terrorists is critical to our ability to protect our homeland and to assure the safety of the American people. The other body has risen to this challenge by passing legislation that may not be perfect but which does respond to the basic concerns laid out by Admiral McConnell.

Yet, according to press accounts I've seen, some have suggested that the expiration of the Protect America Act wouldn't be that consequential because they say it would not interfere with surveillance which has already begun. Well, let me suggest that even if that were the case, it completely ignores the impact on new terrorist communications which may arise. For instance, if we get word on Saturday, February 16, that an al Qaeda member in Kandahar is on the line with someone in Munich on a call that travels through a New York switch, this is a conversation which should be of interest to us. The point is, if the Protect America Act is allowed to expire, the bill in the Senate is not passed, this terrorist communication may not be intercepted.

I would add that we have had plenty of time to view this issue. We have had plenty of discussion on the relevant committees, and now the bipartisan bill that passed the other body is available for us to act upon.

What must the rest of the world, much less the terrorists who seek to kill us, think of the national security policy that we have displayed of fits and starts? This hardly resembles the actions of a super power determined to protect its citizens from such an ominous outcome. The only hope that we can have is that such indecision perhaps will be construed as a plan to confuse the terrorists, double jujitsu, if you will.

On the other hand, those of us who view the rest of the world through the jihadist prism may be picking up a very different message concerning the level of our determination.

This on again, off again policy of terrorist surveillance has to end. We must give Admiral McConnell and those in the intelligence community under his charge the tools necessary to protect the American people, and we must do so on a permanent basis.

Does anyone realistically believe the imposition of arbitrary sunsets every few weeks or every few months somehow places us in the position to return to a pre-9/11 world? Such wish fulfillment is no basis for the formulation of national security policy, for we no longer live in a world where wishful thinking is permissible if we are to fulfill our obligation to those who have sent us here to represent them and protect them. This is the first obligation of government. And after 9/11 or 7–7 in London, Bali, Madrid, Amman Jordan, and Glasgow, we no longer have the option to pretend otherwise.

□ 2100

Our policy as a nation must begin with the recognition of this reality. However inconvenient or discomforting it might be for some of us, we must recognize that meeting the challenge posed by those who seek to kill us is going to be a long-term, not short-term, challenge. It therefore requires a long-term investment in our security.

We cannot just be thinking about 2 weeks, or 21 days, or 6 months, or 2 years out. The gravity of the challenge we face requires a commitment which is commensurate with the serious nature of the threat. The American people demand that this be our serious approach.

Although it is my belief that a permanent reauthorization is therefore consistent with the history of the FISA Act, consistent with the threat that we face, and consistent with what the American people wish, the 6-year extension contained in the bipartisan language which passed the other body this evening is a meaningful compromise. We must send a clear message to terrorists that we understand the nature of our struggle. There must be no doubt in their minds that we will never forget what they have done and that we are committed to the long haul.

I take a back seat to no one on the question of the need for vigorous congressional oversight of the executive branch. I spoke about this before I returned to this Congress after a 16-year absence. However, when we are told by Admiral McConnell what he needs and then this body does not listen and attempts to reinvent the wheel with the so-called RESTORE Act, there surely should be some compelling justification for such a rejection of the Director of National Intelligence request.

Let me suggest that it has been more than 6 months since the enactment of the Protect America Act. So what is the factual basis to justify the dramatic changes that were embodied in the majority party's so-called RESTORE Act? After all this time, what is the evidence that Admiral McConnell was wrong? We now have the benefit of 20/20 hindsight. It is no longer necessary for us to speculate.

So how are the changes to the Protect America Act embodied in the RESTORE Act borne out by experience? We now have the basis for making empirical judgments; and unless there are answers to these basic questions, attempts to rewrite Admiral McConnell's bottom line are nothing more than a leap into the dark, a serious existential leap concerning the safety and security of all Americans.

Or is there something else other than evidence at work here? During our legislative hearings in the Judiciary Committee, there were concerns expressed that in reaching the compromise agreement which became the Protect America Act that somehow the White House may have unduly influenced the process. There were questions raised about whether Admiral McConnell could speak truth to power.

Let me first of all say that the interest of the White House in protecting the national security of our Nation is about as much of a surprise as the discovery that gambling was going on in Joe's Bar in the movie ''Casablanca.'' It would be more of a shock to learn the administration, or any administration for that matter, lacked an interest in a matter of such magnitude relating to its essential obligation to protect the American people.

After 9/11, it should never again happen that everything that could be done wasn't done to ensure that we connect the dots. No, the real issue here was one of credibility, or so some attempted to make it, the credibility of Admiral McConnell concerning, as was stated by one of my colleagues on our committee, to speak truth to power.

One interesting incident subsequent to the adoption of the so-called RESTORE Act provides us with persuasive evidence of Admiral McConnell's independent judgment. Regardless of how one interprets the National Intelligence Estimate concerning Iran, any attempt to attack Admiral McConnell as a tool of the Bush administration would appear to be lacking in any credibility whatsoever. There should be no doubt in anyone's mind that Admiral McConnell is a man of honor who calls it as he sees it. This is important because he told us how he sees it; and unlike the bipartisan coalition in the other body, our adoption of the majority party's RESTORE Act proved, I fear, that we did not listen to him with seriousness of purpose.

It was not enough that this man had served in Democrat and Republican administrations and had a distinguished naval career. After all, some would say we are talking about the Bush administration. So let me suggest, this is not about President Bush. As bumper stickers I have seen on the road reflect, by 1/20/09 President Bush will no longer be in office. We will have a new administration and a new President, whomever he or she will be.

But whomever they will be, they will continue to face the same threat by radical jihadists whose primary aim in life is to kill us. That will not change. Regardless of which political party occupies the White House, the one advantage we will need to defend against another horrific attack will be the need to learn of their plans before they are carried out, to gather intelligence; and if we are to be successful in doing so, the surveillance of foreign terrorists will be critical to this endeavor.

Independent sources such as Brian Jenkins of the RAND Corporation have stressed that our intelligence capability is a key element in our effort to protect our homeland. He states that in the terror attacks since 9/11, we have seen combinations of local conspiracies inspired by, assisted by, and guided by al Qaeda's central leadership. It is essential that while protecting the basic rights of American citizens, we find ways to facilitate the collection and exchange of intelligence across national and bureaucratic borders.

The development of comprehensive homeland security strategy cannot be conceived in isolation from the need for surveillance of terrorists overseas. The Director of National Intelligence has told us what he needs; and unfortunately, that is not encompassed in the so-called RESTORE Act, which passed this body, this body, in November. Unless the bipartisan agreement which passed the other body this evening is adopted, we will be without the minimum acceptable threshold of protection negotiated with Admiral McConnell last August.

Although this body did adopt the so-called RESTORE Act in November of last year, that legislation would impose additional burdens on the intelligence community which undermined the essential nature of the compromise reached with Admiral McConnell. Furthermore, the RESTORE Act punted on the critical question of whether retroactive protection could be extended to those communication providers who responded to the call for help from their government in the wake of 9/11.

What does that mean? It means simply this: while we recognize in other situations that a Good Samaritan law makes sense; that is, we want to encourage doctors or health care providers who come upon an accident on the highway to utilize their expertise to help those who might be injured at that location without regard to the possibility of lawsuits thereafter, even though we know that that might, in some cases, make it impossible to sue a doctor for what otherwise would be considered malpractice. We make that judgment because we believe on balance it is for the good of society and in most cases will allow extra protections or extra treatment that otherwise might not be there for someone who has been the victim of such an accident.

Similarly, the Senate bill recognizes how important it is that we have the intelligence necessary to identify the threat that is posed by those who would wish to kill us and destroy us in the name of some distorted version of religious purpose.

And so what we have said, at least what the other body has said, what the President has asked for, what Admiral McConnell has asked for is a type of national Good Samaritan law with respect to the collection of foreign intelligence. In other words, when in an emergency situation, in a terrorist scenario, in the aftermath of 9/11, when the government desperately needs to be able to gather as much information as possible with respect to foreign intelligence, foreign actors who wish to do harm to us, the government reached out to various companies who are able to aid them in that way, and all the bill that has passed the Senate does, and the bill which hopefully will be before us sometime this week, all it does is say that if you responded in good faith to the request of the Federal Government to assist in the collection of information about foreign intelligence relative to the threat that is posed by this terrorist effort around the world, we will hold you harmless. We will have you immune from lawsuits.

Now, when this question was presented to us in the Judiciary Committee, one of my friends on the other side of the aisle, in opposing that, said these people have many high-priced attorneys and they can respond to that themselves. Now, what if we took that as our approach to a Good Samaritan law with respect to accidents on the highway? We would say, well, we don't have to worry because these doctors have a lot of money. They can hire a lot of high-priced attorneys. They can defend themselves in court thereafter. Do we think that would encourage doctors and other medical specialists or health specialists to assist? I think not. At least that has been the decision we have made in State after State after State where we have said on balance, for the good of society, we will create these laws.

No, what we passed on the floor of the House, the so-called RESTORE Act, was the anti-Good Samaritan law. It was Good Samaritan beware: if you dare respond affirmatively to a request by your government and act in good faith to help that government obtain the information against foreign actors with respect to their evil intent to try and destroy us, you may be subjected to lawsuit after lawsuit.

Now is this just a figment of my imagination, the imagination of others, the imagination of those in the Senate who brought forth this bill? No, because we know there are numerous lawsuits that have been filed against those companies that they believe responded affirmatively to the request by the Federal Government to assist them in gathering that information in the wake of 9/11.

The idea that a court order should be required before surveillance can take place against a foreigner overseas is precisely the thing that Admiral McConnell warned against. Well, my friends on the other side of the aisle are fond of the rejoinder that they only require a basket warrant under their approach. That does little or nothing to respond to the admiral's concern, for even if it is a basket, the intelligence community is going to have to identify every piece of fruit in that basket. And as Admiral McConnell has explained time and time and time again, in the real world of intelligence, this is simply unworkable.

Furthermore, in the alternative presented by the majority in their RESTORE Act, which presumably they want to go to conference on and against which they would place the Senate bill, the language found in section 2(a)(2) of that House bill creates even more problems. The language of the majority party's RESTORE Act includes a section entitled: ''Treatment of inadvertent interceptions.'' It deals with this situation: the intelligence community believes in good faith that they are dealing with a foreign-to-foreign communications, but inadvertently they capture communication that deals with a foreign-to-domestic call. And you say how could that happen? Well, in the real world, you can only target one end of the conversation. So when we go into this and we target one end of the conversation and in good faith believe that that is going to be foreign-to-foreign, occasionally you might get foreign-to-domestic. So what happens? The language in the majority party's bill says you cannot use that information for any purpose. You can't disclose it. You can't disseminate it. It cannot be used for any purpose or retained for longer than 7 days unless a court order is obtained, or unless the attorney general determines that the information, the information contained, indicates a threat of death or serious bodily harm to any person.

Now, you might say, well, that should take care of all situations, shouldn't it? Well, let's say we have a conversation or communication involving Osama bin Laden and the communication involves someone within the United States, and there is no indication, no indication whatsoever in that communication concerning a threat of death or serious bodily harm to any person. But the conversation, the contents of the conversation, indicate the exact cave where Osama bin Laden may be. We would find ourselves unable to act.

□ 2115

I know that sounds absurd, but in fact that is a fair reading. In fact, it is the only reading of that section of the bill that the other side of the aisle wishes to have passed in lieu of the bill that was presented by the Senate today. It is simply unacceptable.

Now, to be fair, the majority says, well, wait a second. Your concern is not well placed because there is language found in section 22 of the majority bill which provides that it would not ''prohibit the intelligence community from conducting lawful surveillance necessary to prevent Osama bin Laden or any other terrorist or terrorist organization from attacking the United States.'' So they say, you see, we have taken care of that problem. But they haven't.

The problem with this logic is that the qualification found in that language that the surveillance must be ''lawful'' is obviously affected by what is found elsewhere in the bill, including the language contained in section 2(a)2 that I just discussed. Thus by its own terms, any assertion that we will be able to listen to the conversations of Osama bin Laden must be read in light of the remainder of the bill.

Again, why are we going down this road? Why is the majority so insistent on not allowing us an up or down vote on the Senate bill? Why are they so insistent on the product that we produced on this floor that has these problems that I have just mentioned?

Since the enactment of the Protect America Act, the one that we passed on August 5, the one upon which the bill in the Senate is based, what facts and what evidence have arisen which would warrant second guessing the intelligence community and its assessment of the minimum requirements necessary in order to continue the protection of the American people? And, Mr. Speaker, I would say if this is not about facts, if this is not about evidence, then what is it about?

It should be noted that the bipartisan legislation passed by the other body does not contain this entirely unacceptable language I mentioned from section 2(a)2 of the House bill.

Now, surely one thing not at issue is the effect of the Protect America Act and its progeny, the bill produced in the Senate today. Its effect on the civil liberties of Americans is not at issue. Let me point this out. There is nothing contained in the Protect America Act or in the bill passed by the Senate today which would allow the President to target Americans or U.S. persons outside of the law. The Protect America Act did nothing to change this aspect of the law, which has existed since 1978, nor does the Senate bill.

So, there are two things which must be kept in mind. First, if the intelligence community targets someone inside the United States, the community must first obtain a court order from the FISA court. That does not change.

Secondly, if the intelligence community surveils a communication where both ends of the communication are in the United States, the intelligence community must obtain a FISA court order.

Furthermore, if Osama bin Laden or another terrorist calls a U.S. person within the United States, the end of the conversation conducted by the U.S. person, the person he called to in the United States, that end of the conversation would have to be what we call in the law minimized under the existing procedures of the 1978 act.

Let me again emphasize that the minimization process which is applied in cases where information has been inadvertently obtained from a U.S. person is not only in the original FISA statute, but is something with which we have been familiar on the criminal side for decades as well.

In other words, when a court allows for a wiretap in a criminal case in the United States, a domestic criminal case, again, the wiretap is only on one end. So they put a wiretap on a Mafia boss. That wiretap captures conversations from that particular phone to many, many different others, and if in fact it goes to somebody who is not involved whatever in the criminal enterprise, that conversation, that part of the conversation dealing with that person is minimized. If, because of something that attracts the investigator's attention on that end of the line going towards criminal investigation must go forward, then they have to go to court to get a court order with respect to that individual. That is the same way we handle minimization in these FISA cases.

In an interesting exchange during our Judiciary Committee hearing on FISA, Admiral McConnell was queried as to how many Americans have been wiretapped without a court order? The direct response by Admiral McConnell was ''none.'' He went on to say this: ''There are no wiretaps against Americans without a court order. None. What we are doing is we target a foreign person in a foreign country. If that person calls into the United States, we have to do something with that call, that process is called minimization. It was the law in 1978. It is the way it is handled.''

Any suggestion that the intelligence community could somehow operate outside the law because of anything we did in adopting the Protect America Act this past August or in adopting the bill sent over from the Senate is a regrettable reversion to scaremonger.

I would suggest that the attempt to scare the American people into believing we have jeopardized their civil liberties by exposing them to warrantless surveillance does a disservice to rational political discourse. And I would also suggest that except for those on the ideological fringes who might fear their government more than they fear al Qaeda, it will also prove to be a failed political strategy.

You don't have to like President Bush, you don't have to countenance the war in Iraq, to understand who the real enemy is, those who killed over 3,000 of our fellow citizens on September 11. Nothing in the Protect America Act, nothing in the bipartisan compromise which just passed the other body, would adversely affect constitutionally protected privacy interests.

In the seminal Fourth Amendment privacy case entitled Katz v. United States, the Supreme Court held that the protection of the Fourth Amendment extended to cases involving electronic surveillance of oral communications without the requirement of a physical intrusion.

Before that, there was a question as to previous decisions by the court and whether or not these protections would go if there was no physical intrusion. In Katz v. United States, the court held that the Fourth Amendment did extend to cases involving electronic surveillance of oral communications, even though there was no physical intrusion. At the same time, however, the Supreme Court expressly stated that national security cases were expressly outside the purview of its holding in that case.

Furthermore, in his concurring opinion, Justice ''Whizzer'' White, I think his picture can be found in Webster's Dictionary besides the word ''moderate,'' made the following observation: Speaking of the court he said, ''We should not require the warrant procedure and the magistrate's judgement if the President of the United States or his legal officer the Attorney General has considered the requirements of national security and authorized electronic surveillance as reasonable.''

In the debate before us where the issue involves the surveillance of foreigners outside the United States, the civil liberties concerned are minimal, if not nonexistent. What do I mean by that? In a case where terrorists might call a U.S. person, the FISA minimization procedures which have applied since 1978 continue to protect the privacy interests of Americans and legal residents in the United States.

Thus, in arriving at a definition of reasonableness on the Fourth Amendment, it comes down to how serious one deems the threat of another 9/11 to be. In fact, if you consider the threat of another attack on the American people to be serious, it would be a terrible mistake to walk away from what Admiral McConnell has told us he needs, for there is perhaps know greater threat to civil liberties than the prospect of another successful attack on the United States. It was for this very reason that the 9/11 Commission itself made the observation that ''the choice between security and liberty is a false choice, as nothing is more likely to endanger America's liberties than the success of a terrorist attack at home.''

Simply put, if we suffer a terrorist attack at home, another terrorist attack at home, the response of the American people might very well be to cut back on our protection of civil liberties in order to protect us from such terrorist attack.

The 9/11 Commission has suggested that if we do those things that are necessary in our and are constitutional, we ought not to face that false choice of security versus liberty. It is in this context that we must view the legislation currently before this body. It is not a zero sum game, where increasing our Nation's security necessarily comes at the expense of liberty. This is a false dichotomy.

This is not an abstract philosophical debate. No. It involves the targeting of foreign individuals outside the United States. It was for this reason that the United States Supreme Court in the Keith case, much like the 9/11 Commission, noted that were the government to fail ''to preserve the security of its people, society itself would become so disordered that all rights and liberties would become endangered.''

Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the opportunity to observe the FISA debate taking place in the other body. The senior Senator from my State of California, for whom I have great respect, was arguing for more restrictive language, positing FISA as the exclusive means for the conduct of electronic surveillance.

Let me say that this concept is already embodied in the current FISA statute and there is nothing whatsoever in the Protect America Act or the

bill that has come to us from the Senate which in any way alters or affects that. It is irrelevant to the reason for which Admiral McConnell came to the Congress and asked us to close critical gaps in our foreign intelligence.

First of all, it is not clear there was an attempt by Congress to occupy the field when the issue is foreign intelligence or foreign surveillance of non-U.S. persons in contrast to the definition of electronic surveillance within FISA itself. It was recognized at the time that there were constitutional limits on how far the Congress could go. There was testimony to that effect by former Attorney General Griffin Bell, with whom we are all familiar.

Secondly, the House conference report on the 1978 FISA statute contains an interesting admission concerning the scope of the coverage by the statute. The House conference report recognized that the statute's restrictions might impermissibly impinge or infringe on the President's constitutional powers. The report acknowledges that ''the conferees agree that the establishment of this act of exclusive means by which the President may conduct electronic surveillance does not foreclose a different decision by the Supreme Court.''

The conference report explained that Congress intended in FISA to exert whatever power Congress constitutionally had over the subject matter to restrict foreign intelligence surveillance, and to leave the President solely with whatever inherent constitutional authority he might be able to invoke against Congress' express wishes.

The legislative history in the Senate also reveals that the provisions in FISA were intended to exclude certain intelligence activities conducted by the NSA from the coverage of FISA.

With respect to 50 USC 2511(2)(f), it is clear that the legislation does not deal with international signals intelligence activities as currently engaged in by NSA in electronic surveillance conducted outside the United States. The legislative history also makes clear the definition of electronic surveillance was crafted for this very same reason.

It is particularly noteworthy that the FISA Court of Appeals itself states in ''In re: Sealed Case'' that ''all the other courts to have decided the issue held that the President did have inherent authority to conduct warrantless searches to obtain foreign intelligence information.'' The court further stated, ''We take for granted that the President does that have that authority.''

The United States Supreme Court itself in the Keith case held that the warrant requirement would apply to national security investigations involving purely domestic targets with no suspected ties to a foreign power. However, Justice Powell carefully distinguished this holding from foreign intelligence cases in writing that ''the instant case requires no judgment on the scope of the President's surveillance power with respect to the activities of foreign powers.'' It is thus clear that the United States Supreme Court itself has drawn a commonsense distinction between domestic surveillance and foreign surveillance.

The Protect America Act and its progeny, the bipartisan Senate bill passed today, they respect these parameters in that their focus is on non-U.S. persons located overseas where an American that is not the target of the surveillance. If a U.S. person happens to be on the other ends of a conversation with Osama bin Laden, the remedy, as I said before, is minimization, purging the non-targeted American's contribution to the conversation.

□ 2130

Thus, there is no need to bar the use or dissemination of such information as required under the terms of the majority's so-called RESTORE Act. Privacy and civil liberty considerations are simply not implicated to any significant degree in the foreign surveillance context.

In order to reach a compromise with the House leadership last August, Admiral McConnell was forced to punt on the issue of those telecommunications providers who came to the aid of their country in the wake of 9/11. The RESTORE Act subsequently passed by this body fails to deal with this issue at all. The message delivered to these companies is simply that you are on your own.

The idea that these companies should be met with the response that you are on your own is simply incomprehensible. They did what they did not because they thought about it on their own, but because they were responding to requests from their government in the wake of the worst attack on this Nation since Pearl Harbor. If there was a mistake in policy, which I do not believe to have been the case, but if there were such a mistake, the mistake was made by the government, not by those who were asked to help prevent another 9/11.

Let us not forget that although we have not been the victim of another successful attack, from the vantage point of the post-September 11 time frame, there was great anticipation about the prospect of another attack. Those who like to inveigh against the failure to connect the dots cannot in the same breath turn their backs on those who sought to make sure that such a thing did not happen again.

Further, I would say, what kind of signal does this send to those who, during some future conflict, are approached by our government to help prevent another cataclysmic assault on our Nation? Our friends on the other side of the aisle should think long and hard before they feed these telecommunications entities to the litigation sharks. It may be a different war, it may be a different President, but this is the worst possible precedent. If you are going to tell these companies that you are on your own, the next time they may tell us, well then, connect your own dots.

This body failed to address this critical issue, which will surely affect the willingness of Americans to come to the aid of our government when this Nation faces future peril.

However, all Americans can find solace from the fact that the bipartisan legislation which passed the other body this evening does meet this challenge. It does say that we would grant immunity to those companies that responded, in good faith, to the request by their government to assist them in gathering this information and would limit it from the date of 9/11 up to the present time. Very specific, very specific with respect to that. And, interestingly enough, there doesn't seem to be dispute or hasn't been dispute about making that kind of prospective. But should we say that those who have helped us in the past in the aftermath of the worst attack since Pearl Harbor are to be viewed as lacking? That somehow they are to take the fall? If there were mistakes, they were government mistakes, and you ought not to attack third parties who responded in a responsible good-faith way.

Both justice and common sense dictate that future Presidents of both parties may need help, may need to call on the help of the American people should we face another terrible event of the magnitude of 9/11.

So, Mr. Speaker, let's be clear: this is not a partisan issue. All Americans of both parties have the same desire to raise their families in a Nation of secure communities free from the fear of another cataclysmic attack. The other body has considered this at some length and acted reasonably. We are up against a deadline at the end of this week. The Senate bill, unlike its House counterpart, does respond to the national security needs of our Nation. It is evidence of the fact that the majority and minority can work together to protect the public.

On August 5, this body demonstrated, with the passage of the Protect America Act, that it likewise can put aside partisan differences and meet this most solemn obligation that we have to those who have elected us. Once again, we are called upon to do so.

So I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that tomorrow we not go forward with an effort to have a 21-day extension of the current law and kick the can down the road again; that we actually come forth and debate vigorously and vote on the bipartisan compromise presented to us by the Senate today; that we face squarely the question of whether we are going to enact a Good Samaritan law for those companies and individuals who responded to the call of their country, or whether we are going to take a position that only an anti-Good Samaritan law makes sense in the context of this fight against extreme Islamo-fascism.

Mr. Speaker, although even-numbered years have the tendency to raise

the volume of rhetoric, the protection of the American people should transcend politics as a fundamental obligation of government. The other body has put the public interest above partisanship, and I would hope that we can follow their example.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that we have consideration of the Senate bill brought forth on this floor within the next 2 legislative days so that the people of the United States can watch their Representatives in this House work their will on that proposal.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CUELLAR (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of inclement weather.

Mr. CUMMINGS (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. HONDA (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of family medical reasons.

Mr. ORTIZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of weather delay.

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of inclement weather in the district.

Mr. KUHL of New York (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of bad weather.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. CARNAHAN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CARNAHAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. YARMUTH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, February 13, 14, and 15.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, February 15.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, February 15.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today and February 13.

Mr. SALI, for 5 minutes, February 14.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and February 13, 14, and 15.

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, February 13.

Mr. KIRK, for 5 minutes, February 13.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, for 5 minutes, February 14.

Mr. DENT, for 5 minutes, February 13.

SENATE BILL AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

A bill and concurrent resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2071. An act to enhance the ability to combat methamphetamine; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce; in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. Con. Res. 67. Concurrent resolution establishing the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies; to the Committee on House Administration.

S. Con. Res. 68. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies; to the Committee on House Administration.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 781. An act to extend the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to collect Do-Not-Call Registry fees to fiscal years after fiscal year 2007.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reports that on February 7, 2008, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 4253. To improve and expand small business assistance programs for veterans of the armed forces and military reservists, and for other purposes.

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, further reports that on February 8, 2008, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 5140. To provide economic stimulus through recovery rebates to individuals, incentives for business investment, and an increase in conforming and FHA loan limits.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Resolution 975, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 13, 2008, at 10 a.m., as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable TOM LANTOS.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5286. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Zeta-cypermethrin; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-2007-0300; FRL-8346-3] received December 26, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5287. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Trifloxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0732; FRL-8342-6] received December 26, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5288. A letter from the Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that increases in both the Program Acquisition Unit Cost (PAUC) and the Procurement Unit Cost (PUC) for the Joint Tactical Radio System Ground Mobile Radio (JTRS GMR) program exceed 15 percent, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5289. A letter from the Chairman, Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, transmitting the Commission's final report on the assessment of the reserve components of the U.S. military and recommendations to ensure that they are organized, trained, equipped, compensated, and supported to best meet the current and future requirements of U.S. national security; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5290. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on assistance provided by the Department of Defense to civilian sporting events in support of essential security and safety, covering the period of calendar year 2007, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2564(e); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5291. A letter from the Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward compliance with destruction of the U.S. stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions by the extended Chemical Weapons Convention deadline of April 29, 2012, and not later than December 31, 2017, pursuant to Public Law 110-116, section 8119; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5292. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Bruce A. Wright, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5293. A letter from the Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's draft Complex Transformation Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5294. A letter from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, transmitting the Annual Report of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 396(k)(3)(B)(iii)(V); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5295. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Facing the Hard Truths about Energy: A Comprehensive View to 2030 of Global Oil and Natural Gas''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5296. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories: Gasoline Distribution Bulk Terminals, Bulk Plants, and Pipeline Facilities;

and Gasoline Dispensing Facilities [EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-0406, FRL-8512-3] (RIN: 2060-AM74) received December 26, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5297. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hospital Ethylene Oxide Sterilizers [EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0171; FRL-8512-1] (RIN: 2060-AM14) received December 26, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5298. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Standards of Performance for Stationary Spark Ignition Internal Combustion Engines and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines [EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0030, FRL-8512-4] (RIN: 2060-AM81) received December 26, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5299. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-290, ''Juvenile Speedy Trial Equity Temporary Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5300. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-289, ''National Capital Revitalization Corporation and Anacostia Waterfront Corporation Reorganization Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5301. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-287, ''Minority and Women-Owned Business Assessment Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5302. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-286, ''Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom Active Duty Pay Differential Amendment Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5303. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-285, ''District of Columbia Public Library Retirement Incentive Temporary Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5304. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-284, ''Adoption and Safe Families Temporary Amendment Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5305. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-283, ''Disposition and Redevelopment of Lot 854 in Square 441 Approval Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5306. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-282, ''SafeRx Amendment Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5307. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-288, ''Excellence in Local Business Contract Grading Act of 2008,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5308. A letter from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a report on the Strategic Plan FY 2007 — FY 2012; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5309. A letter from the Co-Chief Privacy Officer, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's report on the annual activities that affect privacy including complaints of privacy violations, implementation of the Privacy Act, and internal controls, pursuant to Section 522 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005; to the Committee on House Administration.

5310. A letter from the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's report regarding the activities of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization for 2006, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5311. A letter from the Acting Staff Director, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting notification that the Commission recently appointed members to the District of Columbia Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5312. A letter from the Chairman, National Science Board, transmitting the Board's report entitled, ''Moving Forward to Improve Engineering Education''; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5313. A letter from the American Legion, transmitting the financial statement and independent audit of The American Legion proceedings of the 89th annual National Convention of the American Legion, held in Reno, Nevada from August 24-30, 2007 and a report on the Organization's activities for the year preceding the Convention, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 49; (H. Doc. No. —94); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

5314. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's fourteenth report on the impact of the Andean Trade Preference Act on U.S. trade and employment for 2007, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 3205; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5315. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's FY 2005 Annual Report on the Child Support Enforcement Program in accordance with 452(a) of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5316. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Assets for Independence Demonstration Program: Status at the Conclusion of the Seventh Year,'' pursuant to Public Law 105-285, section 414(d)(1); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5317. A letter from the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for WTO and Multilateral Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, transmitting the Administration's Annual Report on Subsidies Enforcement, pursuant to the Statement of Administrative Action of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5318. A letter from the Chair, Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel, transmitting the Panel's Final Advice Report on the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program (the Ticket Program); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5319. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report on the results of a study on which Medicare beneficiaries with specific chronic conditions are deemed to be homebound for purposes of meeting Medicare's criteria for receiving home health services, pursuant to Section 702 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

5320. A letter from the Secretary and Attorney General, Departments of Health and Human Services and Justice, transmitting the tenth Annual Report on the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control (HCFAC) Program for Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395i; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. SUTTON: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 974. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3521) to improve the Operating Fund for public housing of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (Rept. 110–524). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 976. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5349) to extend the Protect America Act of 2007 for 21 days (Rept. 110–525). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Mr. OBERSTAR):

H.R. 5336. A bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to authorize funding for brownfields revitalization activities and State response programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5337. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on triphenyltin hydroxide; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5338. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 4-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy) butyric acid and 4-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy) butyric acid, dimethylamine salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5339. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Bromoxynil Octonoate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5340. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on dichlorprop-p acid, dichlorprop-p dimethylamine salt, and dichlorprop-p 2-ethylhexyl ester; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5341. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Gibberellic Acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5342. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5343. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-ethylhexyl (4-chloro-2-methylphenoxy) acetate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5344. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-Methyl-4-chlorophenoxy-acetic acid, dimethylamine salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5345. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on MCPB Acid and MCPB Sodium Salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5346. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Imazapyr; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 5347. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on metsulfuron-methyl; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. SHAYS):

H.R. 5348. A bill to amend the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to assure comprehensive, affordable health insurance coverage for all Americans through an American Health Benefits Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself and Mr. REYES):

H.R. 5349. A bill to extend the Protect America Act of 2007 for 21 days; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself and Mrs. DRAKE):

H.R. 5350. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange certain National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration property located in Norfolk, Virginia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RANGEL (for himself, Mr. STARK, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. POMEROY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KIND, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. HILL, Mr. HODES, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SIRES, Ms. TSONGAS, and Mr. WELCH of Vermont):

H.R. 5351. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SESTAK:

H.R. 5352. A bill to protect seniors in the United States from elder abuse by establishing specialized elder abuse prosecution and research programs and activities to aid victims of elder abuse, to provide training to prosecutors and other law enforcement related to elder abuse prevention and protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. PICKERING):

H.R. 5353. A bill to establish broadband policy and direct the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a proceeding and public broadband summits to assess competition, consumer protection, and consumer choice issues relating to broadband Internet access services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5354. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain theatrical lighting fixtures; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5355. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain theatrical lighting fixtures; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5356. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain surge protective receptacles and surge suppressor strips; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5357. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain lighting control timers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5358. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain electrical connectors and adaptors; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5359. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on aluminum lamp-holder housings containing sockets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5360. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on brass lamp-holder housings containing sockets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5361. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on plastic lamp-holder housings containing sockets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5362. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on porcelain lamp-holder housings containing sockets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5363. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on high current ground fault circuit interrupters; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5364. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on in line ground fault circuit interrupters; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5365. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on ground fault circuit interrupter receptacles of greater than 15 amps; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5366. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on ground fault circuit interrupter receptacles of 15 amps or less; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5367. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on right angle ground fault circuit interrupters; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina:

H.R. 5368. A bill to suspend the duty on Aluminum (0.010″ and thicker); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina:

H.R. 5369. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain products; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina:

H.R. 5370. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain gelatins; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina:

H.R. 5371. A bill to suspend the duty on Aluminum (0.008″ and thinner); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BEAN (for herself and Mr. SIRES):

H.R. 5372. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow a special depreciation allowance for reuse and recycling property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BOSWELL:

H.R. 5373. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the energy efficient appliance credit and the nonbusiness energy property credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5374. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on sodium methylate powder; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5375. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Trimethyl cyclo hexanol; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5376. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Thymol; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5377. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 1,2 Octanediol; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5378. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Menthyl anthranilate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5379. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-Phenylbenzimidazole-5-sulfonic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5380. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Methyl Salicylate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5381. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Methyl cinnamate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5382. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on p-Methylacetophenone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5383. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2,2-Dimethyl-3-(3-methylphenyl)proponal; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5384. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on 1,2 Hexanediol; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5385. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on 1,2 Pentanediol; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5386. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 5-Methyl-2-(methylethyl)cyclohexyl-2-hydroxypropanoate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5387. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Frescolat MGA; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5388. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Anisic Aldehyde; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5389. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on o-tert-Butylcyclohexanol; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5390. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on 4-ADPA; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5391. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on sodium hypophosphite; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5392. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Mixtures of N-phenyl-N-((trichloromethyl)thio)-benzenesulfonamide, calcium carbonate, and mineral oil; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5393. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Ferro Boron; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina:

H.R. 5394. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Cobalt Boron; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARNAHAN (for himself, Mr. CLAY, Mr. COSTELLO, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. AKIN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia):

H.R. 5395. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11001 Dunklin Drive in St. Louis, Missouri, as the ''William 'Bill' Clay Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia:

H.R. 5396. A bill to designate the Cold War Museum in Fairfax, Virginia, as the National Cold War Museum; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HODES:

H.R. 5397. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain battery assemblies; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HULSHOF:

H.R. 5398. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain mixtures containing [3-[(6--chloro-3-pridinyl)methyl]-2-thiazolidinylidene]cyana ide; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 5399. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain travel bags with a removable backpack or daypack; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LATOURETTE (for himself, Mr. JORDAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. TURNER, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. LATTA, Mr. HOBSON, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 5400. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 160 East Washington Street in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, as the ''Sgt. Michael M. Kashkoush Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. LOEBSACK (for himself, Mr. HARE, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOSWELL, and Mr. KAGEN):

H.R. 5401. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy improvements at public school facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. WELCH of Vermont (for himself, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYNN, Mr. HALL of New York, and Mr. CARNAHAN):

H.R. 5402. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish the Office of Environment, Energy, and Climate Change and to establish the Climate Change Center and Clearinghouse to provide support and information on climate change to small business concerns; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself and Mr. DICKS):

H.R. 5403. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide an equitable distribution of land to the 13th Alaska Native Regional Corporation; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. MANZULLO, and Mr. MICHAUD):

H. Con. Res. 291. Concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the 400th anniversary of Quebec City in Quebec, Canada, since its founding in 1608 by French explorer Samuel de Champlain; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself and Mr. SKELTON):

H. Con. Res. 292. Concurrent resolution honoring Margaret Truman Daniel and her lifetime of accomplishments; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GORDON (for himself, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BERRY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. ROSS, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. TANNER, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. WAMP, Mr. WHITFIELD of Kentucky, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

H. Res. 971. A resolution expressing the sympathies and support of the House of Representatives for the individuals and institutions affected by the powerful tornados that struck communities in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee on February 5th, 2008; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. CAPPS (for herself, Ms. FALLIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mrs. CUBIN, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. SUTTON, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BEAN, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. KIND, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. FARR, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. DRAKE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. ROSS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. SOLIS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mrs. MYRICK, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. HARMAN, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN):

H. Res. 972. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HINOJOSA (for himself and Mrs. BIGGERT):

H. Res. 973. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the 10th annual National Consumer Protection Week; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STARK:

H. Res. 975. A resolution expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Tom Lantos, a Representative of the State of California; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BRALEY of Iowa (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. BOSWELL, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. HARE, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. OBEY, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. SHULER, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, and Mr. MANZULLO):

H. Res. 977. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that rebate checks would better stimulate the economy if spent on American-made products and services from American-owned companies; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HARE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SUTTON, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CHANDLER, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H. Res. 978. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of March 3-7, 2008, as ''School Social Work Week'' to promote awareness of the vital role of school social workers in schools, and in the community as a whole, in helping students prepare for their future as productive citizens; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 81: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.

H.R. 136: Mr. BOOZMAN and Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 190: Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, and Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 219: Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 245: Mr. WEXLER.

H.R. 278: Mr. ARCURI.

H.R. 333: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. INSLEE.

H.R. 471: Mr. TURNER and Mr. FEENEY.

H.R. 555: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 648: Mr. CLAY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. RENZI, and Mr. MATHESON.

H.R. 661: Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 685: Mr. KUHL of New York.
H.R. 724: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 827: Mr. SOUDER.
H.R. 847: Mr. HERGER.
H.R. 850: Mr. BOOZMAN and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 1000: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HILL, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIRES, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GOODE, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MANZULLO, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. WELLER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. ORTIZ, and Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 1074: Ms. SUTTON, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, and Mr. MEEK of Florida.
H.R. 1102: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1134: Mr. SESTAK and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 1306: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 1328: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
H.R. 1431: Mr. WYNN.
H.R. 1439: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 1474: Mr. PORTER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mrs. BONO MACK.
H.R. 1553: Mrs. CUBIN.
H.R. 1560: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 1588: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 1589: Mr. PUTNAM.
H.R. 1594: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 1621: Mr. KANJORSKI, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 1653: Mr. MORAN of Virginia and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H.R. 1791: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 1964: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 1975: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 2040: Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. LAHOOD, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2075: Mr. COLE of Oklahoma.
H.R. 2108: Mr. FARR.
H.R. 2131: Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 2134: Mr. PENCE.
H.R. 2188: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 2221: Ms. HARMAN.
H.R. 2223: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 2267: Mr. LATTA and Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 2290: Mr. COBLE and Mr. EMANUEL.
H.R. 2303: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. SAXTON, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. RAMSTAD.
H.R. 2362: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.
H.R. 2370: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2507: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.
H.R. 2514: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 2577: Mrs. MYRICK.
H.R. 2604: Mr. ROTHMAN.
H.R. 2694: Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 2702: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 2703: Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 2708: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 2712: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 2744: Mr. GERLACH, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. ROSS, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 2790: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 2792: Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 2851: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 2892: Mr. STUPAK.
H.R. 2923: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 2933: Mr. BLUNT.
H.R. 2941: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2991: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 3080: Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 3197: Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 3212: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 3213: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 3304: Mr. STEARNS.
H.R. 3471: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 3563: Mr. CAPUANO and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3599: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 3635: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 3652: Mr. STUPAK.
H.R. 3660: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN and Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 3679: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.
H.R. 3698: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 3738: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 3754: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. KIND, Mrs. BONO Mack, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 3819: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 3846: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 3902: Mr. BOSWELL.
H.R. 3932: Mr. SNYDER and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 3934: Mr. BARTON of Texas and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 4063: Mr. FILNER and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 4126: Mr. PETRI, Mr. MANZULLO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, and Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky.
H.R. 4131: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. FILNER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 4169: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 4206: Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 4236: Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. ARCURI.
H.R. 4248: Mr. FARR, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. HOOLEY.
H.R. 4293: Mr. SOUDER.
H.R. 4296: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 4318: Mr. KUHL of New York.
H.R. 4321: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. DRAKE, and Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
H.R. 4335: Mr. HINCHEY and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.
H.R. 4449: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 4464: Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. LINDER, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. SULLIVAN.
H.R. 4540: Mr. COSTELLO.
H.R. 4611: Mr. ACKERMAN.
H.R. 4879: Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 4912: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 4926: Mr. PORTER and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 4930: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 4936: Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 4959: Ms. ESHOO, Ms. WATERS, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 4987: Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mrs. CUBIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GOODLATTE, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. HAYES, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. SULLIVAN.
H.R. 5036: Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. STARK, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 5057: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. DELAHUNT, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 5058: Mr. FILNER, Mr. HODES, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. DELAHUNT, and Ms. HARMAN.
H.R. 5087: Mr. LOBIONDO and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 5131: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 5148: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. TERRY, Mr. CHABOT, and Mrs. EMERSON.
H.R. 5152: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 5161: Mr. EHLERS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.
H.R. 5167: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 5173: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. WAMP, and Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 5180: Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. KAGEN.
H.R. 5193: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 5222: Mr. MCKEON, Mr. BUYER, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. DENT, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. WHITFIELD of Kentucky, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BLUNT.
H.R. 5223: Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H.R. 5229: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. TERRY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 5231: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 5233: Ms. FOXX, Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. COBLE, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 5244: Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 5265: Mr. UPTON, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. REYES, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. WHITFIELD of Kentucky, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. GERLACH, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 5268: Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 5292: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 5310: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 5335: Mr. BOREN, Mrs. EMERSON, and Mr. CRAMER.
H.J. Res. 67: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H. Con. Res. 32: Mr. KINGSTON and Mr. BOOZMAN.
H. Con. Res. 120: Mr. SKELTON.
H. Con. Res. 250: Mr. STEARNS.
H. Con. Res. 260: Mr. TERRY.
H. Con. Res. 263: Mr. LATOURETTE and Mr. WHITFIELD of Kentucky.
H. Con. Res. 268: Mr. HINCHEY, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. SESTAK.
H. Con. Res. 275: Ms. WATSON.
H. Con. Res. 280: Ms. DEGETTE and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H. Con. Res. 281: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Mr. HENSARLING.
H. Con. Res. 284: Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
H. Con. Res. 289: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. KILPATRICK.
H. Con. Res. 290: Mr. SESTAK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WEINER, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H. Res. 102: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H. Res. 105: Mr. SOUDER and Mr. MARCHANT.
H. Res. 111: Mr. CARTER.
H. Res. 127: Mr. FEENEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. REGULA, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. RENZI, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. LAHOOD,

Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. WOLF, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, and Mr. AKIN.

H. Res. 259: Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. COHEN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. SUTTON.

H. Res. 356: Mr. FARR.

H. Res. 555: Mr. CAMP of Michigan.

H. Res. 700: Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 733: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.

H. Res. 820: Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.

H. Res. 821: Mr. PENCE.

H. Res. 838: Mr. TIAHRT.

H. Res. 883: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H. Res. 888: Mr. TURNER, Mr. Broun of Georgia, Mr. WAMP, Ms. FOXX, Mr. ROSS, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia, Mr. COBLE, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.

H. Res. 896: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN and Ms. BORDALLO.

H. Res. 917: Ms. RICHARDSON and Mr. ROTHMAN.

H. Res. 924: Mr. KAGEN, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, and Ms. HIRONO.

H. Res. 925: Mr. PLATTS, Mr. WOLF, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. HUNTER.

H. Res. 930: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mr. COHEN.

H. Res. 934: Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. COOPER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. ROSS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SIRES, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BACA, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CUELLAR, and Ms. HOOLEY.

H. Res. 939: Mr. TERRY and Mr. COBLE.

H. Res. 945: Mr. CLEAVER.

H. Res. 951: Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. CONAWAY, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. DENT, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. HARE, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. ROSKAM, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WOLF, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. FOSSELLA.

H. Res. 953: Mr. ISSA and Mr. LATTA.

H. Res. 954: Mrs. LOWEY.

H. Res. 958: Mr. HELLER, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. LATTA, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. POE, and Mr. MCHENRY.

H. Res. 959: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. BORDALLO.

H. Res. 960: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Mr. FERGUSON.

H. Res. 962: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HIGGINS, and Mr. WATT.

H. Res. 963: Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ORTIZ, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. Boyda of Kansas, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. REYES, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HODES, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. COSTA, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BACA, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, and Mr. COHEN.

H. Res. 966: Mr. RUSH, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative FRANK of Massachusetts or a designee to H.R. 3521 the Public Housing Asset Management Improvement Act of 2007, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. REYES

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in H.R. 5349 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. CONYERS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 5349, do not contain any congressional earmaks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.