

Before I discuss the details of the bill, I would like to thank the many folks who helped make this possible. First, I want to thank my predecessor in Congress, Kenny Hulshof, who first introduced this resolution in the 110th Congress. Kenny laid the groundwork for the passage of this bill, and I am honored to finish the work that he began.

Also, from the moment I first introduced the resolution, the Missouri delegation was at my side. To be sure, I am extremely pleased that every member of the Missouri delegation signed on as an original cosponsor of my resolution, and I want to thank them for all their continued support.

I also want to thank the many other Members of this body who supported me in this endeavor, many of whom are Churchill enthusiasts themselves. I am truly honored to be in such good company. I look forward to welcoming all of them to my district when they bring their families to visit America's National Churchill Museum.

Most of all, I want to thank President Forsythe, president of Westminster College, at whose campus the museum is located, and his dedicated staff, Angie Robinson, Rob Crouse, and countless others.

I also want to recognize the museum's executive director, Dr. Rod Havers, for his daily devotion, expertise, and passion to the upkeep and expansion of this remarkable museum.

Much has been written about one of the greatest figures of the 20th century, Sir Winston Churchill, a man with a literary bent and a deep devotion to public affairs. He was a Nobel Prize winner, an artist, a keen strategist, and a brilliant politician. He was also instrumental in bringing an end to World War II.

On March 5, 1946, Winston Churchill delivered his historic "Iron Curtain" speech on the campus of Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. With a current population of close to 13,000 and a then-population of 7,000, Fulton was and still is the perfect stopover in the rolling green hills of central Missouri. There, the man Harry Truman called "that great world citizen," Winston Churchill, marked the beginning of the Cold War with the words that were heard around the globe. Today, the speech is regarded as perhaps one of the most important that Churchill ever delivered.

The speech contained certain phrases, "the special relationship," "the sinews of peace"—which at once entered into general use and which have since survived. However, it's Churchill's mention of the Iron Curtain that attracted immediate international attention and shaped public opinion in the United States and Western Europe. He said, "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent."

Russian historians date the beginning of the Cold War from this speech.

And in its drawing together of several themes to a climax, Churchill's speech may be regarded as one of the finest in the 20th century. It certainly changed the way the democratic West viewed the communist East.

The astounding achievements of Winston Churchill's life are a testament to his dedication to protecting liberty for all people. Churchill did not merely hate tyranny; he despised it, and he reviled communism.

□ 1630

The contempt he breathed for dictators renewed his Iron Curtain speech in Fulton, Missouri, and strengthened the West's faith in the superiority of democracy and the inevitability of its success.

The Winston Churchill Memorial and Library was founded in 1969. The museum is a 16th-century church designed by Christopher Wren that was painstakingly relocated, brick by brick, from London, England, to Fulton, Missouri, and is the only museum in the Nation that exists for the sole purpose of honoring the life and extraordinary legacy of Winston Churchill. I might mention that it underwent a multi-million dollar renovation just a couple years ago.

The bill we consider today recognizes this museum as the world-class facility that it is and the historical significance of the site.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in passing this important legislation.

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, as I was listening to the gentleman from Missouri make a statement, I couldn't help but notice that the Winston Churchill Memorial and Library is actually a source of pride for him and for his constituents in Missouri, and I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to please support the passage of House Resolution 390.

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 the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 390, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, June 15, 2009.

Speaker NANCY PELOSI,
House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: This letter serves as my intention to resign from the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform effective today. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TODD RUSSELL PLATTS,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING CIVIL RIGHTS BASEBALL GAME

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 530) commending the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game and recognizing the historical significance of the location of the game in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 530

Whereas the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game is being held in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the Great American Ballpark on June 20, 2009;

Whereas the Cincinnati Reds, the host of the Civil Rights Baseball Game, are recognized as being the first professional baseball team in the United States;

Whereas the Major League Baseball Civil Rights Game was created to honor those who fought both on and off the field for the equal treatment of all people;

Whereas baseball was at the forefront of the civil rights movement and was integrated before either the Armed Forces or the public schools;

Whereas Cincinnati, Ohio, was home to the Negro League's Cincinnati Tigers from 1934 to 1937;

Whereas Cincinnati, Ohio, was an integral stop along the Underground Railroad as one of the first free "stations" slaves would encounter when escaping north; and

Whereas Cincinnati, Ohio, is home to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, which opened in 2004: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commend the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game; and

(2) recognize the historical significance of the location of the Civil Rights Baseball Game in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. 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 Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 530 commends the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game and recognizes the historic significance of the location of the Civil Rights Baseball Game in Cincinnati, Ohio.

I want to commend my colleague the gentleman from Cincinnati (Mr. DRIEHAUS) for introducing this legislation. The Civil Rights Baseball Game is an important event, and it deserves to be recognized by the House of Representatives.

The third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game will be played in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the Great American Ballpark on June 20, 2009, between the Cincinnati Reds and the Chicago White Sox. Many celebrities will be in attendance, including Hank Aaron, Muhammad Ali, Bill Cosby, and Bebe Winans. This Major League Baseball game was created to honor those who fought both on and off the field for equal treatment of all people.

The first Civil Rights Baseball Game was played in Memphis, Tennessee, in 2007, between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Cleveland Indians. It was organized as a preseason game, intended to commend the civil rights movement in the United States as part of a larger celebration of the civil rights movement. Memphis was selected for its important role in the history of the civil rights movement.

This year's host city, Cincinnati, Ohio, has a long and rich history in both the game of baseball and in the field of civil rights. Cincinnati was an important stop on the Underground Railroad and is the home of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center located adjacent to the ballpark. Cincinnati was also home to the Negro League's Cincinnati Tigers from 1934 to 1937, and it was in Cincinnati that the first night baseball game was played in 1935.

Mr. Speaker, baseball has long been considered the great American pastime. It is part of our culture. It reflects the values of teamwork, competition, fair play, and the pursuit of excellence. Baseball was once segregated, as was most of the rest of the country, until Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson to play for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. The rest of the Nation would follow in time, but it was on the diamond that we made the most important steps towards ending Jim Crow. As Mr. Rickey said, "Prejudice has no place in sports, and baseball must recognize that truth if it is to maintain stature as a national game."

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from Ohio in honoring the Civil Rights Baseball Game. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

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

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

I do support House Resolution 530, commending the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game.

The third annual Civil Rights Game will be played, as indicated by my friend from Virginia, by the Reds and the White Sox on June 20 at the Great American Ballpark in Cincinnati. It serves as a celebration of the role of sports and the role that they played in advancing equal rights in America.

As part of that celebration, three great Americans will be honored at the game: Muhammad Ali, Bill Cosby, and Hank Aaron. They will receive awards as individuals "whose lives are emblematic of the spirit of the civil rights movement."

Mr. Ali was a 10-time heavyweight champion boxer. Since he left the sport, he has engaged in many humanitarian efforts and traveled the world on goodwill missions. Mr. Cosby has spent the last five decades as a comedian, entertainer, and, I would add, philosopher. His life has been a testament to proper handling of race issues. This extraordinary man just went about being the extraordinary person that he is. He has entertained, he has inspired, and he has taught me, for one, for most of my life.

He is the first comedian from whom I bought an album. As I recall, it was "To Russell, My Brother, Whom I Slept With." And I've loved the man ever since. I got to see him recently in concert in Tyler and was as excited as ever. What a delightful man. The way he causes us to realize we all have so many of the same strange, enigmatic traits, fears, aspirations, hopes. His television show was certainly inspirational. He makes us laugh at our faults and makes us want to improve them. As a great American, I look forward to his being recognized there at the Civil Rights Game as well.

Mr. Hank Aaron, as a Hall of Famer who was once the all-time home run leader with 755 home runs—and parenthetically I might add he'll always be my home run leader—but he was a Negro League baseball player before he played for the Braves in both Milwaukee and Atlanta. Mr. Aaron formed the Chasing the Dream Foundation with his wife in 1994 and has given financial support to hundreds of youths that enables them to pursue their talents in music, dance, arts, science, literature, and athletics. His wife, by the way, attended Texas College in Tyler, Texas, where she is on the board of directors. And it has been one of the highlights of my life to get to meet Mr. Aaron on more than one occasion.

It's heartbreaking, heart-rending, to hear some of the hell on Earth he was put through simply because of race. Yet he never wavered. He continued to give everything he had to those tasks put before him. People remember the home-run record, but many do not realize he had over a .300 batting average, .305, I believe, lifetime. Incredible. I once asked him for somebody who was a home-run hitter to hit over .300—

most pro-players only dream of hitting .300. He hit home runs and hit over .300. How did you do that? Was there some secret ability you had?

And in his typical humble style, Mr. Aaron said, I was a good guess hitter.

Typical Hank Aaron, humility completely for such an extraordinarily gifted man who used his talents, developed them, and we all know he didn't get where he was without working, persevering. And the heartbreaking part, the assaults verbally and in other ways, the threats that the man endured simply because of the color of his skin, I look forward to him being honored at that game, as he rightfully should be.

The Civil Rights Game also includes a roundtable discussion and youth summit that highlights the role that baseball has played in the civil rights movement. The game has had only a short history itself as a Civil Rights Game, but I would expect it would develop into a fine tradition.

With that, I would urge my colleagues to join in supporting this resolution.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS), who represents Cincinnati and is the chief sponsor of the resolution.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, it is certainly my privilege to rise today and bring to the floor this resolution honoring the third annual Civil Rights Game. It is the third annual Civil Rights Game, but it is the first time that this game has been played during the regular season. And we are honored in Cincinnati to have that game at Great American Ballpark. I know Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT and I will be looking forward to that event.

And as was mentioned earlier by several of my colleagues, it's not just a baseball game. It's also recognizing great leaders, great leaders who have broken down barriers. That includes at the luncheon that we will be holding Muhammad Ali, Hank Aaron, and Bill Cosby, three giants who have broken down so many barriers amongst them.

□ 1645

I applaud Major League Baseball. I applaud the Cincinnati Reds for choosing Cincinnati as the host of this event.

I would draw your attention to one other aspect of the game, Mr. Speaker, and that is to the Underground Railroad Freedom Center. The Underground Railroad Freedom Center is a stone's throw—a baseball's throw, if you will, from Great American Ballpark. The Underground Railroad Freedom Center, founded in 2002 in Cincinnati, is all about discussing freedom. It's all about being the champion of civil rights. And while it was established to draw attention to the role the city of Cincinnati played and that the people of Cincinnati played in the underground railroad, today it serves as

the vehicle, it serves as the convener of conversations around injustices today and freedoms which are challenged today, making it relevant to you and I and all Americans as we discuss civil rights. So I'm proud to have the Underground Railroad Freedom Center being part of this celebration. I think it is very much appropriate that the Freedom Center is participating in the luncheon, celebrating our heroes. And I am proud to be a Cincinnati and to welcome this game to the city of Cincinnati. I join with the Cincinnati Reds in thanking Major League Baseball.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), who represents Memphis, the location of the first Civil Rights Baseball Game.

Mr. COHEN. I would like to thank Mr. SCOTT for the time.

I would like to congratulate Cincinnati on their good fortune to be the host of this game. Memphis was the host for the first two games. The final exhibition game of spring training, the only game that was televised on ESPN, and a great event in our city, where the National Civil Rights Museum exists and the site of civil rights struggles and civil rights victories. We really enjoyed the opportunity to have players honored there, Willie Mays, Minnie Minoso, my hero, and others over the years, who have brought great pride to the city of Memphis where we have the finest minor league baseball park ever constructed, AutoZone Park. We felt that the game should permanently stay in Memphis, but it has moved on.

I want to congratulate Cincinnati, and I congratulate Major League Baseball for having such a game. Jackie Robinson has been immortalized as a civil rights hero whose number 42 was retired by Major League Baseball in an appropriate manner. There were many great players in the Negro baseball leagues who we honored last year with a resolution—such as Satchel Paige, who was written up, I think, in today's New York Times—and the great careers they had, great ballplayers. So it's appropriate that civil rights, which baseball and sports have contributed to so much, be remembered by Major League Baseball. I congratulate Major League Baseball and the city of Cincinnati.

I just want to say to my colleague from Texas—Noah.

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

In conclusion, I would encourage my colleagues to support House Resolution 530. My friend from Tennessee mentioned Satchel Paige. He had some great quotes. Many people quote him as saying, "Don't look back. They may be gaining on you." But I read a quote that I like even better than that, attributed to him later in life, when he said, "It's okay to look back. Just

don't stare." And it seems to me that that's what this bill does. We look forward, but we look back. We don't stare, but we recognize the greatness that has gotten us to where we are today.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from Ohio for introducing the resolution. I urge my colleagues to support it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 530.

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.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 309, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

PROHIBITING ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN DEFAMATION JUDGMENTS

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2765) to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit recognition and enforcement of foreign defamation judgments and certain foreign judgments against the providers of interactive computer services.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2765

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

SECTION 1. RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DEFAMATION JUDGMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“CHAPTER 181—FOREIGN JUDGMENTS

“Sec.

“4101. Definitions.

“4102. Recognition of foreign defamation judgments.

“4103. Attorneys' fees.

“§ 4101. Definitions

“In this chapter:

“(1) DOMESTIC COURT.—The term ‘domestic court’ means a Federal court or a court of any State.

“(2) FOREIGN COURT.—The term ‘foreign court’ means a court, administrative body, or other tribunal of a foreign country.

“(3) FOREIGN JUDGMENT.—The term ‘foreign judgment’ means a final judgment rendered by a foreign court.

“(4) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and any commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.

“§ 4102. Recognition of foreign defamation judgments

“(a) FIRST AMENDMENT CONSIDERATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal or State law, a domestic court shall not recognize or enforce a foreign judgment for defamation whenever the party opposing recognition or enforcement of the judgment claims that the judgment is inconsistent with the first amendment to the Constitution of the United States, unless the domestic court determines that the judgment is consistent with the first amendment. The burden of establishing that the foreign judgment is consistent with the first amendment shall lie with the party seeking recognition or enforcement of the judgment.

“(b) JURISDICTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal or State law, a domestic court shall not recognize or enforce a foreign judgment for defamation if the party opposing recognition or enforcement establishes that the exercise of personal jurisdiction over such party by the foreign court that rendered the judgment failed to comport with the due process requirements imposed on domestic courts by the Constitution of the United States.

“(c) JUDGMENT AGAINST PROVIDER OF INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal or State law, a domestic court shall not recognize or enforce a foreign judgment for defamation against the provider of an interactive computer service, as defined in section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230), whenever the party opposing recognition or enforcement of the judgment claims that the judgment is inconsistent with such section 230, unless the domestic court determines that the judgment is consistent with such section 230. The burden of establishing that the foreign judgment is consistent with such section 230 shall lie with the party seeking recognition or enforcement of the judgment.

“(d) APPEARANCES NOT A BAR.—An appearance by a party in a foreign court rendering a foreign judgment to which this section applies for the purpose of contesting the foreign court's exercise of jurisdiction in the case, moving the foreign court to abstain from exercising jurisdiction in the case, defending on the merits any claims brought before the foreign court, or for any other purpose, shall not deprive such party of the right to oppose the recognition or enforcement of the judgment under this section.

“§ 4103. Attorneys' fees

“In any action brought in a domestic court to enforce a foreign judgment for defamation, the court may allow the party opposing recognition or enforcement of the judgment a reasonable attorney's fee if such party prevails in the action on a ground specified in subsection (a), (b), or (c).”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for part VI of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“181. Foreign judgments 4101.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. First I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their