

families with them to these new areas. In the case of Federal law enforcement officers who die in the performance of official duties, the family is often left stranded, with no means to return to an area they call home. Caring for the families of these heroes who have died while serving this Nation is a priority for Congress, and the costs of H.R. 2711 are relatively insignificant.

Mr. Speaker, I support this measure and I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 2711.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank Mr. CAO and Mr. ROGERS, the gentleman from Michigan, as well as the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS), and one other driving force behind this, our own chairman, ED TOWNS, for supporting this measure, H.R. 2711, as it really provides Federal law enforcement agencies with the necessary authority to support these families in their greatest time of need.

I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2711, 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.

□ 1345

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND CONCOURSE

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 907) recognizing the Grand Concourse on its 100th anniversary as the preeminent thoroughfare in the borough of the Bronx and an important nexus of commerce and culture for the City of New York.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 907

Whereas the Grand Concourse was designed by engineer Louis Aloys Risse beginning in 1894;

Whereas the Grand Concourse opened in 1909;

Whereas the 4-mile thoroughfare stretches from 138th Street to Van Cortland Park in the Bronx;

Whereas Edgar Allan Poe wrote the poem "Annabel Lee" in his Bronx cottage which now stands on the Grand Concourse;

Whereas Babe Ruth, Stanley Kubrick, Milton Berle, Penny and Garry Marshall, and E.L. Doctorow all at one time made their homes on the Grand Concourse;

Whereas the Grand Concourse hosts such New York landmarks as Yankee Stadium, Loews Paradise Theater, and the Concourse Plaza Hotel;

Whereas the Grand Concourse has the largest collection of Art Deco and Art Moderne buildings in the United States;

Whereas the Grand Concourse is registered as a National Historic Place;

Whereas the Grand Concourse has been designated as a special preservation district by the City of New York;

Whereas the Grand Concourse is known as the Champs Elysées of the Bronx;

Whereas the Grand Concourse is the central north-south artery of the Bronx;

Whereas the Concourse serves the 4, 5, B, and D subway lines as well as several bus routes and is a major transportation route in New York City;

Whereas the \$18,000,000 that was provided for the Grand Concourse in January 2006 led to improving the streetscape and creating better access for pedestrians;

Whereas the Bronx Museum of the Arts is celebrating the roadway in its exhibition, "Intersections: The Grand Concourse at 100";

Whereas the Grand Concourse has seen the arrival of countless new immigrants as well as people arriving from other parts of the country, including Puerto Rico, and has been their launching point for the valuable contributions that they have made;

Whereas the people of the Bronx enjoy spending time on the beautiful parks adjoining the Grand Concourse, making it a center for socializing and recreating;

Whereas the Grand Concourse has fulfilled and exceeded its planners' intentions over a series of generations, occupying a central place in the hearts and minds of Bronxites past and present; and

Whereas the Grand Concourse since its inception has been an integral part of the cultural life and economic development of the Bronx: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the Grand Concourse on its 100th anniversary as the preeminent thoroughfare in the borough of the Bronx and an important nexus of commerce and culture for the City of New York; and

(2) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit a copy of this resolution to The Bronx County Historical Society located at 3309 Bainbridge Avenue, The Bronx, NY 10467, for appropriate display.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on House Resolution 907.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 907, a resolution recognizing the Grand Concourse on its 100th anniversary as the preeminent thoroughfare in the borough of the Bronx and as an important nexus of commerce and culture for the city of New York. I commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) for his work on this resolution to honor a historic roadway in advance of this milestone.

First conceived of in 1890 as a means of connecting the borough of Manhattan to the northern Bronx, the Grand Concourse was designed by Louis Aloys Risse and opened to the public in 1909. The project was originally completed for a total cost of \$14 million, the equivalent of \$340 million today.

Over the past 100 years, the Grand Concourse has served as the backdrop to many historic New York City landmarks, while the apartment buildings along the roadway have been home to the likes of Babe Ruth, Stanley Kubrick, Milton Berle, and other famous New Yorkers.

Among the many landmarks along the Grand Concourse is the Loew's Paradise Theater, which was constructed in 1929 and was at one time the largest movie theater in New York City. The old Yankee Stadium opened near the Grand Concourse at 161st Street in 1923 and has served as an important centerpiece for the Bronx and the city of New York ever since.

In the course of over 100 years, the Grand Concourse has played a long-standing role in defining the Bronx community, serving as the central north-south artery of the borough. Covering over 4 miles in length, it is lined with parks, fountains, and other pedestrian-friendly community assets that add aesthetic, cultural, and transportation value to the borough.

Recently, \$18 million was invested in the infrastructure of the Grand Concourse to make it more pedestrian friendly and restore the roadway's beauty that has made it vital to the cultural and economic development of the Bronx for 100 years.

So, Mr. Speaker, in honor of this historic landmark and its contributions to both the city of New York and the borough of the Bronx over the past century, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting House Resolution 907.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as the ranking minority member on the Highways and Transit Subcommittee, I have been asked to speak on this resolution, and I rise in support of House Resolution 907, a resolution—as the gentleman from Washington State just described—a resolution recognizing the Grand Concourse on its 100th anniversary as the preeminent thoroughfare in the borough of the Bronx and an important nexus of commerce and culture in the city of New York.

The Grand Concourse is a rare blend of history, culture, and infrastructure that has accommodated the likes of Babe Ruth, Stanley Kubrick, and Edgar Allan Poe. The Grand Concourse also plays host to the iconic Yankee Stadium, Loew's Paradise Theater, and the Concourse Plaza Hotel. Few roads in our Nation's history have reflected the personality of the local culture better than the Grand Concourse has done for the Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this very timely and appropriate resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to recognize for as much time as he may consume the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO), the sponsor of the resolution.

Mr. SERRANO. I thank the gentleman for the time, and I thank both him and the ranking member for the support.

Too often we take for granted those places where we live in terms of the landmarks that are around us, and this is a celebration of a roadway that—it was stated before—it was set up or thought of originally to link the borough of Manhattan to the Bronx, but it became much more than that. It became a cultural icon. It became part of a community. And as the city grew and up to today, in its 100th anniversary, it has become grander year by year.

We are now celebrating 100 years of the Grand Concourse, and this, as said, was designed by a French immigrant in 1894, and when it opened in 1909, it was something spectacular that had not been seen before. Those of you who have come on many occasions, I'm sure—and hopefully in the future—to visit the Bronx and to visit Yankee Stadium will know that the Grand Concourse, that 4-mile thoroughfare that stretches from 138th Street to Van Cortland in my borough, the Bronx, is really majestic in form and so full of history.

The Grand Concourse has the largest collection of Art Deco buildings in the United States, and those Art Deco buildings are those that you walk into and the lobbies are so special with the artwork and the murals that were painted, especially during World War II and in the late 1930s. Those buildings are now part of the National Registry.

In accordance, the Grand Concourse itself has been designated and registered as a National Historic Place and has also been designated as a special preservation district by the city of New York.

And as was mentioned before, if you go to the Grand Concourse you will see the cottage known as Poe Cottage where Edgar Allan Poe wrote the poem "Annabel Lee," and that is still standing there.

Many folks, as we mentioned today, have lived on the Grand Concourse. Of course I live on the Grand Concourse, and I certainly did not have the kind of year that Babe Ruth had in 1927, but I've had a pretty good year in this past year.

This Congress saw fit a couple years ago to designate \$18 million that was used to renovate parts of the Grand Concourse and its infrastructure. That was in January of 2006. And now as part of that celebration, the Bronx Museum of the Arts is celebrating the roadway in its exhibition "Intersections: The Grand Concourse at 100."

What's interesting about the Grand Concourse, I believe, is that it mirrors so much of what New York City is and what this country is. Because as you travel the Concourse not only physically but through its history, you see the different groups of people who came to New York, who came to the Bronx, who settled on the Concourse, as we called it, and became part of America.

And so as we see people enjoying the park and enjoying and socializing on the Concourse, we see the different groups that have arrived from throughout the world and from my birthplace of Puerto Rico.

The Grand Concourse has, for them, fulfilled and exceeded its planners' intentions over a series of generations—occupying a central place in the hearts and minds of Bronxites past and present.

So I have come here today in support of this resolution. I would hope everyone votes for it. I thank the committee, the chairman, and the ranking member for their support.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 907, recognizing the Grand Concourse on its 100th anniversary as the preeminent thoroughfare in the borough of the Bronx, which serves as an important nexus of commerce and culture for the City of New York. I commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) for his work on this Resolution. Designed by Louis Aloys Risse and opened to the public in 1909, this beautiful, tree-lined thoroughfare was first conceived of in 1890 as a means of connecting the borough of Manhattan to the northern Bronx.

The original cost of the project was \$14 million, the equivalent of \$340 million today. Over the past 100 years, this investment has leveraged significant private and public economic development activity in the Bronx, and has served as the backdrop to many historic New York City landmarks. Among these landmarks is the Loews Paradise Theater—at one time the largest movie theater in New York City—which was constructed in 1929 along the Grand Concourse. In 1923, the old Yankee Stadium opened near the Grand Concourse at 161st Street and has remained an important landmark in the surrounding Bronx community ever since.

Over the course of its 100 years, the Grand Concourse has played a longstanding role in defining the Bronx community, serving as the central north-south artery of the borough. For over 4 miles, the Grand Concourse is lined by several parks, fountains, and other pedestrian-friendly community treasures. The apartment buildings along the Grand Concourse have been home to the likes of Babe Ruth, Stanley Kubrick, Milton Berle and other famous New Yorkers over the years.

Reflecting much of the tumultuous history of the Bronx itself, the Grand Concourse is preparing for the rebirth and restoration of key social, economic and environmental infrastructure. Recently, \$18 million was committed to upgrading the Grand Concourse to make it more pedestrian-friendly and to restore the roadway's beauty that has made it vital to the cultural and economic development of the Bronx for 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is for these great contributions to the City of New York and to the Borough of the Bronx over the past 100 years that I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 907.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Grand Concourse. As a proud, lifelong resident of the Bronx, I am pleased to co-sponsor H. Res. 907 recognizing the Grand Concourse as one of the most important and historic commerce and cultural centers of New York City.

The Grand Concourse is both the backbone and the heart of the Bronx. Each and every day, thousands of Bronxites travel up and down the concourse, connecting our borough from the north and south of the borough. It unifies the Bronx and enables people to interact and frequent the scores of businesses and cultural landmarks which run up and down the highway.

I grew up only four blocks from the Grand Concourse, and I have very fond memories of those days and the time spent along the thoroughfare. So much of my life, and the lives of my constituents, are tied to the Grand Concourse and I would not trade one moment of it for anything. As a child I watched films at the Loews Theater, I've attended numerous games at Yankee Stadium, and driven north along the Grand Concourse to visit Van Cortlandt Park.

I look forward to the start of the next 100 years in the life of the Grand Concourse, and Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to come to the Bronx and do the same.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers, and as a result, I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 907.

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. LARSEN of Washington. 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.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESSING OF PERMITS

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4165) to extend through December 31, 2010, the authority of the Secretary of the Army to accept and expend funds contributed by non-Federal public entities to expedite the processing of permits.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows: