

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2641 represents an effective compromise measure that has the full support of the Department of Energy and the industry. I urge Members on both sides of the aisle to vote for this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2641, which makes constructive and noncontroversial changes to title X of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN), the gentleman from Texas (Chairman BARTON) of our Subcommittee on Energy and Power, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT), and their respective staffs for working with us at the subcommittee level and at the level of the full House Committee on Commerce to address a range of concerns that the minority originally had concerning these provisions.

As the gentlewoman from Wyoming indicated, the bill reported by the Committee on Commerce makes a number of useful administrative changes to the uranium and thorium mill tailings cleanup program. First, it extends for 5 additional years the period during which licensees may apply to the Department of Energy for reimbursement of their share of the costs of approved cleanup projects.

Secondly, the bill eliminates the requirement that certain funds be placed in escrow which will benefit all licensees by providing more flexibility to provide reimbursements for completed projects.

And third, the bill extends the date by which the Secretary of Energy must determine that there are excess funds for cleaning up the gaseous diffusion plants. These changes reflect the reality that while the title X cleanup program has been largely successful, the work has taken longer than expected. I would stress, however, that the bill does not alter the formula for Federal reimbursement or in any way increase the program's previously authorized spending ceiling.

The bill reported by the Committee on Commerce is supported by both the administration and industry. It has bipartisan support, and I am pleased to join with the gentlewoman in urging the approval by the House of this measure. I want to thank her, the gentleman from Texas (Chairman BARTON) of our Subcommittee on Energy and Power, and the leadership of the full Committee on Commerce for their cooperation in addressing the concerns we originally had.

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

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT).

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN) for yielding me just a moment of time to talk about H.R. 2641.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2641 to make technical corrections to title X of the Energy Policy Act of 1992. This legislation is a clean reauthorization that extends the program of annual reimbursements for 5 more years to clean up uranium and thorium mill tailings sites by extending these reimbursements for 5 more years. It eliminates the requirement for DOE to place into escrow sufficient funds to cover estimated post-2002 cleanup costs, and it changes the date when the Secretary must determine whether any excess funds remain from 2005 until 2008.

H.R. 2641 is a bipartisan bill reported out unanimously by the Committee on Commerce. The bill is supported by the Department of Energy, by industry, and by the PACE union which represents workers at the gaseous diffusion plants.

□ 1330

H.R. 2641 will keep the industry licensees focused on completing their cleanup work and will keep DOE focused on reimbursing its fair share of the cleanup costs.

Finally, I want to thank Kevin Cook from the Committee on Commerce for all of his fine work; Sue Sheridan from the staff of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) for her efforts and cooperation and from the staff of the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN), Bryan Jacobs for all of his work and time on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, finally, I would just add that this bill is environmentally sound and responsible and economically sound, fiscally sound and responsible as well.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, once again I want to thank the staffs on both sides of the aisle. I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BOUCHER), his cooperation and good temperament is always a joy to work with and I thank him very much.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2641, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LANCE CORPORAL HAROLD GOMEZ POST OFFICE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1295) to designate the United States Post Office located at 3813 Main Street in East Chicago, Indiana, as the "Lance Corporal Harold Gomez Post Office."

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1295

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF LANCE CORPORAL HAROLD GOMEZ POST OFFICE.

The United States Post Office located at 3813 Main Street in East Chicago, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Harold Gomez Post Office".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the post office referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lance Corporal Harold Gomez Post Office".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 1295.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, we have before us S. 1295 introduced by the distinguished senator from Indiana, Senator LUGAR, on June 6, 1999. The legislation passed the Senate on November 19, 1999 and was received in the House soon thereafter.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY) introduced identical legislation, H.R. 2358, on June 24 of 1999 and, pursuant to the policy on the Committee on Government Reform, the entire House delegation of the State of Indiana cosponsored H.R. 2358, and the committee passed the bill.

Both of these bills has been noted to designate the United States Post Office located at 3813 Main Street in East Chicago, Indiana as the Lance Corporal Harold Gomez Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, we have had the opportunity and, indeed, the honor to do a number of these bills in this session as in previous years, and it is always truly a pleasure. I want to begin by extending my compliments both to Senator LUGAR and to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY) for their efforts in bringing this worthy nominee to our attention.

One of the true joys of having the opportunity to handle these kinds of proposals, Mr. Speaker, is that it provides us with the opportunity to honor the widest possible range of United States citizens and to, in that fashion, recognize their achievements, and they are the kinds of achievements that really do span the entire horizon of contributions to country, contributions to community, and all worthy points in between.

Mr. Speaker, today, we have in Corporal Gomez just such an example. The corporal was a fire team leader in a rifle company of the Third Marine Division when in 1967, he was killed by a land mine explosion in South Vietnam. He was the first citizen from Northwest Indiana to die of casualties in that war.

Corporal Gomez received numerous awards, including the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Presidential Unit Citation, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, RVN, Military Merit Medal, RVN Gallantry Cross Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Rifle Sharp Shooters Badge.

Corporal Gomez was posthumously awarded the Silver Star Medal for his courageous leadership and heroism. As these medals so eloquently attest, Mr. Speaker, Corporal Gomez was truly a hero.

He was a man who put the needs and the safety of his troops, of his fellow servicepeople before himself; and through him, we have again underscored the history of this Nation, a Nation founded upon the principle that in the pursuit of life and liberty and happiness, there is no cost too great, no price too high, that citizens like Corporal Gomez are willingly to extend it, even when that means the loss of their life. That kind of lesson can never be restated too often, I would suggest respectfully, Mr. Speaker.

Certainly, his heroism, his example was felt far and wide. And in his hometown, I think it is important to note that after his death, Central High School in East Chicago, the place from which Corporal Gomez had graduated, named and dedicated the library to him and the American GI Forum of the United States chartered the Harold Gomez Chapters in East Chicago.

I am proud, Mr. Speaker, to join with Senator LUGAR, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY), with the entire House delegation from that great State, and in working with, as always, the minority on the Subcommittee on Postal Service, particularly the gentleman from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the ranking member, in ensuring that these kinds of worthy initiatives are brought quickly to this floor.

Mr. Speaker, just one final word of urging that all of our colleagues join us in supporting of this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH), the chairman of our Subcommittee on Postal Service, for his efforts in helping us bring to the floor this very important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make a note, even though we act today on a Senate bill, it was the House bill of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY) that was introduced, as the gentleman from New York (Chairman MCHUGH) has indicated, first and in cooperation with obviously the entire congressional delegation, we now move this Senate bill. I want to commend the gentleman from Indiana for introducing this bill decades after the death of this young man in service to his country.

The gentleman, my good friend, took it upon himself to introduce this legislation to acknowledge the sacrifice of Mr. Gomez and his family on behalf of a grateful Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY), my good friend.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) for yielding the time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I do rise today to urge my colleagues to support S. 1295, a bill that was sponsored in the United States Senate by Senator LUGAR, a bill to rename the Harbor Branch Post Office at 3813 Main Street in East Chicago in honor of a true hero, Lance Corporal Harold Gomez.

I did have the privilege of introducing the House version of this measure, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) mentioned, H.R. 2358 and would like to thank each of my colleagues from the State of Indiana, Republican and Democrat alike, for their complete bipartisan support of the measure.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to give special thanks to the gentleman from Indiana (Chairman BURTON), chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, for all of his assistance in bringing this bill to the floor and would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Chairman MCHUGH) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), for all of their diligent service in ensuring that this legislation would be heard.

Mr. Speaker, as the first resident of East Chicago, Indiana to be killed while in service to his country during the Vietnam war, Corporal Gomez is a hero and his community would like to honor him in this special way.

The gentleman from New York has already reiterated on the House floor the numerous awards and battle ribbons that the corporal has received and though Harold Gomez' life was tragically cut short, he touched many lives

and was admired by both friends and colleagues alike.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to offer this legislation to honor a true hero of Northwest Indiana. Corporal Gomez distinguished himself in combat and is a source of inspiration to both the residents of East Chicago and the rest of our Nation.

He is worthy of the recognition. On behalf of all of the citizens of Northwest Indiana, particularly our young people and our veterans, I am proud to support this legislation to name the East Chicago Post Office in honor of Corporal Harold Gomez and do ask my colleagues to support it.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, let me say in conclusion, because we have no further speakers on our side, that I thank the gentleman from New York (Chairman MCHUGH) and I would hope that the naming of this post office, even though it is in East Chicago, Indiana, in some symbolic way represents our appreciation for so many young men who gave their lives in service to this country in the conflict that we now refer to as the Vietnam War.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time but let me just state for the RECORD what many of us understand, but I think it is an important note, that was very legitimately raised by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY) who has worked tirelessly on this beginning in 1998, the adoption of the Senate bill today is merely a parliamentary procedure that in no way reflects his lack of concern and, indeed, I would suggest that without his hard work and without his ensuring that indeed the Committee on Government Reform has considered his bill and, to my recollection, unanimously endorsed it, we may not be here today. So I want to pay a final compliment to him and to his diligence and a word of thanks again for his bringing to us a very worthy individual. With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to join us in support of this initiative.

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to speak in support of H.R. 2358, a bill to honor Lance Corporal Harold Gomez, a hero of the Vietnam War. My colleague, PETE VISCLOSKY, has introduced the bill to name the East Chicago, Indiana, Post Office for this young hero, the first resident of East Chicago to be killed during the Vietnam War. It is appropriate to recognize Corporal Gomez' bravery and gallantry in battle.

Corporal Gomez was born in East Chicago in 1946 and perished in action on February 21, 1967, at the young age of 21. His adventurous spirit and love for America led him to volunteer in the Marine Corps. He was sent to Vietnam in 1966, where he became a fire team leader in a rifle company of the Third Marine Corps. In the brief one year period he fought in Vietnam, he received numerous military awards, including the Purple Heart Medal,

Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Rifle Sharpshooters Badge. Posthumously, he was awarded the Silver Star Medal for valiant leadership and bravery during the battle that took his life.

This young man of Hispanic (Mexican) heritage of the East Chicago neighborhood represents the best of what it means to be an American. His heroism is a proud symbol of his love for his country and his willingness to defend American democratic principles at the expense of his own life.

His spirit lives on and today we have the opportunity to honor this young hero, whose audacity and fighting spirit will shine as an example for his fellow citizens in the East Chicago, Indiana, neighborhood.

In addition, I think it is important to note that Corporal Gomez is only survived by his mother. She stands as a symbol of the thousands of parents who share in the ultimate sacrifice of losing their only son. Nobody can prepare another for battle, however, it is clear that parents such as Mrs. Gomez ingrained the desire for liberty, courage and selflessness that was so exemplary in their sons. Of such Americans is our country made of.

Mr. MCHUGH. 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. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1295.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1345

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on H.R. 3100, the bill on the Corrections Calendar, and then on the motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order: H.R. 3100, by the yeas and nays, and House Resolution 576, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

KNOW YOUR CALLER ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of passage of the bill, H.R. 3100, on which further proceedings were postponed.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 420, nays 0, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 498]
YEAS—420

Abercrombie	Delahunt	Jackson (IL)
Ackerman	DeLauro	Jefferson
Aderholt	DeLay	Jenkins
Allen	DeMint	John
Andrews	Deutsch	Johnson (CT)
Archer	Diaz-Balart	Johnson, E. B.
Armey	Dickey	Johnson, Sam
Baca	Dicks	Jones (NC)
Bachus	Dingell	Kanjorski
Baird	Dixon	Kaptur
Baker	Doggett	Kasich
Baldacci	Dooley	Kelly
Baldwin	Doolittle	Kennedy
Ballenger	Doyle	Kildee
Barcia	Dreier	Kilpatrick
Barr	Duncan	Kind (WI)
Barrett (NE)	Dunn	King (NY)
Barrett (WI)	Edwards	Kingston
Bartlett	Ehlers	Kleczka
Barton	Ehrlich	Knollenberg
Bass	Emerson	Kolbe
Becerra	Engel	Kucinich
Bentsen	English	Kuykendall
Bereuter	Eshoo	LaFalce
Berkley	Etheridge	LaHood
Berman	Evans	Lampson
Berry	Everett	Lantos
Biggert	Farr	Largent
Bilbray	Fattah	Larson
Billrakis	Filmer	Latham
Bishop	Fletcher	LaTourette
Blagojevich	Foley	Leach
Bliley	Forbes	Lee
Blumenauer	Ford	Levin
Blunt	Fossella	Lewis (CA)
Boehler	Fowler	Lewis (GA)
Boehner	Frank (MA)	Lewis (KY)
Bonilla	Franks (NJ)	Linder
Bonior	Frelinghuysen	Lipinski
Bono	Frost	LoBiondo
Borski	Gallegly	Lofgren
Boswell	Ganske	Lowe
Boucher	Gejdenson	Lucas (KY)
Boyd	Gekas	Lucas (OK)
Brady (PA)	Gephardt	Luther
Brady (TX)	Gibbons	Maloney (CT)
Brown (FL)	Gilchrest	Maloney (NY)
Brown (OH)	Gillmor	Manzullo
Bryant	Gilman	Markey
Burr	Gonzalez	Martinez
Burton	Goode	Mascara
Buyer	Goodlatte	Matsui
Callahan	Goodling	McCarthy (MO)
Calvert	Gordon	McCarthy (NY)
Camp	Goss	McCrery
Canady	Graham	McDermott
Cannon	Granger	McGovern
Capps	Green (TX)	McHugh
Capuano	Green (WI)	McInnis
Cardin	Greenwood	McIntyre
Carson	Gutierrez	McKeon
Castle	Hall (OH)	McKinney
Chabot	Hall (TX)	McNulty
Chambliss	Hansen	Meehan
Chenoweth-Hage	Hastings (FL)	Meek (FL)
Clay	Hastings (WA)	Meeks (NY)
Clayton	Hayes	Menendez
Clement	Hayworth	Metcalfe
Clyburn	Hefley	Mica
Coble	Herger	Millender
Coburn	Hill (IN)	McDonald
Collins	Hill (MT)	Miller (FL)
Combest	Hilleary	Miller, Gary
Condit	Hilliard	Miller, George
Conyers	Hinchey	Minge
Cook	Hinojosa	Mink
Cooksey	Hobson	Moakley
Costello	Hoefel	Mollohan
Cox	Hoekstra	Moore
Coyne	Holden	Moran (KS)
Cramer	Holt	Moran (VA)
Crane	Hooley	Morella
Crowley	Horn	Murtha
Cubin	Hostettler	Myrick
Cummings	Houghton	Nadler
Cunningham	Hoyer	Napolitano
Danner	Hulshof	Neal
Davis (FL)	Hunter	Nethercutt
Davis (IL)	Hutchinson	Ney
Davis (VA)	Hyde	Northup
Deal	Inslee	Norwood
DeFazio	Isakson	Nussle
DeGette	Istook	Oberstar

Obey	Sabo	Tauzin
Oliver	Salmon	Taylor (MS)
Ortiz	Sanchez	Taylor (NC)
Ose	Sanders	Terry
Owens	Sanford	Thomas
Oxley	Sawyer	Thompson (CA)
Packard	Saxton	Thompson (MS)
Pallone	Scarborough	Thornberry
Pascarell	Schaffer	Thune
Pastor	Schakowsky	Thurman
Payne	Scott	Tiahrt
Pease	Sensenbrenner	Tierney
Pelosi	Serrano	Toomey
Peterson (MN)	Sessions	Towns
Peterson (PA)	Shadegg	Traficant
Petri	Shaw	Turner
Phelps	Shays	Udall (CO)
Pickering	Sherman	Udall (NM)
Pickett	Sherwood	Upton
Pitts	Shimkus	Velázquez
Pombo	Shows	Visclosky
Pomeroy	Shuster	Vitter
Porter	Simpson	Walden
Portman	Sisisky	Walsh
Price (NC)	Skeen	Wamp
Pryce (OH)	Skelton	Waters
Quinn	Slaughter	Watkins
Radanovich	Smith (MI)	Watt (NC)
Rahall	Smith (NJ)	Watts (OK)
Ramstad	Smith (TX)	Waxman
Regula	Smith (WA)	Weiner
Reyes	Snyder	Weldon (FL)
Reynolds	Souder	Weldon (PA)
Riley	Spence	Weller
Rivers	Spratt	Wexler
Rodriguez	Stabenow	Weygand
Roemer	Stark	Whitfield
Rogan	Stearns	Wicker
Rogers	Stenholm	Wilson
Rohrabacher	Strickland	Wise
Ros-Lehtinen	Stump	Wolf
Rothman	Stupak	Woolsey
Roukema	Sununu	Wu
Roybal-Allard	Sweeney	Wynn
Royce	Talent	Young (AK)
Rush	Tancredo	Young (FL)
Ryan (WI)	Tanner	
Ryun (KS)	Tauscher	

NOT VOTING—13

Campbell	Jones (OH)	Paul
Ewing	Klink	Rangel
Gutknecht	Lazio	Sandlin
Jackson-Lee	McCollum	Vento
(TX)	McIntosh	

□ 1407

So (three-fifths having voted in favor thereof) the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present earlier today for rollcall Vote No. 498 due to a previously scheduled radio debate with my challenger in the upcoming election. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on the motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.