

"A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1601-1 Main Street in Jacksonville, Florida, as the 'Eddie Mae Steward Post Office'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4577, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c) of rule XXII, I hereby notify the House of my intention tomorrow to offer the following motion to instruct House conferees on H.R. 4577, a bill making appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

I move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 4577, be instructed to insist on the highest funding level possible for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in Fiscal Year 2001 and Fiscal Year 2002.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The notice will appear at this point in the RECORD.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4577, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c) of House rule XXII, I hereby notify the House of my intention tomorrow to offer the following motion to instruct House conferees on H.R. 4577, a bill making appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

I move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 4577, be instructed to insist on disagreeing with provisions in the Senate amendment which denies the President's request for dedicated resources to reduce class sizes in the early grades and for local school construction and, instead, broadly expands the Title VI Education Block Grant with limited accountability in the use of funds.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The notice will appear at this point in the RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JOHN PORTER

(Mr. OBEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of the House a matter that relates to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER) if I could ask the House's attention for just a moment.

Mr. Speaker, despite the exchange that just took place, I wanted to take a moment to simply observe to the House that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER) will soon be leaving. I do not know when we will have another chance to say this. I understand that he will have difficulty being here tomorrow because of a death in the family.

But I wanted to take this opportunity to say that I have served with him for many years on the Committee on Appropriations. All of us has served many years with him in this House. Regardless of the differences on issues that we have, he has graced this House with his presence. He has been an honorable adversary as well as a valuable ally on many occasions. I think he has personified the way that we would like to see all Members of the House conduct himself or herself.

On behalf of this gentleman, I simply want to say to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER) that we will miss him. We know that whatever he does after he leaves this puzzle factory will be rewarding and constructive.

The gentleman has had a long history of concern, especially for issues of medical research and human rights and many others. I for one simply want to wish him all the luck in the world and to say, despite the many disagreements we are about to have over the next 2 or 3 days, that it has been a privilege to serve with him. I think I speak for every Member of the House in saying that.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. Surely, I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) for the comments that he just made about the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER), our friend and colleague. I want to associate myself with those remarks.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER) has been an outstanding Member of this House and has made a big difference in a lot of areas. He has a wealth of knowledge on the issues that he has responsibility for. He is a very distinguished gentleman. His word has always been his bond.

I would say that there are many people who will have the advantage of life saving techniques and medical discoveries because of the work that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER) has done to expedite and move along medical research in many, many areas.

I want the gentleman to know that I will miss him, that he and I do not have as many differences as he and the

gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) have, but it is a real pleasure to be working with him. I will certainly miss the gentleman from Illinois when he leaves here.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I will be delighted to yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, let me just take a minute to say that I have now served in this body for 21 years and 20 years on the Committee on Appropriations. I have loved every single minute of it. There is nothing that can compare with service in this institution.

I have had a highly educated, highly informed, caring constituency to represent. It has been a joy to represent them here in Washington.

To be able to become involved in issues that I think are important for the future of our country and to attempt to reflect them in our values as a government has meant everything to me.

It has been a source of tremendous pleasure to work with people that I respect. The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) are people that I respect tremendously, highly. People who fight for the things they believe in but do so in a way that brings credit to this institution.

Yes, we disagree and we fight, but it has been a true pleasure to work with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) as my chairman, to work with him prior to his becoming chairman. He is a man that I have always looked up to and been able to rely on. And to work on the opposite side of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), both on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and on the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs. We have fought, I think, very cleanly. I certainly have a huge respect, admiration and friendship for the gentleman from Wisconsin as well.

Mr. Speaker, I leave this body with a great deal of sadness because, while I may not miss the kind of days we are having right now, I will miss very much the men and women that I have been so privileged to work with over all these years. It is a great privilege and an honor to be a Member of this body.

I feel that I have done my very best to try to represent the things that I believe in very deeply. It has been a joy to work with the people in this Chamber all these years. I thank my colleagues very much.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 24, I was not present