

grown steadily under his leadership and become a successful business in Indiana.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. Beckman and all the winners from across America who work long hours and make huge sacrifices to build family small businesses that are the backbone of this economy.

CONGRATULATING JAMES TODD RATHER

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate James Todd Rather of Fairmont, Minnesota.

Todd will be in Washington this week to receive the Star of Life award. The Stars of Life is an American Ambulance Association program to honor dedicated professionals in the ambulance service industry.

Todd, who is a registered paramedic and is a team captain for Fairmont Gold Cross Ambulance Services, has been selected as one of three EMS professionals in Minnesota to receive this honor.

EMS providers are the safety net of the health care system. In rural areas, like the Minnesota district I represent, where physicians and other health care providers do not exist in every community, EMS provides the public their only access point to quality health care. That is why I introduced H.R. 1353, the Sustaining Access to Vital Emergency Medical Services Act to help our EMS providers.

Every day, EMTs and paramedics are heroes in their communities. I want to thank Todd for his commitment to serving his community.

Mr. Speaker, it is people like Todd Rather who give selflessly of themselves that make our communities a better place to live.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion 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.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

HONORING NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and

agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 108) honoring the National Science Foundation for 50 years of service to the Nation.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 108

Whereas Congress created the National Science Foundation in 1950 to promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare, and to secure the national defense;

Whereas the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on May 10, 1950;

Whereas the National Science Foundation strengthens the economy and improves the quality of life in the United States as the Federal Government's only agency dedicated to the support of education and fundamental research in all scientific and engineering disciplines;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has worked continuously and successfully to ensure that the United States maintains its leadership in discovery, learning, and innovation in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has supported the research of more than half of the United States Nobel laureates in physics, chemistry, and economics;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has been the lead Federal agency in a number of national science initiatives, such as those in information technology and nanotechnology;

Whereas the National Science Foundation funds almost 20,000 research and education projects in science and engineering at over 2,000 colleges and universities, elementary and secondary schools, nonprofit organizations, and small businesses throughout our Nation;

Whereas the National Science Foundation's innovative education programs work to ensure that every American student receives a solid foundation in science, technology, and mathematics through support for the training and education of teachers, the public, and students of all ages and backgrounds, and by supporting research into new teaching tools, curricula, and methodologies;

Whereas the programs funded by the National Science Foundation are an exemplary demonstration of the value of scientific peer review in selecting the most innovative and technically excellent research activities using a network of over 50,000 scientists and engineers each year;

Whereas the National Science Foundation's international programs promote new partnerships and cooperative projects between United States scientists and engineers and their foreign colleagues, and such partnerships play a key role in establishing and strengthening diplomatic and economic ties; and

Whereas research supported by the National Science Foundation has led to discoveries, technologies, and products which affect our daily lives, including a greater understanding of bacteria, viruses, and the structure of DNA; medical diagnostic tools, such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI); the Internet, web browsers, and fiber optics, which have revolutionized global communication; polymer materials used in products ranging from clothing to automobiles; Doppler radar used for accurate weather forecasting; artificial skin that can help recovering burn victims; economic research in game and decision theory which has led to a

greater understanding of economic cycles; and discoveries of new planets, black holes, and insights into the nature of the universe: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) recognizes the significance of the anniversary of the founding of the National Science Foundation;

(2) acknowledges the completion of 50 years of achievement and service by the National Science Foundation to the United States; and

(3) reaffirms its commitment for the next 50 years to support research, education, and technological advancement and discovery through the National Science Foundation, the premier scientific agency in the Federal Government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 108.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer this resolution H. Con. Res. 108 honoring the National Science Foundation for 50 years of service to our Nation. As chairman of the Committee on Science on Basic Research, which is responsible for oversight and authorization of the National Science Foundation, I wanted to take a few moments to mention some of the highlights of this highly successful and yet often unappreciated agency.

Congress and President Harry S. Truman established the National Science Foundation on May 10, 1950 to fund research in the basic sciences, engineering, mathematics and technology.

It is the Federal Government's only agency dedicated to the support of education and fundamental research in all scientific disciplines from physics and math to zoology and anthropology. For 50 years, NSF-sponsored research has developed the finest science and new technologies that have boosted our economic productivity, enhanced our national security, and preserved our citizens' health and well-being.

Throughout its history, NSF provided support to thousands of researchers and students across the Nation in university labs and in our schools and our industry, support that has fostered innovation, technical achievement, and a greater understanding of our world and our universe. From the depths of space to the depths of the ocean, from the North Pole to the South Pole