

truly are our guardian angels. They fight with passion and dedication for an ideal that we all cherish, the notion that this is the land of opportunity, the land of the free. Unfortunately, that freedom comes at a price and too often our guardian angels come home wounded and disabled. They defend us and are willing to throw themselves in harms way before us, and we must not forget that.

These wounded warriors are an inspiration to all of us, and we owe them so very much. It is our duty to them that we always remember what they have fought and sacrificed for. We must always remember the sacred agreement we made with these servicemen, if they go off and fight for us we will forever be in their debt and we must provide for them and their loved ones.

My praise and thanks fall well short of equaling the gift of freedom our veterans bestowed on all of us. They bare the scars that remind us all how costly freedom can be, and all I have to offer in return is my eternal gratitude.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 336. There is no greater American hero than the military veteran, and I am proud to join my fellow colleagues today in honoring the sacrifices and contributions of our disabled American veterans.

The American soldier is the embodiment of hard work, patriotism, and service, and the soldier who has sacrificed his body for the freedom and liberty of others around the world deserves our utmost respect. The blood spilled on our own soil and abroad is a lasting reminder of the commitment that our soldiers have sacrificed for us all, and every citizen owes a deep and lasting gratitude to these brave warriors.

Mr. Speaker, our departed soldiers must never be forgotten, and those injured veterans from wars past and those just returning from the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan should receive our Nation's and this Congress's unwavering support and reverence. It is an honor to rise today and praise the bravest of all Americans—the disabled military veteran. America will never forget your valor during our most trying times, and we are forever grateful for your dedicated service and selfless sacrifice to our Nation.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. 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. Con. Res. 336.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 336.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. 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.

□ 1500

NATIONAL D-DAY REMEMBRANCE DAY

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1235) expressing support for the designation of National D-Day Remembrance Day, and recognizing the spirit, courage, and sacrifice of the men and women who fought and won World War II.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1235

Whereas June 6, 2008, marks the 64th anniversary of D-Day, the day of the beginning of the Allied assault against the Axis forces at Normandy, France, during World War II;

Whereas the D-Day assault, codenamed Operation Overlord, was the most extensive amphibious invasion ever to occur, and involved 5,000 ships, over 11,000 sorties of Allied aircraft, and 150,000 American, British, and Canadian troops on the first day of the operation;

Whereas the D-Day assault was among the most important events of World War II, as the success of the Allied landings in Normandy provided the foothold for the liberation of France and the eventual Allied advancement into Germany, leading ultimately to the Allied victory in Europe;

Whereas the brave men and women of our armed services who participated in the D-Day assault forever changed the course of history by starting the liberation of occupied Europe from Nazi Germany;

Whereas 5 separate beaches were assaulted, with American forces under the command of Lieutenant General Omar Bradley attacking Omaha and Utah beaches, and British and Canadian forces under the command of General Miles Dempsey attacking Gold, Juno, and Sword beaches;

Whereas according to General Dwight D. Eisenhower, American troops would "accept nothing less than full victory";

Whereas American troops displayed tremendous heroism, dedication, and strength in storming the beaches of Normandy against a heavily fortified enemy;

Whereas American troops suffered significant losses during the assault, including over 6,500 casualties;

Whereas June 6, 1944, is one of the most significant dates in the history of the United States;

Whereas the National D-Day Museum was dedicated on June 6, 2000, in New Orleans, Louisiana;

Whereas Congress designated the museum as "America's National World War II Museum" in 2003;

Whereas the museum has welcomed 1,800,000 visitors since its opening, and currently sees an average of 17,000 visitors a month;

Whereas the National World War II Museum is the only museum in the United States that exists for the exclusive purpose of interpreting the American experience during World War II on both the homefront and battlefield and, in doing so, covers all the branches of the Armed Forces and the Merchant Marines;

Whereas the museum interprets the American experience during World War II, celebrates the American spirit, recognizes the teamwork, optimism, courage, and sacrifice of the men and women who won World War II, and promotes the exploration and expression of these values by future generations; and

Whereas it would be appropriate to designate June 6, 2008, as National D-Day Remembrance Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports the designation of National D-Day Remembrance Day, recognizes and honors the veterans who served on D-Day, and thanks them for their spirit, courage, and sacrifice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair now recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, last week, on June 6, we celebrated the anniversary of one of our greatest military accomplishments and an historic event that changed the face of our Nation and the world.

On June 6, 1944, the largest seaborne invasion in history began the 2-month Battle of Normandy. The D-day invasion began during the night, and continued with air and naval attacks and an amphibious attack in the early morning hours.

The D-day operation of June 6, 1944 brought together the land, air and sea forces of the Allied armies in what become known as the largest invading force in human history. Operation Overlord landed five naval assault divisions to the beaches of Normandy, code-named Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword.

The invasion force included 7,000 ships and landing craft manned by 195,000 Navy personnel from eight Allied countries. Almost 133,000 troops from England, Canada and the United States landed on D-day. Casualties during the landing was over 10,000.

New Orleans is the home of a wonderful museum, the National World War II Museum. This museum opened its doors on June 6, 2000, and paid tribute not only to the D-day but all of the efforts in World War II. One of the reasons it is located in New Orleans is it was the home of Andrew Jackson Higgins.

The historian, Steven Ambrose, reported that General Eisenhower once

told them that Higgins was the man who won the war for us. Eisenhower explained to him that if Higgins had not designated and built the LCVPs, we never could have landed over the open beach. The whole strategy of the war would have been different.

According to the National World War II Museum, the Higgins work force was the first in New Orleans to be racially integrated. This work force shattered production records, turning out more than 200,000 boats, including 12,500 LCVPs, or Landing Craft, Vehicle, Personnel, by the end of the war.

General Eisenhower's D-day message read: You are about to embark upon the greatest crusade, toward which we have strived these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you, and hopes and praise of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you.

The world still recalls D-day, and the efforts of the United States and our Allies to end fascism in Europe and across the globe. It is fitting that we recall these accomplishments, and this day, and the service and sacrifice that hastened the end of World War II.

The world still looks to us for leadership for leadership and to be a beacon to illustrate the path ahead. Let us always strive to provide this light, this leadership and this wisdom to do what is right.

Last August I had the honor and privilege to visit the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in France. While there I laid a wreath of flowers in honor of the soldiers that fought and died at Normandy and visited the graves of Floridians who gave their life fighting the Nazis.

Tori Robinson, an American gospel singer based in Paris, also a constituent of mine, sung at the ceremony. Her version of God bless America brought people from all over the memorial. There this honor was shared by all visitors in this holy place.

I want to take a special note to honor Chairman OBEY and Chairman MURTHA for their hard work in getting funds for this new Normandy Visitors Center appropriated. My visit to this center followed theirs, which was just dedicated on June 6, 2007, the 63rd anniversary of D-day.

This visitors center truly paid tribute to the soldiers who stormed those beaches and gave visitors a true sense of what these men and their loved ones was going through during the war that led up to the D-day invasion.

I encourage all Americans to visit this hallowed site. Most of the visitors are from Europe and come to honor the sacrifice of the young Americans made for their freedom.

Many brave men and women died on this day, 64 years ago, to restore the freedom we enjoy today. Here rests in honored glory a comrade in arms only God knows, reads just one of the 9,387 grave markers at the American ceme-

tery in Normandy, France. We honor them by remembering and this resolution calls us to remember.

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1235, a measure expressing support for the designation of National D-Day Remembrance Day, and recognizing the spirit, courage and sacrifice of the men and women who fought and won World War II. D-day is one of the most significant days in our Nation's history, and we should never forget the bravery and determination displayed on the beaches of Northern France.

This resolution also recognizes the National World War II Museum in New Orleans. The museum was dedicated in 2000 as the National D-Day Museum, and later in 2003, Congress designated the museum as America's National World War II Museum. The museum has welcomed 1.8 million visitors since its opening, and currently sees an average of 17,000 visitors a month.

The National World War II Museum is the only museum in the United States that exists for the exclusive purpose of interpreting the American experience during World War II. It celebrates the American spirit, recognizes the teamwork, optimism, courage and sacrifices of the men and women who won World War II, and promotes the exploration and expression of these values by future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, no one can visit the American cemetery at Normandy without gaining a profound appreciation for the courage and the sense of self-sacrifice demonstrated by every one of our soldiers who fought to take that beach and begin the liberation of Europe.

For years, families who went to that cemetery to think about their loved ones, think about their loss and, at the same time, think about their pride, had a totally inadequate place in which to sit and think or perhaps retreat from the rest of the people around them for a few precious moments. And I am so pleased that I was able to work with Congressman MURTHA, with Congressman WALSH, with Congressman HOBSON, in order to provide the funding for the new visitors center which is now at that location. It is a spectacularly beautiful, and yet subtle tribute to each and every American who fought there.

For years, that visitors center did not tell an adequate story of the sense of self-sacrifice that was exhibited in those days. Now it finally does, and I think it will serve as an inspiration, not just to every American who visits

that site, but also to every person from any part of the world who values freedom and values sacrifice.

I know of no monument that is more eloquent in paying tribute to both than that monument, and I think it's fitting that we pass a resolution, again, praising the courage and the dedication of the Americans who fought to make the entire world free.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I am going to yield 3 minutes to the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, Mr. BOOZMAN from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. SCALISE for bringing this forward. It's important for us periodically to pause and think about the tremendous sacrifice, especially while the men and women that made all of this possible are still with us, that we can pause and just think of the sacrifice that they did on this day.

I also want to welcome Mr. SCALISE to the Veterans' Affairs Committee again, that he has volunteered to become a part of that committee and to work in a very bipartisan way so that we can do our best for veterans.

On June 6, 1944, the United States participated in the largest seaboard invasion in history. Countless men and women served their country that day, and I stand before you to ask for your support for the designation of National D-Day Remembrance Day.

Preparations for D-day began long before June 6, 1944. In fact, discussions about an allied invasion began in 1942. The Germans expected an invasion along the north coast of France and built up forces along the narrowest portion of the channel. However, the Allies planned to land just south of the German build-up. In order to execute a successful campaign, our men and women, along with Allied forces in other countries, not only had to plan an attack, but also to contend with many of the same issues we ourselves are faced with today.

War planners projected 5,000 tons of gasoline would be needed daily for the first 20 days after the initial invasion. 3,489 tons of soap would be needed in the first four months after the invasion. Approximately 300 planes would drop bombs along the coast of Normandy. Six parachute regiments, including 13,000 men, needed to be transported. 5,000 vessels would transport men and 30,000 vehicles across the English channel.

It's clear that the efforts that led to D-day and the many days afterward were that of dedicated men and women who sacrificed their jobs, their families and in many cases their own lives to ensure that the United States of America and the Allied forces would be successful.

Words cannot express our gratitude for their courage and spirit. However,

by designating a National D-Day Remembrance Day, we can continue to remember the sacrifice unwavering commitment to our country, and determination of the men and women who fought and won World War II. I urge my colleagues to remember and honor these men and women by supporting this resolution.

I also want to comment on Mr. OBEY, what he said in regard to the actual monument. And I've had the opportunity to be there. My daughter, while she was vacationing in Europe, in her early twenties, she and her friends enjoyed it so much that they actually were just going and planning on spending an afternoon, wound up spending the night, and were so impressed with the way that everything's portrayed that, again they did a good job.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAZAYOUX).

Mr. CAZAYOUX. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1235, by my fellow delegation member, Congressman SCALISE. This resolution thoughtfully commemorates the sacrifices of our armed services on that fateful day, 64 years ago on the beach of Normandy.

I was reminded of that sacrifice when I visited veterans over Memorial Day at a ceremony at the USS *Kidd* in Baton Rouge. I also attended an event for the Louisiana Honor Air Program, which helps our World War II veterans, many themselves D-day survivors, visit the World War II memorial for the first time.

The D-day assault was the most extensive amphibious invasion in history. Its success was a shining example of the strength and professionalism of our armed services.

As our thoughts and prayers go out to our young men and women who fight for us in Iraq and Afghanistan, we pay tribute to their predecessors by supporting this resolution to designate a National D-Day Remembrance Day.

Louisiana played a huge part in the Allies' success at D-day. Indeed the amphibious Higgins boat itself was developed in Louisiana and based on boats built to navigate our swamps and marshes. For this reason, New Orleans is home to the National D-Day Museum and is designated by Congress as America's National World War II museum.

I support the resolution, and strongly encourage this House to designate June 6, 2008, as National D-Day Remembrance Day.

□ 1515

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN).

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, about 6 months ago I got an unexpected call in my office from a fellow named Carlo

DiVirgilio from Upstate New York. I had never met the man, and when I got on the phone, he said, I just learned that you were in Congress. I just wanted to ask you a question. Was your father Dr. Lungren? And I said, Yes, he was. And he said, I served with him in Normandy 60 years ago.

And he recounted to me some of the battles they went through: the Battle of Senlo, the Battle of Mortain. And he talked about the fear that young men had at that time as they got up to the front lines how they feared death. One of the great things he said to me was, When we were around your father, we felt safe. We felt that we were not going to die.

These were young men who were sent into battle not knowing whether they were going to win but knowing that they had to fight. Had the outcome been different, history would have changed. We would not have liberated Europe. D-day is such an important date that we need to commemorate it as this resolution does.

It is a date that gives us pause because we understand that when Dwight D. Eisenhower made the decision to go, it was not certain that it would succeed. As a matter of fact, those who come here to our Nation's Capitol and go into the Rotunda, they see a statue of Dwight Eisenhower, President of the United States. But he is not there depicted as President of the United States. Rather, he is depicted as the Supreme Allied Commander, the first leader of combined forces in the history of warfare. And he's standing there with a gesture that commemorates a photograph that was taken at the time that he went to go see the paratroopers he was sending off to war.

You have to understand. He realized that maybe as many as six or eight out of every ten that he looked at were going to die, and they were going to die because he was sending them into battle. But he had the courage as a leader to look them in the face, to talk to them before they went off to war and to give them the best that he could.

And then, remarkably, after he had addressed them, he got back into his military automobile and turned to his aide and gave him a piece of paper. And on that piece of paper, General Eisenhower had written out a statement; and he said, If this fails, I want this statement to be read. And what was the statement? It gave all support and all honor to the men who served under him, and he took all blame and responsibility for its failure. What a remarkable example of leadership at that time.

Today, when we hear the first response from many people, I don't care whether they're in professional sports or whether they're in politics or whether they're in business, when something goes wrong, almost the first instinct is to point the finger at somebody else to

say, It wasn't my job. It wasn't my responsibility.

But Dwight Eisenhower was not that kind of person. He is the definition of a leader. He is one who made the tough decision to go on June 6, 64 years ago, not being guaranteed a success but knowing that the risk was worth it. There was nothing else he could do. And then saying, If this fails, it is all on me.

Ladies and gentlemen, as we remember today that great day, the great sacrifice of all, including my father, let us remember the example of a great leader, Dwight Eisenhower, who told us what it is to lead: Not for vain glory, but rather for great purpose.

Thank you very much.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, June 6, 2008, marked the 64th anniversary of D-day, one of the most significant days in our Nation's history. June 6, 1944, marked the beginning of the Allied assault against the Axis forces in Normandy, France, and the beginning of the end of World War II; and it started the liberation of occupied Europe from Nazi Germany.

The D-day invasion was the largest amphibious assault the world had ever seen with more than 5,000 ships and over 150,000 American, British, and Canadian troops involved on that single day.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member who is honored to represent the people of Southeast Louisiana, I am proud of the role that my State played on D-day. In New Orleans, Andrew Jackson Higgins designed the LCVPs, or the Higgins boats, that were used extensively in World War II for amphibious landings. Higgins and the 30,000 Louisiana workers of Higgins Industries built and tested the Higgins boats in Southeast Louisiana during the war.

The Higgins boat was crucial to the success of D-day. According to General Eisenhower, the Allies would not have been able to land on an open beach without the Higgins boat. General Eisenhower claimed that Higgins was the man who won the war for us.

Louisiana is also home to many of the brave men and women who fought and won in World War II. J.J. Witmeyer, who lives in the New Orleans suburb of Hanrahan, participated in the D-day invasion. Mr. Witmeyer served as an infantry soldier and landed on Utah Beach. Mr. Witmeyer describes his experience of landing at Normandy on Higgins boats like this: "When the ramp went down, you were going through the gates of hell . . . you didn't know how deep the water was, where the beach was and they were firing at you."

Mr. Witmeyer escaped injury that day but was later wounded twice. He won a battlefield commission as a captain, served as an acting military governor in Dortmund, Germany, and as a

commandant of two camps for displaced war victims in Czechoslovakia.

It is because of the courage and sacrifice of soldiers like J.J. Witmeyer and the ingenuity and dedication of individuals like Andrew Higgins that we were successful on June 6, 1944, and went on to win the war.

The brave men and women of our Nation's Greatest Generation displayed tremendous heroism, dedication, and strength and forever changed the course of history. General Dwight D. Eisenhower said we would "accept nothing less than full victory," and our troops did just that.

Our success did not come without significant losses, however. American forces suffered over 3,300 soldiers killed in action and an additional 3,000 soldiers suffered injury.

Mr. Speaker, the courage and sacrifice displayed by the Allied forces on June 6, 1944, should never be forgotten, and we should always remember D-day and honor the men and women who fought and persevered for the price of freedom. D-day will forever be an important part of U.S. history, and the day deserves to be recognized. The Members of the Armed Forces who participated in the invasion are true American heroes. That is why I introduced House Resolution 1235 calling on Congress to support the designation of a national D-day Remembrance Day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to recognize and honor the veterans who served on D-day and join me in thanking them for their spirit, courage, and sacrifice. I also urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the National World War II Museum in New Orleans for sharing their stories with future generations. For so many years, the Greatest Generation was reluctant to share their stories, and fortunately for all of us, as time went on, more and more have been willing to open up and give that testimony; and we are so honored to have much of that testimony collected at the National World War II Museum for future generations to share.

By passing House Resolution 1235, we honor D-day. More importantly, we honor the men and women of the Greatest Generation who made June 6, 1944, one of the most important days in our Nation's history, a day that all men can be proud of, a day that all Americans should never forget.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on House Resolution 1235.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1235, a resolution to designate National D-Day Remembrance Day and recognize the spirit, courage, and sacrifice of the men and women who fought and won World War II. One of modern history's defining events, D-day was the climactic engagement of the Second World War. On June 6, 1944, an Allied Expeditionary Force representing twelve nations launched more than 5,000 boats and ships, 11,000 aircraft, 28,000 aerial sorties, and landed 150,000 ground troops. Among those troops were more than 30 soldiers from Bedford, Virginia, a small, rural community which experienced the highest per capita loss rate of any community in the United States on D-day. For this reason, Bedford is the home to the National D-Day Memorial, which was dedicated by President Bush on June 6, 2001. The National D-Day Memorial exists in tribute to the valor, fidelity, and sacrifice of the Allied Forces on D-day. The Memorial preserves the lessons and legacy of that fateful day and reminds all who enter it of the heavy price that heartland communities have paid, and still pay, for freedom.

I urge all members to support H. Res. 1235 and honor the great sacrifice of our veterans who served on D-day and in all the other conflicts that preserved American freedom throughout our history.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1235, a measure expressing support for the designation of National D-Day Remembrance Day, and recognizing the spirit, courage, and sacrifice of the men and women who fought and won World War II.

On June 6, 1944, the largest sea-borne invasion in military history led to the defeat of Hitler and the Nazis' stranglehold on Europe. Nearly 7,000 ships and landing craft, loaded with American, British and other troops, crossed the English Channel to destroy tyranny and restore freedom to Europe. Nearly 3,500 lives were lost in this immense display of courage and sacrifice.

The heroism displayed by the Allied forces on D-day should never be forgotten and we should always honor the men and women who saved democracy from the shadow of oppression. That is why we should approve H.R. 1235 calling on Congress to support the designation of a National D-Day Remembrance Day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to recognize and honor the veterans who served on D-day, and join me in supporting this bill thanking them for their courage and sacrifice.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to unanimously support House Resolution 1235.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1235.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. 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.

PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE IF OFFERED TODAY

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that if the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) offers a resolution as a question of the privileges of the House at any time on the legislative day of June 10, 2008—

(1) the previous question shall be considered as ordered thereon without intervening motion except one motion to refer; and

(2) the Speaker may postpone further proceedings on such a vote on a motion to refer as though under clause 8(a)(1)(A) of rule XX.

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

There was no objection.

TO AWARD POSTHUMOUSLY A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO CONSTANTINO BRUMIDI

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 254) to award posthumously a Congressional gold medal to Constantino Brumidi.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 254

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On July 26, 1805, Constantino Brumidi was born in Rome, Italy of an Italian mother and a Greek father who inspired him with a love of liberty.

(2) While Constantino Brumidi's Greek ancestry stirred his passion for liberty and citizenship, his Italian heritage provided the art styles of the Renaissance and the Baroque which influenced the artwork of the United States Capitol.

(3) Constantino Brumidi became a citizen of the United States as soon as he was able, embracing its history, values, and ideals.

(4) Beginning in 1855, Constantino Brumidi designed and decorated 1 House and 5 Senate committee rooms in the Capitol, as well as the Senate Reception Room, the Office of the Vice President, and, most notably, the President's Room, which represents Brumidi's supreme effort "to make beautiful the Capitol" of the United States.

(5) In 1865, Constantino Brumidi completed in just 11 months his masterpiece, "The