

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1600

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

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1456, congratulating the University of Dayton's men's basketball team for winning the 2010 National Invitation Tournament basketball championship.

On April 1, 2010, the University of Dayton Flyers defeated the University of North Carolina Tarheels 79–68 in the finals of the National Invitation Men's Basketball Tournament. The Flyers men's basketball team now holds 40 all-time victories in the National Invitation Tournament, or NIT, the second-most victories in tournament history.

Flyers Coach Brian Gregory led the team to victory in his seventh season as Dayton's head coach, every season of which has been a winning season. Head Coach Brian Gregory has also led the team to two NCAA tournaments and two National Invitation Tournaments.

Flyers player Chris Johnson earned the 2010 NIT most outstanding player, and Marcs Johnson was selected to the NIT All-Tournament team. The Dayton Flyers finished the 2009–2010 season with 29 wins and 14 losses, ending the season with the team's third NIT title.

Although we are celebrating the University of Dayton's athletic excellence, we should take a moment to recognize the quality of the University of Dayton's academic programs as well. The University of Dayton is a top-tier national doctoral-level university, and one of the 10 best Catholic universities in the Nation, according to U.S. News & World Report.

Founded in 1850, the University of Dayton's offerings include 70 high-quality undergraduate programs in four divisions and graduate programs at the master's and doctoral level, as well as a law degree. The largest private university in Ohio, the University of Dayton, is a leader in higher education. So I extend my congratulations to University of Dayton President Daniel Curran, Head Coach Brian Gregory and his staff, the hardworking players, and of course the fans. I wish all continued success and ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the author of the resolution, a representative of Dayton and surrounding areas in Ohio, MIKE TURNER.

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 1456, congratulating the University of Dayton men's basketball team for winning the 2010 National Invitation Tournament basketball championship.

This past season, the Dayton Flyers men's basketball team won its third NIT championship in school history. The team won the championship on April 1, defeating the 2009 NCAA Tournament national champion North Caro-

lina Tarheels 79–68. The University of Dayton men's basketball team is second in all-time wins in the NIT with 40.

In addition to their success off the court, as has been stated, the University of Dayton academically is also very successful with its student athletes. The men's basketball team upholds a high standard of academic excellence. The program has graduated every senior student athlete since Brian Gregory was named head coach in 2003, including seven players this season. But in addition, UD graduated 96 percent of all its student athletes in 2008, the most of any Atlantic 10 Conference school, and it tied for 10th in the Nation.

In 2006, the Savior of Our Cities national survey of community revitalization ranked the University of Dayton number one among Catholic universities and number three overall in helping save America's cities from blight. They are very active in our community revitalization. The University of Dayton is also a center of research excellence, with UDRI being a major contributor to research that affects our national security.

Not only does the men's basketball program serve as a significant aspect of campus life, it also plays a major role in bringing people from the surrounding area into the city. The Flyers men's basketball team has been one of the biggest sports attractions in the Dayton area for years. Since UD Arena opened in 1969, Dayton has been in the NCAA's top 35 in home attendance every season. This past season, the Flyers led the Atlantic 10 Conference in attendance for its 13th straight season.

The University of Dayton is one of the 10 largest Catholic schools in the United States and is the largest of the three Marianist universities in the Nation. The students, alumni, administration, faculty, and supporters of the University of Dayton are to be congratulated for their loyalty and pride in their championship-caliber basketball team.

I would like to thank my Ohio colleagues, all of whom are original cosponsors of this resolution. As a proud alumnus of the University of Dayton MBA program, I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution congratulating the University of Dayton's men's basketball team on their successful season.

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

Mr. POLIS. Once again, I congratulate the Dayton Flyers on winning the 2010 NIT tournament, and I thank Representative TURNER for bringing this resolution forward.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1456.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 275) expressing support for designation of the week beginning on the second Sunday of September as Arts in Education Week, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 275

Whereas arts education, comprising a rich array of disciplines including dance, music, theatre, media arts, literature, design, and visual arts, is a core academic subject and an essential element of a complete and balanced education for all students;

Whereas according to Albert Einstein, "After a certain high level of technical skill is achieved, science and art tend to coalesce in esthetics, plasticity, and form. The greatest scientists are artists as well.";

Whereas arts education enables students to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, imagination and creativity, discipline, alternative ways to communicate and express ideas, and cross-cultural understanding, which supports academic success across the curriculum as well as personal growth outside the classroom;

Whereas the nonprofit arts sector contributes to the economy and plays an important role in the economic health of communities large and small with direct expenditures of wages and benefits as well as goods and services;

Whereas to succeed in today's economy, students must masterfully use words, images, sounds, and movement to communicate;

Whereas as the Nation works to strengthen its foothold in the 21st century global economy, the arts equip students with a creative, competitive edge;

Whereas where schools and communities are delivering high-quality learning opportunities in, through, and about the arts for children, extraordinary results occur;

Whereas studies have shown that schools with large populations of students in poverty can be transformed into vibrant hubs of learning through arts education;

Whereas studies have also found that eighth graders from underresourced environments who are highly involved in the arts have better grades, less likelihood of dropping out by grade ten, have more positive attitudes about school, and are more likely to go onto college;

Whereas attracting and retaining the best teachers is vital and can be achieved by ensuring that schools embrace the arts, becoming havens for creativity and innovation;

Whereas arts education has the power to make students want to learn not just within the arts, but other areas of study;

Whereas art is integral to the lives of many United States citizens and can improve the vitality of communities and the Nation; and

Whereas the week beginning on the second Sunday of September would be an appropriate week to designate as Arts in Education Week: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) supports the designation of Arts in Education Week;

(2) calls on governors, mayors, and other elected officials from across the United States to issue proclamations to raise awareness of the value and importance of arts in education; and

(3) encourages the President to issue a proclamation encouraging the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 275 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 275, which expresses support for designating the week beginning on the second Sunday of September as Arts in Education Week.

The arts serve a critical role in the advancement of our students' education, creativity, and intellectual development. A well-rounded education that includes arts education is extremely important in our schools and communities, helping students think creatively and critically. When students leave the classroom, they use their understanding of dance, music, theater, literature, design, and visual arts to communicate in new ways, to build intellectual capital, to express themselves within and across cultures and mediums. The arts also add a new dimension of thinking to social and hard scientists, in keeping with Albert Einstein's assertion that "the greatest scientists are artists as well."

Arts education has a positive effect on students' academic careers. Many studies have shown that students participating in visual and performing arts had better grades and a lower likelihood of dropping out. Students who participate in arts programs are at least three times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement, elected to class office within their schools, participate in a math and science fair, win an award for school attendance, or win an award for writing an essay or a poem. These students also maintain more positive attitudes about school and are more likely to go on to college. And yet, despite the proven benefits of arts education, the 2008 National Assessment of Educational Progress, the NAEP result, found that only 58 percent of eighth-

graders attended schools where music instruction was offered at least three times a week, and only 47 percent attended schools where visual arts were offered more than three times a week.

Arts in Education Week helps us highlight the importance of giving our students expanded opportunities to participate in the visual and performing arts in school. I took advantage of those opportunities growing up myself, participating in several school plays, and throughout lower school, in elementary school, in a music program. I know that I take many of those lessons today that have helped make me a better rounded person and a more effective representative in Congress for the people of Colorado.

□ 1610

I strongly encourage my colleagues to join Representative SPEIER, the sponsor of this bill, in supporting Arts in Education Week.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PETRI. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 275, expressing support for designation of the week beginning on the second Sunday of September as Arts in Education Week.

Arts in Education Week highlights the benefits of exposing students to the arts, and it recognizes that arts can play a role in educating youth. Many localities have rich art communities. Exposing youth to the museums, artists, and workers of art within these communities can help to provide cultural experiences, foster creativity, and support classroom learning about the arts.

Many States and communities are taking efforts to ensure students are exposed to the arts. Most States, specifically 43 States, require schools to provide art instruction, and many schools have integrated art education into their other areas of study. Many instructors in schools take advantage of the local art industry by introducing students to the various points of access to the arts within their communities.

Parents play a vital role in exposing youth to the arts as well. Weekend trips to a local art museum or a night out to see a local play are just two examples of ways in which parents can educate their children about and ensure their children's participation in the arts.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, as the gentlewoman from California is not here yet, who is the primary sponsor of this legislation, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 275.

I want to commend both Mr. POLIS and Mr. PETRI for their very succinct words.

I know firsthand the benefits that our children receive from a robust arts education program, whether it is music, theater, visual arts, photography, poetry, or dance. This is not simply an outlet. This is part and parcel of the essential features of what a good education is all about. Unfortunately, the current state of the economy has now put these classes and the further enrichment of our students at risk, and I would ask us to address this issue.

What is the first to be cut? Go right across the Nation. Arts, libraries and sports—the things our kids love best. Arts are not just sought to get away from things. Arts are part of their lives. They enrich them. They contribute to one's total being when one has an appreciation of the arts.

I taught an arts course, History through the Arts. They were mostly students who could care less about American history; so I had to find a way to get to them. I taught the course by going through all of those fine arts I just talked about. I asked them to learn about our Nation through different periods of time through the artwork, the poetry and the music of that individual time, not unlike what we would do when studying the Renaissance.

This is particularly evident in New Jersey. The city of my district, West Orange, has announced its intentions to cut its music and arts departments in addition to laying off almost 90 staff members in order to reduce its budget. It is forced to do that. Yet we take no action. Last year, in the stimulus package, we saved a lot of jobs, necessary jobs. This year, we are reluctant to do that. We are frightened. The word "deficit" is in all capital letters. Yet for 8 years we saw this accumulate and accumulate and said nothing.

In my town of Paterson, where I grew up and still live, 50 music teachers and 38 art teachers got their pink slips. John F. Kennedy High School in Paterson performed just its second spring musical in 30 years in April. Talk about austerity. Due to the cuts, it could be another 30 years. I'm not exaggerating. These are the numbers. You can't make this stuff up.

Before this crisis a 2007 study found out more than 75,000 students in New Jersey have been attending school every day with no arts education. If we want to encourage arts in education, then we can't talk out of both sides of our mouths. So it is nice to recognize the arts in a week, a month, a year. That's fine. That's great. If we were to fire all the arts teachers, what would that be like?

It looks like the Senate has decided to strip the \$10 billion that this House voted for to keep our teachers in their classrooms. I don't know what is happening at the other end of the building. By failing to provide our children with

opportunities to supplement their classes, we are robbing them of a complete education. We must consider the arts, which enrich our lives, the lives of our youth, which spark a life-long love and passion for creativity, not as a secondary priority in our educational system but as an essential pillar of its foundation.

So I urge the support of H. Con. Res. 275, which expresses the support for the designation of this week beginning on the second Sunday of September, and I urge the Senate to keep up with the House on some issues at least.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, once again, I want to thank Representative SPEIER of California for introducing this concurrent resolution, and I, once again, express my strong support for designating the week beginning on the second Sunday of September as Arts in Education Week.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution of arts in education.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 275, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING SPIRIT OF '45 DAY

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 226) supporting the observance of "Spirit of '45 Day".

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 226

Whereas on August 14, 1945, the people of the United States received word of the end of World War II;

Whereas on that day, people in the United States and around the world greeted the news of the Allies' noble victory with joyous celebration, humility, and spiritual reflection;

Whereas the victory marked the culmination of an unprecedented national effort that defeated the forces of aggression, brought freedom to subjugated nations, and ended the horrors of the Holocaust;

Whereas these historic accomplishments were achieved through the collective service and personal sacrifice of the people of the United States, both those who served in uniform and those who supported them on the home front;

Whereas more than 400,000 Americans gave their lives in service to their country during World War II;

Whereas, August 14, 1945, marked not only the end of the war, but also the beginning of an unprecedented era of rebuilding in which the United States led the effort to restore the shattered nations of the Allies and their

enemies alike and to create institutions to work towards a more peaceful global community;

Whereas the men and women of the World War II generation created an array of organizations and institutions during the postwar era which helped to strengthen American democracy by promoting civic engagement, volunteerism, and service to community and country;

Whereas the courage, dedication, self-sacrifice, and compassion of the World War II generation have inspired subsequent generations in the United States Armed Forces, including the men and women currently in service in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world;

Whereas the entire World War II generation, military and civilian alike, has provided a model of unity and community that serves as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together to work for the continued betterment of the United States and the world; and

Whereas the second Sunday in August has been proposed as "Spirit of '45 Day" to commemorate the anniversary of the end of World War II on August 14, 1945: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress supports the observance of "Spirit of '45 Day".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BONNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I present House Concurrent Resolution 226 for consideration, supporting the observance of Spirit of '45 Day to commemorate the anniversary of the end of World War II on August 14, 1945.

□ 1620

H. Con. Res. 226 was introduced by our colleague, Representative FILNER of California, in January 2010. It was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent in July. H. Con. Res. 226 enjoys the strong bipartisan support of over 70 cosponsors.

Madam Speaker, communities across the country will commemorate the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II on August 14 by establishing an annual day of remembrance in honor of the legacy of the men and women of America's so-called "Greatest Generation."

August 14, 1945, is a day that changed history. It marked the end of World War II and ushered in a new era of peace, prosperity and unity made pos-

sible by the heroic efforts of men and women who risked their freedom to give us ours.

The goal of this resolution is to inspire a renewed sense of community and national unity in our country by establishing a day when America will stop to reflect on the achievements of the men and women who endured the Great Depression, preserved freedom and democracy in the most devastating war in history, and then went on to rebuild their shattered world. Their example of courage, self-sacrifice and commitment to community can inspire a renewed sense of national unity at a time when our country must again come together to meet common challenges.

Spirit of '45 Day will engage young and old in a shared, intergenerational project that will preserve forever an important part of the Nation's history and heritage, while reinvigorating an awareness of the importance of coming together as a community, honoring service to others, and creating a sense of national unity at a time when our Nation is facing major challenges once again.

Madam Speaker, this year marks the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II. And it may be one of the last times Americans can say thank you to our "Greatest Generation" for their legacy of service. Let us now honor them and encourage others to follow their example through the passage of H. Con. Res. 226.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 226, supporting the observance of Spirit of '45 Day.

Madam Speaker, August 14, 2010, marks the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II. It was on this day in 1945 that the Japanese informed the United States that they had agreed to the terms of the surrender agreement, and after some six horrific years, the Second World War was over.

The Allied victory marked the culmination of an unparalleled national effort that defeated the Axis Powers, liberated oppressed nations, and ended the horrors of the Holocaust. The victory was achieved by the collective service and individual sacrifice of the people of the United States, both those who served on the front lines overseas, as well as those who supported them here at home.

Japan's surrender came some 3 years and 8 months after the bombings at Pearl Harbor, and marked the beginning of an unprecedented era of global rebuilding. The United States was the leader in this effort to not only rebuild the war-ravaged nations of our allies, but of our enemies as well.

Madam Speaker, during World War II, more than 400,000 Americans lost their lives in the ultimate act of sacrifice to our great Nation. The men and