

But most importantly, he served as a distinguished Member of the other body and was well respected as majority leader, respected by Members and leadership of both parties. And it is my pleasure to speak in support of this and also to call attention to the fact that I believe my colleague, the gentleman from Maine [Mr. BALDACC], a member of the other party, will also be addressing this House in a unique bipartisan support for this great measure in honor of the service of George Mitchell to the citizens of Maine and the United States.

Miss COLLINS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from Maine [Mr. BALDACC] the cosponsor of H.R. 2077.

Mr. BALDACC. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of this legislation which will properly recognize one of Maine's, and indeed the Nation's most distinguished public servants.

Senator George Mitchell has dedicated the better part of his adult life to public service. From serving in the Army, to being a Federal judge, to representing the people of Maine in the U.S. Senate. In every position, he was known for being fair, thoughtful and articulate.

George Mitchell has been a mentor to me. We can all learn from the way he conducted himself. I am pleased that we are taking action today to name the post office in his home town of Waterville the George J. Mitchell Federal Building. It is a fitting tribute to a man who is the source of tremendous pride for the people of Waterville, of Maine and of the Nation.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion to name the post office in Waterville, ME in honor of former Majority Leader George Mitchell.

Senator Mitchell's legacy is an outstanding one, marked by his great intellect and strong principles. Future generations will benefit from his distinguished service to our country. It is fitting that the citizens of his hometown have a daily reminder of his greatness.

He has always spoken with pride of Waterville, ME, and now the Congress recognizes that strong tie. By honoring George Mitchell, this Congress honors one of its greatest leaders.

Miss COLLINS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 2077

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF GEORGE J. MITCHELL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

The United States Post Office building located at 33 College Avenue in Waterville, Maine, shall be known and designated as the "George J. Mitchell Post Office Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States Post Office building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "George J. Mitchell Post Office Building".

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have five legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 2077.

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

There was no objection.

TRIBUTES TO LENNY DONNELLY AND KEITH JEWELL

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of myself, the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], the majority leader, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR], the minority whip, the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], the Chairman of the Democratic Caucus and the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. KENNELLY], the vice chair of the Democratic Caucus, and all the leadership and members of the Democratic Caucus to note that today will be the last day of service for one of the beloved individuals of this House.

I ask my colleagues this day to join me in bidding farewell to a woman who has been a fixture on the floor of this House and who has helped over 2,000 young people mature into active participants in the democratic process of this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, today is the last day on Capitol Hill for Lenore Donnelly who has served as the Chief of Democratic Pages since 1985. She sits right behind me on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, Lenny first came to Washington to work for Senator John F. Kennedy's Presidential campaign in 1959. She later became a member of his White House staff and remained at the White House during the administration of President Johnson at President Johnson's request.

She worked for Senator Robert Kennedy as well. Lenny later became the Deputy Chief of the U.S. Capitol Guide Service and was appointed to Chief of the Democratic Pages by one of our most famous and beloved Speakers, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill.

All of us who have worked with Lenny know her to be a woman of uncommon grace, uncommon grace under pressure, and uncommon grace in the best of times. She is a person who truly loves this institution and reflects that in her actions and in her words.

She has passed on that commitment to her Nation and to the House of Rep-

resentatives, and, probably more importantly, to the thousands of Pages who have come here and under her guidance have flourished for the past 10 years.

I know that one day, Mr. Speaker, a future Member of this House will serve here who was a page under Lenny Donnelly and, yes, maybe far more than one. The House and indeed the Nation will be a better place because that Member will carry with him the inspiration and the knowledge and the wisdom and the love of this institution imparted to him or to her by Lenny Donnelly.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR] my friend, the Democratic whip.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for giving me the opportunity to express my best wishes to some very wonderful people.

Mr. Speaker, we have come to the end of a long and exhausting 7-month schedule.

I think all of us are looking forward to going back home and spending some time with our family and friends.

But before we go, I wanted to rise today to pay tribute to the people you don't see in front of the C-SPAN cameras. I want to pay tribute to the men and women who work hard in this House every day.

Over the past 8 months, we've debated a lot of different bills on this floor.

Time and again, we've heard speaker after speaker remind us that government isn't just about programs or policy. It's about people.

Well, the same goes for this House.

In the 20 years I have been privileged to serve in this body, I have had the great pleasure of knowing some of the best, most decent people you'd ever want to meet.

These people who believe in this institution, who care about this House, and who work hard day in and day out to serve the American people.

Many of them spend long hours away from their families. Many of them are forced to order too many late-night pizzas.

And I regret to say—many of them have not gotten the respect they deserve in recent days.

But to the pages and the staff and the clerical workers and carpenters and everybody else who makes this House run—and especially to my staff—I want to say thank you.

The work you're doing is making a difference, for this House and for this Nation. And never let anybody convince you otherwise.

Mr. Speaker, there are hundreds of people I could mention by name—and I wish I had the time to do it here today. But I want to take a moment to mention just two of them, two people who are saying goodbye to this House after many years of dedicated service.

Mr. Speaker, in all my time in this House, I have not met a nicer, kinder, friendlier person than Lenny Donnelly.

For the past 10 years, Lenny has been a fixture in this Chamber. Since 1985, she's run the Democratic page program here in the House.

She'll proudly tell you that before she ever came to the House she worked for the Kennedy White House.

But if you've ever wondered how a group of 15- and 16-year-old pages can travel hundreds of miles from their families, and away from their friends, to a strange city, and be made to feel like they're right at home: Lenny Donnelly is the reason.

She doesn't have any special secrets. She just treats the pages like people.

She takes an interest in their lives; she listens to their problems; she makes them proud of their accomplishments; and by believing in them, she helps them believe in themselves.

Mr. Speaker, the pages who are lucky enough to serve in this body will remember a lot of things about Washington. But when people ask them what they'll remember the most—my guess is that they'll say "Lenny Donnelly."

Lenny, the young people you have taught—and the lessons you have taught them—will survive long after you're gone from this Chamber. And that's something to be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, another good friend leaving us this week after years of dedicated service is one of the hardest working people on Capitol Hill, a sweet and decent man named Keith Jewell.

For the past 30 years, Keith has seen and heard it all on Capitol Hill.

As the House photographer his eye has been the eye of the Nation.

During his tenure, Keith has served under six Speakers. He was the first photographer to capture a still image of a joint session of Congress.

He photographed seven American Presidents. And as director of the Office of photography, he has coordinated more than 19,000 appointments each year—from the Queen of England right down to children on their first visit to the Nation's Capitol.

And through it all he's remained the same patient, friendly man he's always been.

Keith, you've made a lot of us look good over the years—even on the most hectic days.

We're all going to miss the sight of you racing around this building carrying four or five cameras, with straps hanging around your neck, and that camera bag at your side.

But someday, when there is nobody left to remember the sound of the voices in this Chamber today, America will still look back on the images you have captured with your camera and they're going to remember—as will we all.

Mr. Speaker, this is a sad week for all of us.

All of us are proud to have worked with Lenny and Keith—and proud to call them friends.

And even though we're all going to miss them. I promise you this: We're never going to forget them.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I would add, before a final statement for Lenny, Keith Jewell is one of the finest people with whom of us have had the opportunity to work. It is a shame he is leaving. I am not going to discuss further the fact of why he has decided to leave, but I want to say that this House will be a lesser place for his loss.

He and Lenny Donnelly have brought a true commitment to this institution, not just to us as individuals, not just to the pages and the Members, but to all of the people who have come in contact with this institution.

The page system, I think, Mr. Speaker, is a uniquely important part of this institution. It allows young people to come from throughout the United States, spend some time not just in the Capital of their Nation but in the people's House, seeing day to day the operations of democracy, seeing, frankly, firsthand that the Members here on both sides of the aisle, liberals, conservatives, moderates, independent, work hard and care about their country, care about their oath of office.

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Mr. Speaker, I think they carry back with them a special insight that they then impart to their peers who, I think, have a little better respect for their democracy, for the education that they received from our pages.

Lenny Donnelly, Peggy, others who on a day-to-day basis deal with our pages, perform a great service for this institution, but, in a broader sense, a great service for our democracy.

Lenny, we will miss you. We know that you and Ray are about, in a few short days, to travel to Ireland. Now, I do not know that a Donnelly will be very excited about going to Ireland, but I have a suspicion that that is probably the case and I am sure they will welcome you there.

We look forward to your swift and safe return as we welcome you with open arms and deep gratitude every time you return. Good luck and Godspeed.

Mr. SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAYS). I thank the gentleman and thank all people who work for this wonderful Chamber.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONVENTION CENTER AND SPORTS ARENA AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to call up the bill (H.R. 2108), to permit the Washington Convention Center Authority to expend revenues for the operation and maintenance of the existing Washington Convention Center and for preconstruction activities relating to a new convention center in the District of Columbia, to permit a designated authority of the District of Columbia to borrow funds for the preconstruction activities relating to a sports arena in the District of Columbia and to permit certain reve-

nues to be pledged as security for the borrowing of such funds, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, under my reservation, I ask the chairman of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia to explain the bill.

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman will yield, H.R. 2108 is a straightforward bill which allows the District of Columbia to move forward on two very important economic development projects—the MCI arena at Gallery Place and a new convention center.

These projects will provide thousands of jobs of the type most needed in the District of Columbia and hundreds of millions of dollars in economic activity and tax revenues for our Nation's Capital.

This bill is very narrowly crafted and specifically directs each item for which expenditures may be made. Also, the independent nature of both the Washington Convention Center Authority and the Redevelopment Land Agency, which is the lead agency on the arena project, mean that the power and influence of the Mayor and the Council are sharply curtailed and less than would have been the case if these projects had proceeded without this legislation. I want Members to know that the entities directing these projects are independent of the Mayor and have both the legal and fiduciary responsibility for their actions.

This legislation does not create or raise taxes in the District of Columbia. The funds authorized to be expended by this legislation are already being collected and deposited in an escrow account. Last year the Council passed dedicated tax sources for these economic development projects and directed the funds into escrow accounts. The moneys involved are not part of the District's general fund, could not be spent for any other purpose, and this spending will not increase the District's deficit.

Under the narrow focus of this legislation and considering the economic benefits for the District of Columbia and the entire National Capital region from these projects, I ask Members to support H.R. 2108.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS] for his explanation.

Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT].

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a special thank you and tribute to both the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS] and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] because they have worked very hard on this legislation.