

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, during the afternoon of June 20, the Olympic torch, which will signal the start of the Summer Olympic Games, will pass through the Capitol Grounds. It will have been in relay across the United States for 84 days, starting April 27 of this year in Los Angeles. Including the games, the flame will have been in play throughout the United States for over 100 days. It will travel through 42 States. It will visit 29 State capitols. It will come within a 2-hour distance of 90 percent of the population of the United States.

The flame will visit 11 pairs of cities: Rochester, MN, and Rochester, NY; Albany, GA, and Albany, NY, for example. It travels 150 miles a day, 10 miles an hour, 15 hours a day. There are numerous community celebrations and festivities all across the route, as is befitting an event of this magnitude and significance.

The United Way is the provider of community support and volunteer services for the 1996 Olympic torch relay. It is really impressive that there will be over 10,000 runners carrying the torch. It will move by numerous conveyances: bicycle, 19-car train, horseback, canoe, steamboat, on the Great Lakes by one of our lakers, aircraft, sailboat. All will be used to carry the flame at one time or another into Atlanta.

Given that impressive array of transportation modes, it is only fitting that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure should be the one to manage this legislation. This is an extraordinarily historic event, one of great significance that captures the imagination of young people, now and for generations to come. It is a great honor for this committee to be a part of making this event happen and come here, not only to Washington, but to the Capitol Grounds.

I understand that the flame will pass across the Capitol Grounds between 3:30 and 4:15 p.m. on June 20. I hope all of our colleagues can be there to see it. I hope the public will come and join us, and I invite everyone to participate in this truly wonderful celebration.

I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland for the role he has played in bringing this about. He has dedicated himself to all of the legislation that comes before the Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with great scholarly approach, and it is very welcome. I appreciate the leadership of the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA] and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] on this subject.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, on June 20, 1996, the torch which will be used to officially open the 1996 Summer Olympics will pass through the Nation's Capital on its way to Atlanta for the opening ceremonies. A resolution is needed to authorize use of the Capitol Grounds due to a prohibition against open flames on the Grounds. It is with special pride

and an honor that the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee can join the rest of the country in welcoming all visitors to the Olympics and show our support for all the athletes who will compete.

The Olympic torch will be carried by runners who have been nominated and chosen from their communities for their outstanding volunteer activities and community service. Approximately every one-half kilometer the torch will be passed to a new runner. In my own district 13 runners participated on Monday, June 10, 1996, by carrying the torch along the shores of Lake Erie. They included Theresa Bishop, Madonna Chism, Colleen Dippolito, Thomas Grantonic, Yong Lee, Steven Meads, Kyle Obradovich, Anthony Parish, Rev. Charles Ready, Gilbert Rieger, Melissa Snyder, Greg Yurco, and John Zimomra. We are exceedingly proud of these young people.

I urge support for this resolution and thank Mr. GILCHREST for his prompt attention to this request.

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

Mr. GILCHREST. 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 gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 172.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR GREATER WASHINGTON SOAP BOX DERBY

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 153) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 153

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF SOAP BOX DERBY RACES ON CAPITOL GROUNDS.

The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association (hereinafter in this resolution referred to as the "Association") shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, soap box derby races, on the Capitol grounds on July 13, 1996, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate may jointly designate.

SEC. 2. CONDITIONS.

The event to be carried out under this resolution shall be free of admission charge to the public and arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board; except that the Association shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.

For the purposes of this resolution, the Association is authorized to erect upon the

Capitol grounds, subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event to be carried out under this resolution.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make any such additional arrangements that may be required to carry out the event under this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA] will each be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST].

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 153 would authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for the annual running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. This event is scheduled for July 13, and again will be held on Constitution Avenue. This resolution provides for the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police Board, and the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to negotiate the necessary arrangements in compliance with rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol Grounds. The event will be open to the public and be free of charge.

This year marks the 55th year of the running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. Participants range in age from 9 to 16. Winners from this event will compete in the national event to be held in Akron, OH, later this summer.

Participants must design and build their race cars, providing young people with an opportunity to gain valuable skills in aerodynamics and engineering. The event promotes teamwork, a sense of accomplishment, sportsmanship, and provides an opportunity for parents and children to work together for a special challenge.

I am pleased that our colleagues from Virginia Mr. WOLF, Mr. DAVIS, and Mr. MORAN, cosponsored this resolution, along with Members from Maryland, Mr. HOYER, Mr. WYNN, and Mrs. MORELLA, and the gentlelady from the District, Ms. NORTON. I note that my colleague, Mr. HOYER, has been a long time supporter of this annual event.

I support this resolution and urge my colleagues to support the measure.

□ 1430

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

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

Mr. Speaker, on July 13, 1996 the 55th running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby is scheduled to take place in Washington, DC, along Constitution Avenue. This year's event is expected to draw over 50 participants from the surrounding communities of

northern Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Maryland, making the Washington race one of the largest in the country. Mr. HOYER deserves credit and our support for his continued efforts in behalf of this all volunteer event.

The race is funded through private donations, is staffed completely with community volunteers and is open to the public and all families to enjoy. Use of our beautiful Capitol Grounds has made this event a very popular local event and, in fact, in 1992 Washington, DC, was named one of the outstanding race cities.

Youngsters ages 9 through 16 build and race their own cars. They learn the principles of aerodynamics through construction, practice, and competition. In previous years, resolutions regarding this event have always enjoyed broad bipartisan support. I thank Mr. HOYER again for his continued interest and efforts in this event, and urge support for House Concurrent Resolution 153.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER].

Mr. HOYER. I thank my friend from Pennsylvania for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to first say to my very close friend and colleague from Maryland, Mr. GILCHREST, who chairs the subcommittee that is reporting these bills to the floor, I want to thank him for his efforts not only this year but in the past to shepherd this bill to the floor so that it could be passed in a timely way, so that the negotiations necessary to effect a successful running of the Soap Box Derby could be accomplished. I also want to thank my friend from Minnesota to whom I refer as the chairman in exile, the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. OBERSTAR.

Mr. Speaker, my comments would have echoed that which the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA] have already said. This is to be the 55th running of the Soap Box Derby.

For those of us who have lived in the Washington metropolitan area for a long period of time, we know that for a period of time this was run on the hill on Pennsylvania Avenue just after you get to Branch Avenue if you are going out of town, before it if you are coming into town. It came a time when that was no longer feasible and appropriate, and in fact where they were not getting the attendance that was necessary to make this a successful event.

It is, I think, very appropriate that we authorize the use of Constitution Avenue under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Capitol for this purpose. Is there anything more American than the Soap Box Derby? Young people being asked to use their own talents, their own initiative, their own inventiveness in coming to grips with a problem. That is, how to get a vehicle that is not powered by a motor down a hill faster than another vehicle.

As has been stated, these young people learn a lot about aerodynamics, about engineering, and about things that will prove very valuable to them in the future. But more importantly, they learn the traits of self-reliance and competition as well as teamwork, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA] and the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] I think both referred to, because they work with others in constructing these cars and in racing these cars.

It is also a celebration, I suggest to my colleagues, in most instances of family, because although these cars are built by the youngsters themselves, I would be surprised if they did not ask dad or even mom for some advice and counsel in the construction of these cars.

The bottom line is, I think it is very appropriate that we have this race on Capitol Hill, this race that, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA] has pointed out, is now one of the most successful in the United States. We will have some 55 cars in this region participating, which is a lot more people, of course, than that participating. And so I am very pleased to rise in support of this resolution.

I want to also thank in particular, and there are a number of them and I hesitate to cite one, but I will do so because it was Barry Scher. Barry Scher does governmental relations for Giant Food. Giant Food is one of the great corporations in America and one of the great corporations in the Washington metropolitan area. Giant Food unfortunately and tragically just lost its leader, Izzy Cohen. Izzy Cohen was a close and dear friend of mine, a man of unusual sensitivity to the community. Giant was not only a successful business enterprise, it was and is a successful community citizen, a full participant in the welfare and life of the Washington metropolitan community.

And it was Barry Scher, WAYNE, who many years ago said, "You know, we're sponsoring this and we've all talked and we think the best place in Washington to run this race would be on Capitol Hill. Do you think we can get approval to do that?" I said, "I can't see why we would not."

I then went to the Speaker, who at that point in time was Tom Foley, and said, "Mr. Speaker, what do you think about this?" And he said, "I think this is an excellent idea." I think it may have been Jim Howard, but am I correct, JIM? In 1989? I am not? Glenn Anderson. I went to Glenn Anderson from California and talked to him about it. He said, "Sure, this sounds like a good idea." Of course it is sort of like saying do you like apple pie. Who is going to say no?

But the fact of the matter is, ever since we have been passing this resolution, which I think first started in 1990 or 1991, in effecting this race here, it is one of the most successful because this is a terrific setting. It excites the participants, and it is what America ought to be all about.

The tragedy is, very frankly, that on the evening news the day after the race there will not be, perhaps on ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, C-SPAN, whatever, the victors of that race. It will be some other young people who have not performed and not done the things that we would want, some perhaps more dysfunctional behavior.

It is unfortunate that we focus, Mr. Speaker, on the dysfunctional, our television does that to a fault, rather than the positive contributions that millions of young people are making in America. Many of us have been to college or high school graduations. As a matter of fact, my colleague AL WYNN spoke at an elementary school graduation this morning.

The fact of the matter is, this Soap Box Derby is participated in by young people who are a credit to themselves, to their families, their communities, and to our country.

Again, I thank the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST], the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA], and the members of the committee for bringing this resolution to the floor and seeking its earliest possible passage.

I want to thank Chairman GILCHREST, the ranking member Mr. TRAFICANT, the Transportation Committee, and Mr. MASCARA for their continued support of this bill which authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

For the last 5 years, I have sponsored this resolution along with regional Members and sports fans.

The resolution authorizes the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police Board, and the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to negotiate the necessary arrangements for carrying out the running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby in complete compliance with rules and regulations governing the use of Capitol Grounds.

This year marks the 55th running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby, and the race is slated for July 13, 1996. Participants ranging from ages 9 to 16 are expected to compete in the early summer race. They come from communities in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia.

The winners of this local event will represent the Washington metropolitan area in the national race which will be held in Akron, OH, later this year.

The soap box derby provides our young people with an opportunity to gain valuable skills such as engineering and aerodynamics. Furthermore, the derby promotes team work, a strong sense of accomplishment, sportsmanship, leadership, and responsibility. These are positive attributes which participants carry into adulthood.

The young people involved spend many months preparing for this race. The day they actually compete provides them with a sense of achievement and comradery, not only for themselves but also for their families and friends. In addition, this worthwhile event provides the participants, tourists, and local residents with a safe and enjoyable day of activities.

I again want to thank the committee for bringing the bill to the floor and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR], the ranking member of the full committee.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to again compliment the chairman of the subcommittee, Mr. GILCHREST, for his leadership in bringing forth this legislation and for his sensitivity to its significance for young people of the greater Washington area and for young people everywhere. I think this clearly is a worthwhile family event and someday we will probably call this the Steny Hoyer Soap Box Derby Race for Mr. HOYER's leadership and advocacy of this legislation time and again.

I noted with great interest the gentleman's reference to the soap box derby being a family event. As a parent one time of a young aspiring scout when they made these matchbox cars and raced them, I sure hope that the children are doing more of the work in the soap box than the parents are.

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

Mr. OBERSTAR. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I have three daughters, they are now all adults, but the gentleman brings to mind all of the science projects that they did that unfortunately their mother and I spent so much time at assisting them with. But we had a lot of fun and we learned a lot.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Think of all the energy wasted on the learning curve by the parents. But the children certainly learned a great deal.

At a time when our full committee is at a point of bringing to the House floor a bill in a week or so that will restrict the ability of young people to fly an airplane to avoid another tragedy as occurred in the case of the young girl whose airplane crashed, and she was not at the controls, the instructor was the pilot in control and in command of the aircraft, but we are going to be dealing with legislation to prevent that kind of tragedy, I note that this legislation makes it possible for young people of that age group to pilot something that they could appropriately handle and that they should handle and to open wider the doors of opportunity for youngsters 9 through 14 to race their homemade soap box cars.

I may be the only one in this room that can still remember what a soap box really is. Where I grew up in northern Minnesota, boxes of wood were shipped around the country that contained soap and we did in fact make cars out of these old soap boxes. They were quite sturdy pieces of wood to put a set of wheels on them and set one of the younger kids on it and push them along the street. Nothing quite so fancy, I am sure, as is going to be entered in the races here but it does bring back for me some nostalgia.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will yield further, we are, however, going to

strain the credibility of the public if they are to believe that we think soap boxes are for racing as opposed to giving speeches.

Mr. OBERSTAR. On that point, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding me the time, I compliment the gentleman from Maryland, and our dear colleague, Mr. HOYER, and urge the enactment of House Concurrent Resolution 153.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I think the statements by the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR], the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA], and the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER] certainly have hit the mark about this particular tradition. We want it to continue. I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER] for his sense of urgency to make sure that this resolution passed the House today. This is really a family-community affair where people can work together, and I think it will set a pretty good example as we do this every year to not only help build soap-box-derby-type vehicles with your children but also help to hang out the clothes and do the dishes and paint the barn or sweep the sidewalk, all those things that people can do collectively together, to make families stronger.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that we pass this resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COBLE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 153.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

E. BARRETT PRETTYMAN U.S. COURTHOUSE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3029) to designate the U.S. courthouse in Washington, DC, as the "E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3029

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF COURTHOUSE.

The United States courthouse located at 3rd Street and Constitution Avenue, Northwest, in Washington, District of Columbia, shall be designated and known as the "E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST].

□ 1445

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3029 is a bill to designate the U.S. courthouse located at the intersection of 3rd and Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC, as the "E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse." Judge Prettyman was a native of Virginia, born in Lexington in 1896. He was the son of the Chaplain of the U.S. Senate during the Wilson administration. He attended Randolph Macon University, and Georgetown University Law School. After graduation, he worked on newspapers, and practiced law with a District firm. He served on the Federal bench for 26 years, from his appointment in 1945 until his death in 1971. During that time Judge Prettyman was regarded as one of America's leading legal scholars and was a pioneer in the areas of judicial reform. He demonstrated an ability to be fair, firm, and thorough.

As a jurist, Judge Prettyman was known for his centrist positions. His most notable opinion concluded that the State Department had the authority to ban U.S. citizens from entering certain areas of the world. His position was upheld by the Supreme Court.

Judge Prettyman participated widely in local civic matters, and served on a Presidential commission inquiry about the U-2 incident.

I am pleased to note the sponsor of the bill, our colleague, TOM DAVIS, testified before the Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development, as well as a member of the subcommittee, Ms. NORTON, a cosponsor of the bill.

I support the bill and urge my colleagues to pass the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, Ms. NORTON and Mr. DAVIS have introduced legislation to honor the distinguished career of Federal judge E. Barrett Prettyman. He served the public on the Federal bench for 26 years, and as chief judge here in the District from 1953 to 1960. Not only was he regarded as an outstanding legal scholar but also he was a leader in judicial reform. Judge Prettyman was a strong advocate for increasing attention to the juvenile justice system here in the District.

In addition to focusing on the needs of juvenile offenders, Judge Prettyman