

Mr. Speaker, renaming this Federal Court House as the Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse is a simple tribute to a great man and reflects our Nation's admiration and appreciation for his service. Kansans especially appreciate Senator Dole's dedication to them. His service will long be remembered.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a few words about H.R. 994, a bill to designate the border crossing station in Pharr, TX, in honor of Kika de la Garza. As you are aware, I am the sponsor of H.R. 994, a bill to honor my friend and former colleague, Kika de la Garza. He was the first Hispanic-American to become a chair of a standing committee, the Agriculture Committee.

Under his watchful eye, reform legislation for USDA was crafted that made many needed and important changes—without eviscerating those USDA programs that were effective and needed to help America's farmers and protected the public. The bill that ultimately became law made remarkable changes at USDA. Because of Chairman de la Garza's leadership and sage counsel the bill represented the right way to reinvent Government.

Throughout his 32-year career in Congress, Kika never lost sight of the folks back home. He fought tirelessly for his constituents. He also proved to be an able and effective advocate for American farmers. In no small measure because of his leadership, American agriculture remains the envy of the world.

Kika also is an amateur linguist and gourmet cook. On many occasions he conversed with foreign dignitaries in their native tongue. Personally, Kika is my friend. I am proud to sponsor this legislation.

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 994 to designate the U.S. border station located in Pharr, TX, as the "Kika de la Garza U.S. Border Station." I believe this is an appropriate way to honor Congressman de la Garza's many years of service to the United States and the State of Texas, during which he provided tremendous leadership in support of agriculture, economic growth of south Texas, improved relations with Mexico, a better quality of life for residents along the border, and many other issues.

I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve in Congress with Kika de la Garza, even if for only 2 of his 32 years in this body. He is an example to all of us of a true gentleman and public servant who brought honor to this House through the civility, respect, and commitment to doing what is right that he brought to conducting the people's business. He is also a true Texan who worked with his colleagues from both sides of the aisle to further the best interests of our State.

Congressman de la Garza is best remembered for his leadership on behalf of American agriculture. He served as chairman of the Agriculture Committee for a longer interrupted period than anyone else in history and presided over the drafting and successful enactment of three major omnibus farm bills, 1981, 1985, and 1990, that have reformed our Nation's agricultural policies. He also guided efforts to reduce the cost of agricultural programs through several deficit reduction bills that have been approved by Congress. His other legislative accomplishments include legislation to streamline the agricultural lending system, strengthen Federal pesticide laws, and various other measures to assist Amer-

ican agriculture, encourage rural development, and improve human nutrition.

Congressman de la Garza was also one of Congress' leading experts on United States-Mexico relations and a proponent of greater trade with Mexico. In 1966, he became the first Member of Congress from the Texas-Mexico border area to serve on the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group, which promotes dialog between legislators from the two countries. He was an early congressional supporter of opening negotiations with Mexico to develop a free trade agreement and helped rally congressional support that led to approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA].

Throughout his career, Kika de la Garza also fought for Government policies that fostered better living and economic conditions for all Americans but particularly in south Texas. He obtained Federal funds to provide much-needed water and sewer services to Texas' impoverished colonias. He was a strong supporter of civil rights for all Americans, better educational opportunities, and improved access to health care for the elderly, veterans, and low-income individuals. He also supported policies to improve the Nation's infrastructure and maintain a strong, cost-effective national defense.

Our entire Nation benefited from Kika de la Garza's service in Congress, and his legacy includes an agricultural system that continues to lead and feed the world, better relations and expanded trade with Mexico and other nations, and a better quality of life for many Texans and Americans. I am pleased to join my colleagues in honoring Kika de la Garza and in urging approval of this legislation to designate the Kika de la Garza United States Border Station.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in support of H.R. 994, legislation designating the Kika de la Garza U.S. Border Station in honor of our former Democratic colleague from my home State of Texas. This legislation is a fitting honor to a great legislator.

Born in 1927, Kika de la Garza is currently husband to Lucille and the father of three children. He attended Edinburg Junior College, received his law degree from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, TX, and practiced law in southern Texas. De la Garza was a U.S. artillery officer in Korea.

Former Representative de la Garza began his career in public service as a six-term Member of the Texas House of Representatives. In 1964, he was elected by the people of the 15th Congressional District of Texas to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives. After 32 years of service de la Garza retired from public office in December 1996.

A member of the House Agriculture Committee beginning in 1965, Representatives de la Garza served as chairman of the committee from 1981 to 1994. In that role Representatives de la Garza was a true friend of agriculture. He was a strong supporter of the agriculture industry and cast many deciding votes for the industry over the years. He will be remembered for his faithful commitment to farmers, ranchers, and U.S. agricultural industry. Representative de la Garza's accomplishments during his career included support of farm legislation, an overhaul of the agricultural lending system, and reform in Federal crop insurance and pesticide law.

Representative de la Garza was also a friend to the citizens of the State of Texas. He will be remembered for his steadfast dedication and outstanding leadership in support of better living and economic conditions, and for his ardent support of the educational research and extension activities of Texas universities.

I would like to offer the leadership of both parties my thanks for bringing this measure before the House for consideration. It is a fitting tribute to one of our former leaders. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the designation of the Kika de la Garza U.S. Border Station. Representative de la Garza has duly earned this honor for the dedication he has demonstrated not only to the people of Texas but to the entire agricultural community of our Nation for the last 33 years.

Kika de la Garza started humbly. His first job was as a shoeshine boy on the streets of McAllen. His hard word and dedication earned him a seat in the Texas House of Representatives in 1953, where he served until 1965. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1964 and served with us for 16 consecutive terms.

In 1982, he became chairman of the House Agriculture Committee and served in this position for 14 years.

During that period he has shown selfless dedication to the people of our Nation who earned their livelihood from the land and who grow food for all of us. He has focused the spotlight on important issues such as drought relief, pesticide use, and land preservation. Due to his efforts, he made the Agriculture Committee one of the least partisan in the House.

Accordingly, I strongly urge my colleagues to join with me in support of the designation of the Kika de la Garza U.S. Border House. It is rare to honor someone who is so deserving of this kind of accolade.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I urge the adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 994.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 994.

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

There was no objection.

RONALD H. BROWN FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R.

29) to designate the Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, NY, as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 29

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM].

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

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 29 designates the Federal building located at 490 Broadway, New York City, as the Ronald H. Brown Federal Building. Ronald H. Brown was the first African-American Secretary of Commerce. He was a strong advocate for economic development, promoting United States exports, technology, and entrepreneurship throughout the world, in pursuit of accelerating the Nation's economic growth and the creation of new job opportunities for America.

Secretary Brown was also a dedicated advocate for the Department of Commerce. He avidly pursued the Department's mission to ensure economic opportunity for all the citizens of the United States and provided a strong voice for business in the Presidential Cabinet.

Secretary Brown was killed in a plane crash in April 1996 while overseas on an economic development mission. He is survived by his wife and two children, a son and daughter. This is a fine tribute to his memory. I support this legislation.

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], the author of this bill, one of the strongest Members in the Congress and leader on tax and trade issues.

(Mr. RANGEL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member of the committee, the subcommittee chairman, the members of the committee and the entire committee for considering this great honor we pay to one of our own who was in Government. The reason I am so close to this is because I come from that same community that the late Ron Brown did come from, and it just makes you feel more of an American

when you can see someone soar with the eagles and able to perform for our great Nation, and you remembered him from the streets of Lennox Avenue in Harlem, remembered him as a kid in a hotel where his dad was the manager of that hotel, and I, of course, served as a desk clerk there. I remember him going to school, working late in law school at night, and at the same time, fighting for people's rights with the Urban League.

To see him succeed and still not lose any of the grace that he had when he was a younger man and to move up even further to become our great Secretary of Commerce, I think it honors not just the people from the Harlem that I come from, but those communities throughout this great Nation of ours that have so little hope for themselves that vicariously they can see that any American, regardless of his or her background or their color, that our country would not be able to clamp the personality, the pride, and the distinguishing features that he had to make our Nation even greater. So we have already passed this bill, and it was not worked on by the other side. I do hope that we are successful this time, that we all can persuade the Senate to basically do the right thing.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to associate myself with those remarks. I would like to say that were it not for the political savvy, acumen, and skill, we may not have had a President by the name of William Jefferson Clinton. Ron did a tremendous job in bringing the Democrat Party forward, working out many of the problems, and as Secretary of Commerce he advanced the interests of the business concerns of the United States of America around the world.

He was a leader, he was a fighter, he was tenacious, and he was a kind and gentle person and he cared for people. It is absolutely fitting that we join forces with the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] here today and pass this.

Let me say this to the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM], we will need all the help of the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. SHUSTER] and everyone on that side of the aisle, because this is a fitting tribute and naming and we will need help with the other body. I thank the gentleman for working with us on this issue and his staff.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today in support of H.R. 29, a bill designating a Federal building in New York City as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building." I want to recognize the efforts of Representative RANGEL who introduced this legislation in January with 25 cosponsors.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, in April 1996, 33 Americans including Secretary Ron Brown, employees of the Department of Commerce, business leaders, and military personnel died in a plane crash in Croatia. Ron Brown spent his entire life as a consensus builder working hard for his family and his Nation, constantly

striving to bring people together. He was a man who was always in the arena striving for greatness and truly embodied what is right in America. With his death, America lost a tremendous leader.

Having served as the first African-American Secretary of Commerce, Ron Brown was always seeking to bridge the racial divide in our country and worked hard to create and protect American jobs. He brought a sense of energy and creativity to the Commerce Department which allowed him to successfully rally labor and management, Republicans and Democrats, and foreign governments with American interests. This was most evident in the strong support that the private sector had shown for the Department.

Today, the House will pass this legislation which represents a small, yet meaningful, gesture of our admiration and appreciation for a man whom many considered the best Secretary of Commerce ever. I am sure that Alma and the entire Brown family is proud to see this building named in honor of Ron Brown. I applaud the leadership in bringing this legislation to the floor and join with my colleagues in supporting H.R. 29 and allowing the legacy of Ron Brown to live on in the Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York City.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I join Mr. RANGEL in supporting H.R. 29 a bill to designate the new Federal building at 290 Broadway in New York City as the Ron Brown Federal Building.

Ron Brown was an extraordinary man—a leader who gave his boundless energy and enthusiasm to numerous causes. He served as an army captain, vice president of the National Urban League, counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee, and was the first African-American Secretary of Commerce.

He was an attorney, a trusted adviser, friend, husband, and father.

It is most fitting to honor Ron Brown by designating the new Federal building in his hometown of New York as the Ron Brown Federal Building.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and great American, Ronald H. Brown or as he was known to millions of people around the world, those who knew him well and those who barely knew him, Ron. This fact alone, is a testament to the great charisma that Ron possessed and indeed, the true mark of a statesman.

Ron worked tirelessly as the Secretary of Commerce to forge new ground for U.S. commerce and create new jobs for all Americans. He traveled the world seeking out new opportunities for U.S. businesses. It was on one of these fateful trips that Ron lost his life in an airplane crash on a hill in Bosnia. Ron made the ultimate sacrifice for something he believed in—the United States of America.

It is fitting that this building that houses Federal agencies and the site of the recently discovered African slave burial ground, serve as a memorial to this American son who worked so hard and gave so much to make this country an even greater one.

I encourage all my colleagues to join me in designating this Federal building the Ronald H. Brown Federal building as a tribute to one of America's hardest working public servants, Ronald H. Brown.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 29.

The question was taken.

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 29.

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

There was no objection.

OKLAHOMA CITY NATIONAL MEMORIAL ACT OF 1997

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 871) to establish the Oklahoma City National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System; to designate the Oklahoma City Memorial Trust, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 871

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Oklahoma City National Memorial Act of 1997".

SEC. 2 FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) few events in the past quarter-century have rocked Americans' perception of themselves and their institutions, and brought together the people of our Nation with greater intensity than the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City;

(2) the resulting deaths of 168 people, some of whom were children, immediately touched thousands of family members whose lives will forever bear scars of having those precious to them taken away so brutally;

(3) suffering with such families are countless survivors, including children, who struggle not only with the suffering around them, but their own physical and emotional injuries and with shaping a life beyond April 19;

(4) such losses and struggles are personal and, since they resulted from so public an attack, they are also shared with a community, a nation, and the world; and,

(5) the story of the bombing does not stop with the attack itself or with the many losses it caused. The responses of Oklahoma's public servants and private citizens, and those from throughout the nation, remain as a testament to the sense of unity, compassion, even heroism, that characterized the rescue and recovery following the bombing.

(6) During the days immediately following the Oklahoma City bombing, Americans and people from around the world of all races, po-

litical philosophies, religions and walks of life responded with unprecedented solidarity and selflessness; and

(7) Given the national and international impact and reaction, the federal character of the site of the bombing, and the significant percentage of the victims and survivors who were federal employees the Oklahoma City Memorial will be established, designed, managed and maintained to educate present and future generations, through a public/private partnership, to work together efficiently and respectfully in developing a National Memorial relating to all aspects of the April 19, 1995, bombing in Oklahoma City.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MEMORIAL.—The term "Memorial" means the Oklahoma City National Memorial designated under section 4(a).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) TRUST.—The term "Trust" means the Oklahoma City National Memorial Trust designated under section 5(a).

SEC. 4. OKLAHOMA CITY NATIONAL MEMORIAL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—In order to preserve for the benefit and inspiration of the people of the United States and the World, as a National Memorial certain lands located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, there is established as a unit of the National Park System the Oklahoma City National Memorial. The Memorial shall be administered by the Trust in cooperation with the Secretary and in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1 et. seq.), and the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat 666; 16 U.S.C. 461-467).

(b) The Memorial area shall be comprised of the lands, facilities and structures generally depicted on the map entitled "Oklahoma City National Memorial", numbered OCNM 001, and dated May 1997 (hereinafter referred to in this Act as the "map"):

(1) Such map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service and the Trust.

(2) After advising the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives, in writing, the Trust, as established by section 5 of this Act, in consultation with the Secretary, may make minor revisions of the boundaries of the Memorial when necessary by publication of a revised drawing or other boundary description in the Federal Register.

SEC. 5. OKLAHOMA CITY NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRUST.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a wholly owned government corporation to be known as the Oklahoma City National Memorial Trust.

(b) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The powers and management of the Trust shall be vested in a board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") consisting of the following 9 members:

(A) The Secretary or the Secretary's designee.

(B) Eight individuals, appointed by the President, from a list of recommendations submitted by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma; and a list of recommendations submitted by the Mayor of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and a list of recommendations submitted by the United States Senators from Oklahoma; and, a list of recommendations submitted by United States Representatives from Oklahoma. The President shall make the appointments referred to in this subparagraph within 90 days after the enactment of this Act.

(2) TERMS.—Members of the Board appointed under paragraph (1)(B) shall each

serve for a term of 4 years, except that of the members first appointed, 2 shall serve for a term of 3 years; and 2 shall serve a term of 2 years. Any vacancy in the Board shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made, and any member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of that term for which his or her predecessor was appointed. No appointed member may serve more than 8 years in consecutive terms.

(3) QUORUM.—Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business by the Board.

(4) ORGANIZATION AND COMPENSATION.—The Board shall organize itself in such a manner as it deems most appropriate to effectively carry out the authorized activities of the Trust. Board members shall serve without pay, but may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary travel and subsistence expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties of the Trust.

(5) LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS.—Members of the Board of Directors shall not be considered Federal employees by virtue of their membership on the Board, except for purposes of the Federal Tort Claims Act and the Ethics in Government Act, and the provisions of chapter 11 of title 18, United States Code.

(6) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet at least three times per year in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and at least two of those meetings shall be opened to the public. Upon a majority vote, the Board may close any other meetings to the public. The Board shall establish procedures for providing public information and opportunities for public comment regarding operations maintenance and management of the Memorial; as well as, policy, planning and design issues.

(7) STAFF.—

(A) NON-NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STAFF.—The Trust is authorized to appoint and fix the compensation and duties of an executive director and such other officers and employees as it deems necessary without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and may pay them without regard to the provisions of chapter 51, and subchapter III of chapter 53, title 5, United States Code, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

(B) INTERIM PARK SERVICE STAFF.—At the request of the Trust, the Secretary shall provide for a period not to exceed 2 years, such personnel and technical expertise, as necessary, to provide assistance in the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

(C) PARK SERVICE STAFF.—At the request of the Trust, the Secretary shall provide such uniformed personnel, on a reimbursable basis, to carry out day to day visitor service programs.

(D) OTHER FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—At the request of the Trust, the Director of any other Federal agency may provide such personnel, on a reimbursable basis, to carry out day to day visitor service programs.

(8) NECESSARY POWERS.—The Trust shall have all necessary and proper powers for the exercise of the authorities vested in it.

(9) TAXES.—The Trust and all properties administered by the Trust shall be exempt from all taxes and special assessments of every kind by the State of Oklahoma, and its political subdivisions including the county of Oklahoma and the city of Oklahoma City.

(10) GOVERNMENT CORPORATION.—

(A) The Trust shall be treated as a wholly owned Government corporation subject to chapter 91 of title 31, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Government Corporation Control Act). Financial statements of the Trust shall be audited annually