and knew him to be the epitome of rectitude and the very model of what a U.S. Congressman ought to be.

Bill Natcher was a combined Lou Gehrig and Cal Ripken. He was the Lou Gehrig and Cal Ripken of Congress. Forty-one years of service in this body.

As has been mentioned, he holds the record for consecutive votes cast, 18,401 over that 41 years of service, never having missed a single vote, a record that I am going to say never will be matched. It is technically possible but not very likely.

But Bill Natcher, as we all know, was more than a consecutive voting streak; he was a patriot and a statesman. He was a man of the highest character. He prided himself in dutifully serving his district, his great Kentucky, and the Nation.

As has been mentioned, he was a very long time member of the Committee on Appropriations. He served for 18 years as the chairman of the District of Columbia Subcommittee, 18 years, and during that time became known as the mayor of Washington. In those days, the chairman of that subcommittee held great sway in the running of this city.

And then, of course, we know he served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, and that is where he really made his mark. His tenure was marked by a strong commitment to programs that benefitted the general welfare of our population. He was a man of commitment.

I am going to quote him here. He said, ''I have always believed that if you take care of the health of your people and educate your children, you continue living in the strongest country in the world.''

In 1992, at the age of 83, he ascended to become chairman of the full Committee on Appropriations. He liked to laughingly say that he had sat next to the chairman waiting to assume the seat for some, I think, 25 years, Jamie Whitten. And finally, in 1992, he assumed that chair. He continued his reputation as a fair and responsible lawmaker.

□ 1800

Bill Natcher's contributions to this country, to Kentucky, and to this body were so many, we never may fully appreciate all that he did and meant to all of us.

But one contribution that will certainly be appreciated by the residents of the Second District of Kentucky is that bridge extending over the Ohio River into Indiana. Methodically Bill Natcher labored to erect that bridge for his constituents and for the betterment of the State, and it was unable to be finished, of course, during his lifetime, unfortunately. But the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. LEWIS) has taken up the task, and he has persistently fought to get the money and the authorization and the wherewithal to finish what bill Natcher had begun.

I want to commend the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. LEWIS), Bill Natcher's very worthy successor, for continuing Bill Natcher's legacy and diligently working for the people of that great district and especially to finish the construction on this bridge, and now to name that bridge the William H. Natcher Bridge, something that all of us will be proud of until the day we die and our kids will continue believing is worthy of that name for many, many decades to come. It will be a daily reminder to Bill Natcher's former beloved constituents of his tremendous service to our Nation.

This is a fitting tribute to Kentucky's former dean, and I am honored to urge support unanimously of this measure.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding me this time. I wanted to take just a minute to express my appreciation to him and to the Speaker and to others who have brought this bill to the floor of the House here tonight.

I had the great privilege of knowing Congressman Natcher personally and working closely with him for several years.

What is interesting to me is just this morning I had a group from the First Baptist Church of Athens, Tennessee, on the floor of the House, showing them around the Capitol. I showed them the voting card that we each have and told them how we voted in the names, how they light up on the wall and so forth. One of the women in that group asked me about the man who broke the record, having the most consecutive votes, and so I told them about Congressman Bill Natcher, and that is who they were talking about.

Because I know, as has already been mentioned, he did not miss a rollcall vote for more than 40 years. He had a record that will never be broken. It will never be surpassed. He was so dedicated to this institution and so dedicated to this country.

He did many, many wonderful things for the District of Columbia during his time that he chaired the D.C. Appropriations Subcommittee. In fact, I think for a while he was called or frequently referred to as the Mayor of the District of Columbia for many years.

But he did many, many other things, also, in his work for the Committee on Appropriations. In this time of such big spending on campaigns, I remember that he used to pride himself in the fact that he spent I think only about $10 or $15 or something on some of his campaigns. He would spend a little gas money driving around the district.

It was phenomenal what he did in his campaigns and in his voting record, never missing a vote. I remember one time hearing that his wife was sick at home. Maybe somebody has already mentioned this. But his wife was sick in the hospital in Bowling Green. He flew for like 2 straight weeks each night after the House would get out of session. He would fly home to Nashville, drive I think 60 miles or so to Bowling Green or 70 miles, spend the night with her, fly back the next morning, and then do the same thing over again the next day and did that for 2 weeks. The lengths that he went to to keep up this record.

He was a great American. I do not think that we really could pay enough honor and tribute to William Natcher, who was the epitome of what a United States Congressman should be. I strongly support this legislation.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill. I think it only appropriate to honor our late friend and colleague by designating in his name this bridge, for which he fought so hard during his legendary tenure in this Chamber.

Bill Natcher will always be remembered for his determination and longevity, but it was his commitment to the people of the second district of Kentucky and his love and respect for this body that inspired us all.

Today we have the opportunity to create a lasting memorial honoring Bill Natcher's name.

I strongly urge that we pass H.R. 1162 and do just that.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. 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 New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1162.

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.

ROBERT K. RODIBAUGH UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURTHOUSE

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 460) to designate the United States courthouse located at 401 South Michigan Street in South Bend, Indiana, as the ''Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse''.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 460

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF ROBERT K. RODIBAUGH UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURTHOUSE.

The United States courthouse located at 401 South Michigan Street in South Bend, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the ''Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy 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 ''Robert K.

Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS).

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 460 designates the United States courthouse in South Bend, Indiana, as the ''Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse.'' Judge Rodibaugh served the northern district of Indiana in the area of bankruptcy law since his appointment as a bankruptcy judge in 1960. During his tenure he oversaw the growth of the bankruptcy court from one small courtroom with a part-time referee and a clerk's office of four employees in South Bend to four separate courtrooms located throughout northern Indiana. In 1985, Judge Rodibaugh was appointed Chief Bankruptcy Judge and assumed senior status in 1986.

Judge Rodibaugh has fulfilled his duties as a referee and a judge in bankruptcy proceedings with patience, fairness, dedication and legal scholarship, which is most worthy of recognition. It is a fitting tribute to honor him and his accomplishments in this manner today.

This marks the third time the House has passed legislation honoring Judge Rodibaugh. I am pleased to note that this bill passed the other body earlier this year, and we can safely say that the third time is the charm.

I support this act and urge my colleagues to support it as well.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I join in supporting S. 460, a bill to designate the Federal bankruptcy court in South Bend, Indiana, as the ''Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse.''

As my colleagues all know, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) introduced an identical bill in the 104th and 105th Congress. Unfortunately, the Senate did not consider these measures before it adjourned.

Judge Rodibaugh has served the citizens of Indiana with honor and distinction since 1960 and at the age of 80 years is one of the Nation's most senior judges.

Judge Rodibaugh is a native of Elkhart County, Indiana, and received his education in the public schools. He graduated from Notre Dame and received his law degree from Notre Dame in 1941.

During his judicial career, he has seen the rapid growth of the bankruptcy courts. He has seen the courts grow from one small courtroom with a part-time referee and a clerk's office with four employees to four different courtrooms in the cities of South Bend, Fort Wayne, Gary and Lafayette.

Judge Rodibaugh is an active member of the Board of Governors of the St. Joseph County Bar Association, the Boy Scouts of America, the Red Cross and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges.

Judge Rodibaugh is noted for his fairness, dedication and legal scholarship. He has set an example for his judicial clerks with his high standards and judicial excellence. It is fitting and proper to honor Judge Rodibaugh with this designation.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 460 which recognizes the outstanding public service record of Judge Robert Kurtz Rodibaugh, a loyal and dedicated friend, and the senior bankruptcy judge for the South Bend Division of the Northern District of Indiana.

It is truly a great honor for me to recognize Judge Rodibaugh, who has consistently demonstrated generosity and selfless dedication to the citizens and legal community of Northern Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, as you may recall, I introduced identical legislation which was passed by the House of Representatives during the last Congress. I was honored to sponsor this legislation and pleased that the entire Indiana Congressional delegation cosponsored my bill.

Unfortunately, the measure was not considered by the U.S. Senate before the 105th Congress adjourned. However, this legislation was reintroduced by the senior Senator of Indiana, RICHARD LUGAR, and passed by the full Senate last month. This Senate-passed bill, S. 460, now under consideration, designates the recently dedicated courthouse on the corner of Western and South Michigan Streets in South Bend, Indiana in honor of Judge Rodibaugh and his numerous contributions to the legal community.

Last year, I also had the privilege to attend the dedication ceremony for the ''Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse.'' While this courthouse has already been dedicated, I believe that S. 460 is an appropriate way to express our gratitude for Judge Rodibaugh's life-long dedication to public service.

Judge Rodibaugh is recognized by his community and his peers as an honorable man worthy of such a tribute. He is highly regarded throughout the entire country and has been a pillar of the community. Moreover, he is greatly respected by other judges and the bankruptcy bar in Northern Indiana. Since his initial appointment as a referee in bankruptcy in November 1960 and throughout his legal career as a bankruptcy judge, Judge Rodibaugh has served the citizens and legal community of the Northern District of Indiana wisely, efficiently, and honorably.

A native of Elkhart County, Indiana, Judge Rodibaugh graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1940 and attended the University of Notre Dame Law School, where he served as the Associate Editor of the Notre Dame Law Review between 1940 and 1941.

Judge Rodibaugh received his Juris Doctor degree in 1941. After gaining his admittance to practice law in 1941, Judge Rodibaugh entered active duty as a private in the United States Army. He was discharged in 1946 as a Captain after serving in the infantry and armored forces during World War II.

Following his release, Judge Rodibaugh entered private practice in 1946. He also served as the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney of the 60th Judicial Circuit, in St. Joseph County, Indiana, from 1948 to 1950, and again from 1953 to 1957. In addition, Judge Rodibaugh served as Attorney for the St. Joseph County Board of Zoning Appeals between 1958 and 1960.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Rodibaugh received the 33 Years of Distinguished Service to Bench and Bar Award from the Bankruptcy Judges of the Seventh Circuit in 1993, the 50 Year Golden Career Award from the Indiana State Bar Association in 1991, and the Notre Dame Law School's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1991. Some of the significant cases that Judge Rodibaugh has decided include *Papelow v. Foley* and *In the Matter of John Kelly Jeffers*. Judge Rodibaugh has always enjoyed the challenge of bankruptcy law and has a special talent for working with corporate reorganizations.

Recently, Judge Rodibaugh said: ''I still think bankruptcy law is one of the most fascinating areas of the law. When a reorganization is successful, it is a satisfying feeling.''

Mr. Speaker, throughout his tenure, Judge Rodibaugh has presided over the growth of the bankruptcy court in Northern Indiana from one small courtroom with a part-time referee and a clerk's office of two employees in South Bend, Indiana, to four different courtrooms in the cities of South Bend, Fort Wayne, Gary, and Lafayette, Indiana, with four full-time judges and a clerk's office of over forty employees. According to his colleague, Judge Harry Dees, also a bankruptcy judge for the Northern District of Indiana: ''Judge Rodibaugh never complained about all the weekly traveling, he just did it.''

Moreover, Judge Rodibaugh has fulfilled his duties as a bankruptcy judge with patience, fairness, dedication and legal scholarship which is most worthy of recognition. His high standards have benefitted the many law clerks and judicial personnel who have served under his tutelage, the lawyers who have practiced before the bankruptcy court, as well as the citizens residing in the Northern District of Indiana.

In 1985, Judge Rodibaugh was appointed Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Indiana. He served in that position until he assumed full-time recall status as a senior judge one year later. Today, Judge Rodibaugh continues in this position, carrying a full case load, and he has no plans to cut back on his work with the court. Currently, Judge Rodibaugh and his wife, Eunice, live in South Bend, Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, it is important for me to indicate that the firm of Panzica Development Company with Western Avenue Properties, LLC, graciously agreed to name the new privately-owned courthouse building in Judge Rodibaugh's honor, owing to his unblemished character and numerous professional achievements in the bankruptcy field.

I am confident that the ''Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse'' is an appropriate title for the new bankruptcy court facility. Judge Radibaugh is a shining example of the importance of public service, whose tireless contributions provide

an invaluable service to our community. I am confident that Judge Rodibaugh will continue to play a constructive and important role in our community, and will continue to serve as a powerful inspiration to all of those who come into contact with him.

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

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. 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 New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 460.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HURFF A. SAUNDERS FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 453) to designate the Federal building located at 709 West 9th Street in Juneau, Alaska, as the ''Hurff A. Saunders Federal Building''.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 453

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF HURFF A. SAUNDERS FEDERAL BUILDING.

The Federal building located at 709 West 9th Street in Juneau, Alaska, shall be known and designated as the ''Hurff A. Saunders 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 ''Hurff A. Saunders Federal Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. Shows) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS).

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 453 designates the Federal building in Juneau, Alaska as the ''Hurff A. Saunders Federal Building.''

Hurff A. Saunders was a resident of Alaska who played an instrumental role in the State's history both as a territory and as a State. Prior to World War II, he emigrated from South Dakota to Ketchikan, Alaska, where he accepted a civilian engineering position with the United States Coast Guard. During the war he played a critical role in the ability of the United States Navy and Coast Guard to navigate the North Pacific waters by correctly determining the latitude and longitude of various key aids to navigation that were misidentified on official charts at that time.

Following the war, Mr. Saunders returned to a civil engineering position with the Federal Government. In this position, he supervised several public works projects, completing the projects on schedule and within budget.

In 1966, prior to his retirement, Mr. Saunders successfully completed his final Federal construction project, the Juneau Federal Building, Post Office and United States Courthouse, which is the building we designate in his honor today.

This is a fitting tribute to a dedicated public servant. I support this act. I urge my colleagues to support it as well.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, Senate bill 453 is a bill to designate the Federal building in Juneau, Alaska in honor of Hurff A. Saunders. Mr. Saunders was a lifelong Alaskan who helped write chapters of Alaska's history.

He was a civil engineer for the United States Coast Guard in charge of constructing the Juneau Federal Building which was completed on budget and on schedule. Mr. Saunders later supervised many public works projects for the territory and later the State of Alaska. His work on correcting the navigational charts for the waters in southeast Alaska aided the Navy and the Coast Guard during World War II.

Mr. Saunders was widely respected and viewed as a dedicated public servant, a devoted father, and beloved husband who lived a full life and died peacefully at the age of 94.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Juneau and the Juneau Rotary Club both passed unanimous resolutions supporting this designation. Also, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Society of Professional Engineers adopted resolutions urging this distinction be bestowed upon Mr. Saunders.

It is fitting and in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Alaskan life that the Federal building in Juneau, Alaska, be designated the Hurff A. Saunders Federal Building.

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

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. 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 New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 453.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

J.J. ''JAKE'' PICKLE FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 118) to designate the Federal building located at 300 East 8th Street in Austin, Texas, as the ''J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 118

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 300 East 8th Street in Austin, Texas, shall be known and designated as the ''J.J. 'Jake' Pickle 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 ''J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS).

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 118 designates the Federal building in Austin, Texas, as the ''J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building.''

Congressman Pickle began his long career in public service by serving 3½ years with the United States Navy in the Pacific during World War II. Following the war, Congressman Pickle returned to Austin, Texas, and held positions in the private and public sectors. He served his party ably as executive director of the Texas State Democratic Party.

In 1963, he was elected to the United States House of Representatives in a special election to fill a vacant seat created by Congressman Thornberry's resignation. He was then reelected to the next 15 succeeding Congresses, until his retirement on January 3, 1995.

□ 1815

During his tenure in Congress, Congressman Pickle provided a strong voice on civil rights issues. He vigorously advocated and supported such historic legislation as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act. For over 30 years Congressman Pickle continuously worked on behalf of civil rights issues and equal opportunities for women and minorities.

In addition, as chair of the Committee on Ways and Means' Subcommittee on Oversight and the Subcommittee on Social Security, he worked to shape the system of Medicare to assure that it fulfilled its intended purpose of providing basic health care for those in need, and tirelessly fought for the future of Social Security.