

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3768 TO
ENSURE ZIP CODE ALLOCATION

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, it's *deja vu* all over again. In the 105th Congress I stood before this body and introduced a bill designed to ensure fairness in ZIP code allocation. I had hoped not to be here again in the 106th Congress. I had hoped to be in my district, announcing the creation of a unique ZIP code for the City of Signal Hill by the United States Postal Service. Instead, I am back before this body, reintroducing a bill I hope will be the end to this decade-long problem.

I rise today to re-introduce a bill that would ensure fairness in ZIP code allocation. This issue was brought to my attention by the ongoing plight of one city in my district—the City of Signal Hill. Signal Hill is a bustling community of over 9,000 residents located in Southern California, surrounded completely by the City of Long Beach. Unfortunately, this community's growth and economic expansion are hampered by the three-way division of the city among ZIP codes. While the issuance of five little numbers may not seem like a big deal to many of those in Washington, it is of paramount importance to this community back home.

Dividing a community results in mail addressing and delivery problems and higher insurance rates for residents. It is unfair at best and inefficient at worst to punish residents of Signal Hill with unnecessarily high costs simply because the Postal Service mandated this division without any input from this active community. I have worked with the United States Postal Service since I came to office over five and a half years ago to find a solution to this issue that benefits both parties, however I am afraid we have come to an impasse. The Postal Service refuses to allocate a unique ZIP code to this city despite the overwhelming evidence that Signal Hill needs and deserves its own ZIP code. The time has come for a new approach to this ongoing problem.

The bill I am re-introducing would ensure that all cities like Signal Hill can count on efficient mail service and a distinct community identity. It says any city with a population of at least 5,000 residents that is completely surrounded by another city would not have to share its Zip code with any other city. This legislation takes the politics out of Postal Service decision-making and institutes instead, a straightforward, fair system for ZIP code allocation. This bill will put an end to years of delivery problems, community identification problems and insurance rate problems. Simply put, an economically independent community should not be forced to share their identity with anyone else simply due to geography and Postal Service bureaucracy. The City of Signal Hill is a distinct and viable city and deserves to be recognized as such.

Mr. Speaker, the bill follows:

H.R. 3768

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

SECTION 1. ZIP CODE REQUIREMENT.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Effective 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, no ZIP

code that is assigned to a city (or portion of a city) that is completely surrounded by any other city may also be assigned to any area outside of the city so surrounded.

(b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term "city" means any unit of general local government that is classified as a city, town, or municipality by the Bureau of the Census, and within the boundaries of which 5,000 or more individuals reside.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK
MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is a little known fact that March is Professional Social Work Month. Why is it that at a time when healthcare and child welfare are of utmost importance, we tend to overlook the middlemen? Is it that we forget about their role in today's society, or is it that we never learned about it in the first place?

I tend to think it is the latter reason. Social workers are the people who translate their education and training into commitment to making a difference in all aspects of people's lives. They are everywhere: in the courts, healthcare settings, schools, public and private agencies, congressional offices and industry, just to name a few. Often the public decries social problems that they would like solved; these are the people who work on a daily basis with individuals affected by them.

As a nurse, I am deeply concerned with the social problems plaguing the nation, and I worry about what is to come for future generations. As a legislator, I work to improve current problems by addressing these issues in Congress. In doing so, I recognize the vital importance of social work as a professional field of practice. It is one thing for us to acknowledge something as being a problem, it is another to be the person trying to fix it on a personal, case-by-case basis. I admire those who take on the responsibility of helping others help themselves.

It is easy to see why we overlook the importance of social workers. They work in the background, not in front of the television camera. They are not national figures, but ordinary people who make a living out of helping others. At the end of the day, one cannot measure in grand terms the effect they have had. But if we asked one of their clients, I am sure the difference they make would be obvious. They alter real lives.

I encourage you to take time to acknowledge the importance of social workers in everyday life. In a country that celebrates its diversity, culture, and history, it is appropriate to proclaim March to be Professional Social Work Month, and recognize the difference that these people have made and continue to make.

TRIBUTE TO ELOISE ROGERS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Eloise M. Rogers, a woman

of lasting commitment to service in her community. Just last week, Mrs. Rogers celebrated the happy occasion of her 100th birthday.

Born in 1900 in Charleston, South Carolina, Mrs. Rogers was the wife of the late Reverend Preston B. Rogers. Together, they had one son. Not only was Mrs. Rogers a wife and a mother, she was also a homemaker and a farmer. During this time she was active in her community as she served on the Deaconess Board, the Senior Choir, and as the Secretary for the Williamsburg Association. Mrs. Rogers active participation in her community remains as she now resides in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Currently, she is a member of the Joint Stock Liberty Worth Chapter 171 and a missionary.

Aside from being a selfless community servant, Mrs. Rogers is one of the many unsung heroes of the Civil Rights Movement that should be celebrated and remembered. She was among the first African Americans to register to vote in Williamsburg County of South Carolina, which is in the Sixth Congressional District I am pleased to represent in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in paying a tribute to an individual who epitomizes the virtue of being a public servant. She has made her mark in the church and in the political world, and continues to take part in her community. I ask you to join me in congratulating Mrs. Eloise Rogers on her 100th birthday, and wish for her many happy returns.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the floor of the House on Tuesday, February 29, 2000, on official business and was unable to cast a recorded vote on rollcall 26.

Had I been present for rollcall 26, I would have voted "yea" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 613, the Indian Tribal Economic Development and Contract Encouragement Act.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 2484

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the benefit of the Members a copy of the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 2484, a bill to provide that land which is owned by the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota but which is not held in trust by the United States for the Community may be leased or transferred by the Community without further approval by the United States. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives on February 29, 2000 by voice vote.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC, February 29, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Resources, House of
Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 2484, a bill to provide that land which is owned by the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the state of Minnesota but which is not held in trust by the United States for the community may be leased or transferred by the community without further approval by the United States.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contacts are Lanette Keith (for federal costs), who can be reached at 226-2860, and Marjorie Miller (for the impact on state, local, and tribal governments), who can be reached at 225-3220.

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON,
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

H.R. 2484—A bill to provide that land which is owned by the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the state of Minnesota but which is not held in trust by the United States for the community may be leased or transferred by the community without further approval by the United States.

CBO estimates that implementing this bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Because enactment of H.R. 2484 would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 2484 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 2484 would allow the Lower Sioux Indian Community to lease, sell, or convey any land held by the community that is not held in trust by the United States. Current law requires Congressional approval before tribes may convey land that is not held in trust.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Lanette J. Keith (for federal costs), who can be reached at 226-2860, and Marjorie Miller (for the impact on state, local, and tribal governments), who can be reached at 225-3220. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES OF CHICAGO CELEBRATES ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago (NHS) for its effort and success in rebuilding urban neighborhoods on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

NHS is a nonprofit neighborhood revitalization organization with programs organized around four major areas of activity: community development, neighborhood lending, real estate development and home ownership education.

NHS promotes community development through 10 neighborhood-based programs offering home ownership, lending and rehabilita-

tion services. Neighborhood Lending Services, the lending arm of NHS and an Illinois Residential Mortgage licensee, administers loan programs that finance home improvement, home safety repairs, purchase and home rehabilitation for low and moderate income families. The NHS Redevelopment Corporation buys and redevelops single and multifamily properties and builds new homes. Redevelopment activity is strategically targeted to support the work of neighborhood-based programs and to promote neighborhood development. NHS's NeighborWorks Home Ownership Center is an innovative approach to providing in one location all the services and training that customers need to shop for, purchase, rehabilitate, insure and maintain a home. NHS's Homebuyer Education and Landlord Training classes are offered at the Center several times per month in English and Spanish.

Since 1975, NHS has rehabilitated more than 20,000 units of affordable housing for Chicago, families, including 334 units of low-income rental housing owned and managed by the NHS Redevelopment Corporation. NHS has initiated more than 12,000 loans totaling nearly \$250 million to help individuals purchase or rehabilitate homes. NHS has also generated more than \$1 billion of investment in 19 Chicago neighborhoods and reclaimed 990 vacant and abandoned homes for occupancy by new homeowners.

NHS's efforts in community development, neighborhood lending, real estate development and home ownership education have improved Chicago and its neighborhoods for thousands of families.

I am very honored to commend NHS on its invaluable work. I have witnessed the vital difference NHS makes in our communities and I thank them for their work and commitment.

Once again, I congratulate Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago for its exceptional dedication improving Chicago's communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict in my Congressional District on Tuesday, February 29, I was not present for rollcall vote 26. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

TEXAS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is a special day in Texas because tomorrow, March 2, is the first Texas Independence Day of the new millennium. In 1836, 164 years ago today, the Republic of Texas was born.

Let me set the stage for what happened 163 years ago. On March 1, 1836, 54 delegates representing settlements across Texas gathered for the Convention of 1836 at the small farm village of Washington-on-the-Brazos.

From the beginning, it was an event marked by haste and urgency. Mexican forces under Santa Anna were closing in on the defenders of the Alamo. On March 2, the day after the opening of the convention, the delegates declared the independence of Texas from Mexico. Within days of that announcement, the Alamo would fall, the first in a chain of defeats for the small Texas Army, which would nevertheless emerge victorious at the battle of San Jacinto, 6 weeks later, on April 21.

Mr. Speaker, what were these brave Texans fighting for? Up to the point when they gathered at Washington-on-the-Brazos, it was simply to restore the Mexican Constitution of 1824, which had been suspended by Santa Anna.

On the night of March 1, however, a group of five men stayed up late into the night, drafting the document that would be approved the next day by the full convention. This document, which echoed the lines of its American counterpart, was the Texas Declaration of Independence.

It started off in much the same way, with the words, "When a government has ceased to protect the lives, liberty and property of the people." It spoke of the numerous injustices inflicted upon the settlers of the state of Coahuila y Tejas: the elimination of the state's legislative body, the denial of religious freedom, the elimination of the civil justice system, and the confiscation of firearms being the most intolerable, particularly among Texans.

Finally, it ended with the declaration that, because of the injustice of Santa Anna's tyrannical government, Texans were severing their connection with the Mexican nation and declaring themselves "a free, sovereign, and independent republic . . . fully invested with all the rights and attributes" that belong to independent nations; and a declaration that they "fearlessly and confidently" committed their decision to "the Supreme Arbiter of the destinies of nations."

Over the next two weeks, a constitution was drafted and an interim government was formed, despite daily reports from the front detailing the collapse of the Alamo and subsequent advance of the Mexican Army through Texas. On March 17, 1836, the government was forced to flee Washington-on-the-Brazos on the news of the advance of Santa Anna.

Just over a month later, however, independence would be secured in the form of a victory over that same army by Sam Houston, a delegate at the very convention, and his courageous fighters at the battle of San Jacinto.

Mr. Speaker, let me remind folks from Tennessee that Sam Houston served in this Congress from the State of Tennessee. I have at times told my friends from Tennessee "The best of Tennessee immigrated to Texas in the 1830's."

From that point on, Texas was firmly established in the community of nations; and for 10 years she stood as an independent nation, until President James K. Polk signed the treaty admitting Texas to the United States in 1845.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the Congress and the whole country will join us in a day that in Texas we celebrate, our schoolchildren celebrate, Texas Independence Day.