

County, a county to the north of Fort Wayne, in 1950.

He said, at the time Ross was nominated he was not familiar "outside Allen and Noble Counties—but not for long. His sincere friendly campaigning won him the nomination and election in November.

"E. Ross Adair represented all the people in the district; Republican, Democrat, or Independent received the same attention and consideration. On important legislative matters he was in constant contact with his constituents. He read and studied the legislation before the House.

"One personal incident proved to me that he did his 'homework.' A popular piece of legislation was before the House that would be beneficial to his district. Ross voted against it. As county chairman, I questioned his vote. His reply was, 'Ken, a last-minute amendment was attached to it that made it unacceptable.' When he explained what the amendment was and what it would do, I was proud he was our Congressman.

"The election in 1958 was an indication of his popularity in Steuben County. Statewide, the 1958 election was a disaster for Republicans in Indiana. Ross was roughly 1,100 votes behind until little Steuben County's 1,400 plurality sent him back to Washington, where he remained for 12 more years.

"E. Ross Adair's morals and integrity were of the highest. I have often wondered what our country would be like if all 535 Members of Congress and yes, the President, too, had the same level of morals, integrity, and dedication as E. Ross Adair."

Walter Helmke, a longtime State Senator, father of the immediate past mayor of Fort Wayne and son of the former district chairman and congressional candidate, wrote, "Congressman Adair served the Fourth Congressional District with high distinction . . . having been elected 10 times to the office of Fourth District Representative. I knew him well during the entire 20-year period that he served. He was always responsive to his constituents, and, I believe, represented the sentiments and beliefs of his constituents to an extraordinary degree.

"During 8 of the 20 years that Ross served as Congressman, I served as Prosecuting Attorney of Allen County, and had occasion to call on him for assistance and information a number of times. He always provided me with assistance and support without hesitation.

"After his distinguished career in the United States Congress, he ably served the United States government as the U.S. ambassador to Ethiopia until the emperor of Ethiopia was deposed."

The last letter I would like to read is from Marta Gabre-Tsadick. She is the only female senator to have ever served when Haile Selassie was head of Ethiopia. She writes, "We at Project Mercy," a project that continues today based and working out of Fort Wayne

to help those impoverished people who need health care and other things in Ethiopia, "wholeheartedly support this initiative to commemorate a man who not only gave 20 years of his life to serving his country as Congressman, but reached international boundaries as a great Ambassador to Ethiopia. His service there impacted all African countries through his interaction with the Organization of African Unity, headquartered at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. We are grateful for his service.

"In retrospect, I can think of no one who has contributed more to this area, or anyone who could possibly deserve this honor more than our mutual friend and mentor, E. Ross Adair."

When Haile Selassie fell, roughly one-third of the senate in Ethiopia came to Fort Wayne, Indiana, because Ross Adair meant to them America, and where freedom was. I and many others heard the stories of peoples' heads being chopped off and watching their kids die. Ross Adair represented the values, as do so many of our ambassadors, of America abroad, not only here in this Chamber.

It is a tremendous honor and distinction for me today to be the United States Congressman from the Fourth District to sponsor this bill to have our Federal building and courthouse named after E. Ross Adair.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2412.

The question was taken.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

AARON E. HENRY FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1279) to designate the Federal building and the United States post office located at 223 Sharkey Street in Clarksdale, Mississippi, as the "Aaron E. Henry Federal Building and United States Post Office," as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1279

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 and United States courthouse located at 236 Sharkey Street in Clarksdale, Mississippi, shall be known and designated as the "Aaron E. Henry Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United

States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Aaron E. Henry Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 1279, as amended, designates the Federal Building and United States Courthouse located in Clarksdale, Mississippi, as the Aaron E. Henry Federal Building and United States Courthouse.

Dr. Henry was born in Clarksdale, Mississippi, in 1921, and attended local schools. He served in the United States Army, after which he returned to school and earned a degree in pharmacy from the Xavier University in 1950.

In 1953, Dr. Henry organized the local branch of the NAACP, and served as the State NAACP president from 1960 until 1993. He was instrumental in creating an integrated political system in Mississippi. He also participated in the Freedom Rider Movement, which led to the passage of the public accommodations sections of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

In 1979, Dr. Henry was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives, and held this office for 2 additional terms.

The naming of this Federal complex is a fitting tribute to a distinguished African-American. I support the bill. I urge the passage of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1279 is a bill to designate the Federal building in Clarksdale, Mississippi, as the Aaron Henry Federal Building and United States Courthouse.

Dr. Aaron Henry was a civil rights pioneer, a thoughtful mentor, scholar, and great humanitarian. He led an active, committed, exemplary life.

After attending local public schools, he joined the Army in 1942 and was a veteran of World War II. After the war, he attended and graduated from Xavier University in New Orleans. In 1953, Dr. Henry organized the Coahoma County Branch of the NAACP, and served as the State NAACP president from 1960 to 1993.

During the 1960s, he participated in the Freedom Rider Movement and in the Mississippi Freedom Summer's nonviolent campaigns of public protest.

Dr. Henry served on numerous boards, such as the Executive Committee of the NAACP, the Federal Council on Aging, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Acknowledging his contributions as a

civil rights leader in 1979, the citizens of Coahoma County elected him to the Mississippi House of Representatives, where he was reelected in 1983 and 1987.

Dr. Henry was instrumental in securing passage of legislation that created the Office of Economic Opportunity, and was a strong advocate and spokesman for the Job Corps and Head Start.

Dr. Henry was an active member of the Haven United Methodist Church, serving as its lay leader. He was committed to his community and educational and civic issues throughout his life.

It is most fitting and proper that we support the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and honor the great contributions of Dr. Henry. I urge passage of this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate our colleague, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), for bringing this important legislation to the floor of the House.

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

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today is a very special day for me. Today we will vote on the passage of H.R. 1279, a bill to rename the Federal Building and Post Office in Clarksdale, Mississippi, after one of Mississippi's most notable pioneers in the civil rights movement, Dr. Aaron E. Henry.

I might add that I have known Dr. Henry all of my adult life. Until his untimely death, Dr. Henry served as a role model for all of us in the State of Mississippi and the country as a whole for those who believed in fair play and justice.

Dr. Henry's role in the civil rights movement is well documented. His role in the political arena in the State of Mississippi is well documented. His legacy lives on.

Many of us could not, as early public officials, go on TV locally. Dr. Henry, through his efforts, challenged the license of local stations in order for African-Americans to buy time on TV. His legacy is one that we all are proud of.

Mr. Speaker, as the sponsor of this legislation and also the Representative of Clarksdale, Mississippi, I am happy to see this legislation move forward. I am happy to see the bipartisan support that it has received. I look forward to the passage of this bill.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

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

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be able to join the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and all of the others who are supporting this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I first saw Aaron Henry in action in the 1960s, in the battle within the Democratic Party, and at the convention of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party for Equality and for Integration.

In the early 1970s, I had the opportunity to work with him in Mississippi as part of what we called the Mississippi-Michigan Alliance. It was an effort to spark registration within Mississippi, and to try to make sure that all voices there were heard.

During those joyful days that I spent with him at his home with his beloved family and at his drugstore on Fourth Street, I had the chance to come to know him firsthand.

Aaron Henry had a dream, a dream of an integrated America, a dream where everybody counted. He lived to achieve that dream. He lived a life of good works. He was instrumental in the founding of the NAACP in Mississippi. He also, as we know, as we have heard, ran for office in Mississippi and was elected to the House of Representatives, which was a proud day for Mississippi.

Aaron Henry came a good long way in his life, and America has come a considerable way on that path of an integrated America because of the likes of Aaron Henry. Today we take another step along that path. I am honored to join the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

Mr. Speaker, I close by just briefly referring back to what I had the chance to enter into the RECORD after the passing of Aaron Henry.

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I said at that point, "Hopefully, his native State will mourn him across its cities and its farms. He was born in its rural land, toiled in one of its important towns, and journeyed it throughout from border to border. His legacy is his hopefulness. The task now of his beloved State, of his beloved Nation, and of all of us who loved him is to keep his faith and continue his battle."

Today, with the naming of the building in Clarksdale in his honor, it is another small step in the battle that involved and really enmeshed the life of Aaron Henry.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) for yielding me this time, and I thank and congratulate the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) for sponsoring this bill.

Mr. Speaker, there are many ways to mark a Nation's milestones. Naming a public building for Dr. Aaron Henry is one such way for me.

I first met Aaron Henry in 1963 when, as a law student and member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Com-

mittee, I went into the delta in Mississippi to work in the civil rights movement one summer. The civil rights movement had circled the South, but had not penetrated the "Black Belt" deep in the Mississippi Delta.

I met the President of the NAACP at the time, Aaron Henry. To be President of the NAACP in Mississippi was itself an act of conspicuous courage. It marked a man, both as a marked man and a brave man.

The next year I graduated from law school and became one of the lawyers that summer for the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, of which Aaron Henry was the chairman. I went to my files and discovered the brief I filed before the Credentials Committee on behalf of Aaron Henry and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party to be admitted into my party, the Democratic Party, on behalf of these Mississippi citizens.

What Aaron Henry and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party did is itself a milestone in the Nation's history, because it assured that both parties would now be open to delegates of all races.

Aaron Henry lived such a life to go from the very outside as the head of the NAACP, all the while a working pharmacist in his own drugstore in Clarksdale, to becoming a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives. From the NAACP and civil rights leader, fighting words, in Mississippi, to representative of the people of Clarksdale, Mississippi.

When I went back to Mississippi a number of years later as Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Aaron Henry had become a true insider. Aaron Henry arranged for a reception for me sponsored by the Governor in the Governor's mansion. Mr. Speaker, when I first met Aaron Henry, the closest he and I could get to the Governor's mansion was to picket it.

Aaron Henry had gone from challenger to change-maker and had himself created much of the change in the State of Mississippi.

He lived to see a peaceful revolution occur in his State, including his own election to the State legislature. All of this was simply unthinkable in the Mississippi in which Aaron Henry was born in 1922. So was naming a building for Aaron Henry.

But naming a Federal building by this body is normally an estimate of the man. However, the Aaron E. Henry Federal Building and Post Office is likely to be regarded as far more than that. The naming of a building for Dr. Henry evokes a milestone in the history of Mississippi and of our country. The triumph of racial struggle and harmony over racial segregation and division. There is no better way, no better person to symbolize this progress than Aaron Henry.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1279, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 236 Sharkey Street in Clarksdale, Mississippi, as the 'Aaron E. Henry Federal Building and United States Courthouse'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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 materials on H.R. 2412 and H.R. 1279, as amended, the measures just considered.

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

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN FOR SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND REAFFIRMING UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD TAIWAN AND PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 292) congratulating the people of Taiwan for the successful conclusion of presidential elections on March 18, 2000, and reaffirming United States policy toward Taiwan and the People's Republic of China, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 292

Whereas section 2(c) of the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8) states "[t]he preservation and enhancement of the human rights of all the people on Taiwan" to be an objective of the United States;

Whereas Taiwan has become a multiparty democracy in which all citizens have the right to participate freely in the political process;

Whereas the people of Taiwan have, by their vigorous participation in electoral campaigns and public debate, strengthened the foundations of a free and democratic way of life;

Whereas Taiwan successfully conducted a presidential election on March 18, 2000;

Whereas President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan has actively supported the consolidation of democratic institutions and processes in Taiwan since 1988 when he became head of state;

Whereas this election represents the first such transition of national office from one elected leader to another in the history of Chinese societies;

Whereas the continued democratic development of Taiwan is a matter of funda-

mental importance to the advancement of United States interests in East Asia and is supported by the United States Congress and the American people;

Whereas a stable and peaceful security environment in East Asia is essential to the furtherance of democratic developments in Taiwan and other countries, as well as to the protection of human rights throughout the region;

Whereas since 1972 United States policy toward the People's Republic of China has been predicated upon, as stated in section 2(b)(3) of the Taiwan Relations Act, "the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means";

Whereas section 2(b)(6) of the Taiwan Relations Act further pledges "to maintain the capacity of the United States to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security, or the social or economic system, of the people of Taiwan";

Whereas on June 9, 1998, the House of Representatives voted unanimously to adopt House Concurrent Resolution 270 that called upon the President of the United States to seek "a public renunciation by the People's Republic of China of any use of force, or threat to use force, against democratic Taiwan";

Whereas the People's Republic of China has consistently refused to renounce the use of force against Taiwan;

Whereas the State Council, an official organ at the highest level of the Government of the People's Republic of China, issued a "white paper" on February 21, 2000, which threatened "to adopt all drastic measures possible, including the use of force," if Taiwan indefinitely delays entering into negotiations with the People's Republic of China on the issue of reunification; and

Whereas the February 21, 2000, statement by the State Council significantly escalates tensions across the Taiwan Straits and sets forth a new condition that has not heretofore been stated regarding the conditions that would prompt the People's Republic of China to use force against Taiwan: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) the people of Taiwan are to be congratulated for the successful conclusion of presidential elections on March 18, 2000, and for their continuing efforts in developing and sustaining a free, democratic society which respects human rights and embraces free markets;

(2) President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan is to be congratulated for his significant contributions to freedom and democracy on Taiwan;

(3) President-elect Chen Shui-bian and Vice President-elect Annette Hsiu-lien Lu of Taiwan are to be congratulated for their victory, and they have the strong support and best wishes of the House of Representatives and the American people for a successful administration;

(4) it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the People's Republic of China should abandon its provocative threats against Taiwan and undertake steps that would lead to a substantive dialogue, including a renunciation of the use of force against Taiwan and progress toward democracy, the rule of law, and protection of human and religious rights in the People's Republic of China; and

(5) the provisions of the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8) are hereby affirmed as the legal standard by which United States policy toward Taiwan shall be determined.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gen-

tleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the distinguished majority leader who has taken a great deal of time in focusing attention on the Taiwan problem.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, the House today is commemorating a very, very special event: The first democratic election leading to a transfer of power in the 5,000-year history of the Chinese people.

This is, indeed, a momentous event not only for the Chinese, not only for Taiwan, but for the cause of democracy itself. It was not that long ago, Mr. Speaker, that many people believed that democracy may be a dying creed. I remember as recently as 1984, one French philosopher respected by some friends of mine wrote that the era of democracy may be, and I quote, "a brief parenthesis that is even now closing before our eyes."

There was a popular view, shared by conservative pessimists as well as left-wing revolutionaries, that some form of dictatorship was the only alternative to even worse forms of government.

At best, these people believed that democracy was only appropriate for some cultures, but not for most. Though they rarely said so, what they really meant was that it was only suited for some kinds of people and not for others. Certainly, not for Asians who, it was said, had unique "Asian values." That made democracy unsuited for them and they unsuited for democracy.

Well, Mr. Speaker, how wrong they were. The Taiwan elections vindicate once again the great wisdom of the American founding fathers when they wrote these wonderful words that "All men are created equal" and all men "are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights."

Mr. Speaker, freedom and democracy are not more precious for our culture than they are for the people of other cultures. There are no alien values that lead some people to prefer dictatorship over self-government. Freedom and democracy are, in fact, the shared aspirations of all human beings everywhere, from Athens to England to America indeed to all of Asia.

Taiwan can now serve as a shining example to the unfree people in its part of the world. It shows that democracy works in a Chinese culture. It shows that democracy can resist threats and bullying from abroad. It shows that democracy is the only way that a Nation can be both rich and free.

Mr. Speaker, let me add that even as we rejoice in Taiwan's democratic success, we also wish to aid all the Chinese people as they seek greater freedom, and that includes those in the People's Republic of China. It is for this reason