

and I believe her efforts are indicative of the feelings and the spirit of the people of Wyoming and are well appreciated here and are absolutely necessary.

It is good to see that we honor those who at times were dishonored in a Nation that now respects the greatness of the action they had taken. So I want to compliment my good friend, who is one of the Democratic Party's finer leaders, that is the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER); and I want to compliment the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) for giving the opportunity for the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN) to bring her legislation to the floor. I am honored to support it.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, a distinguished son of Wyoming, Mike Sullivan, now an ambassador, is quoted on this very impressive brochure related to the Chief Washakie sculpture project. I think he says it well:

"Washakie is a model for leaders across the generations."

How appropriate it is to have a statue representing the State of Wyoming, representing Native Americans, and representing the kind of country that does and should honor a leader across the generations.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for his comments.

He was indeed an impressive historical figure. The purpose in allowing States to send statues is to illustrate the diversity of the historical figures that by adding up the statues of the States give us an even better understanding of the history of the United States.

It is not by accident that the other statue from the State of Wyoming is a statue of Esther Hobart Morris, who was a suffragette, who was the first woman governor anywhere in the United States, and who pushed the legislation that made Wyoming the first State in the Union to afford the full voting privileges to women.

So this impressive statue, and my understanding is that Chief Washakie is going to be more than 12-feet tall in full Indian headdress with a spear, it will be a focal point on the tours given to the Capitol visitors and they will be able to visit a portion of our history, all Americans' history, presented to us by the State of Wyoming.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 333, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 333, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO FATHER THEODORE HESBURGH

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 344) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 344

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on July 13, 2000, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS).

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

Mr. Speaker, as was indicated, this is a resolution to use the rotunda of the Capitol for the ceremony of awarding a Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh.

Dr. Hesburgh's history is truly an impressive one, especially when we look at the rapidity with which he moved to the presidency of one of the more distinguished private religious and secular universities in the United States, the University of Notre Dame.

He received his ordination as a priest in 1943; studied here at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., receiving his doctorate in 1945; moved to Notre Dame to teach; and then at the age of 35, in 1952, became the 15th president of the University of Notre Dame and held that position until 1987, shaping in a significant way the current position of the University of Notre Dame.

Based upon additional activities, along with this very short biography, which my friend the gentleman from

Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) will elaborate on, it is absolutely appropriate that we authorize the use of the rotunda to present the Congressional Gold Medal to a religious scholar, a scholar, an administrator, and someone who has made a significant impact not just on students, not just on faculty, not just on Catholics, not just on the United States, but upon the world.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of our committee, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) for facilitating this resolution moving forward.

I particularly want to commend my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), for sponsoring this resolution and for all his hard work in getting this body to pass legislation giving the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh, the President Emeritus of the University of Notre Dame.

I leaned over to my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), and said that when we talked about him being a doctor or this, that, or the other, that really what he was was a parish writ large, not just for the United States but all the world.

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) I know is extraordinarily proud that his district is the home of Notre Dame, one of our Nation's great academic institutions. Whether it is in the classroom, the laboratory, or the athletic fields, Notre Dame is rightfully known for producing extraordinary leaders, including, I might say, our colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), who received both his masters and his Ph.D. at that school.

I was, as all of us were, pleased to support the legislation granting Father Hesburgh a Congressional Gold Medal. I am honored to rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 344, which will grant use of the Capitol rotunda on July 13, 2000, for the presentation ceremony.

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The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest honor, Mr. Speaker, that Congress can give to a private citizen of this Nation. We have given them to the heroes of our history, those who have displayed uncommon valor on the field of battle, courage in the pursuit of civil rights and insight in the quest of knowledge. Last October, Congress gave the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Hesburgh. We now will provide for the awarding of that medal.

For 35 years, Father Hesburgh guided one of our country's finest universities, through a period of unparalleled growth. I spoke at the beginning about the excellence of Notre Dame, not just on the athletic field but in the classroom and in the community. In large measure, it is because of the extraordinary people that have led Notre Dame, none of them more extraordinary than Father Hesburgh.

When he stepped down from the University's presidency in 1987, his tenure was the longest among active American college and university presidents. During his years as president of Notre Dame, Father Hesburgh used his leadership to seek the advancement of civil rights, peace and justice around the world. He has held 15 presidential appointments, confronting such diverse issues as the peaceful use of atomic energy, campus unrest, immigration reform and Third World development.

Throughout these efforts, Mr. Speaker, Father Hesburgh maintained an unwavering commitment to fairness, equality and justice. In 1964 when President Johnson awarded the Medal of Freedom to Father Hesburgh, he could have sat back and rested on his laurels as one of the most respected leaders of our Nation. He could have; but, of course, we know he did not. Rather he used his mantle of respect to fight for those whose voices are not always heard, whose issues are not always respected, and whose needs are not always met.

In those pursuits, he served not only his country, but most importantly, I am sure, to him, his God, and his faith. There is not enough time in this debate to review all the good work that Father Hesburgh has done in his life, but let me review just a few highlights.

He sought to bridge America's racial divide as chairperson of the Commission on Civil Rights from 1969 to 1972. He fought for the interests of the underdeveloped nations as chair of the Overseas Development Council for 11 years. He helped heal the scars of the Vietnam War with his service as a member of President's Ford's Presidential Clemency Board.

He worked to promote peace by organizing a meeting of world class scientists from both sides of the Iron Curtain urging the elimination of nuclear weapons.

After the meeting, he organized a convention of religious leaders who endorsed the views of the scientists. In addition, Mr. Speaker, to his honors, which include the Franklin Roosevelt Four Freedoms Medal, the Distinguished Peace Leader Award and the National Service Lifetime Award, Father Hesburgh has received 135 honorary degrees, the most ever awarded to any American.

Father Hesburgh is a wonderful, magnificent example of a good man who rose up and did great things. He however, was a humble person, walking closely with his God. I can think of no person for whom the honor is more appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues, as I know they will, to unanimously support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER).

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for his very articulate comments about Father Hesburgh and for

his overly generous comments about me.

Mr. Speaker, I want to also thank the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) for his hard work and help on this resolution. I would also like to thank the Republican and Democratic leadership for their help and assistance in passing this Gold Medal to Father Hesburgh, and I want to pick out a couple of individual Members of Congress on the Democratic and Republican side who helped gather the cosponsors, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY), the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER), the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), the gentlewoman from Kentucky (Mrs. NORTHUP), all were very, very helpful. Senator BAYH and Senator LUGAR on the Senate side in helping us get the needed cosponsors to pass this very important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 344 to authorize the use of the U.S. Capitol rotunda for the ceremony in which the President will present Father Theodore M. Hesburgh with the Congressional Gold Medal. I am deeply grateful to the leadership that has called up this resolution and recognizes that the use of the rotunda for this occasion is a fitting tribute to one of America's most distinguished educators and humanitarians.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take just a quick minute to salute the University of Notre Dame for its excellence in research and its faculty, for its commitment by its student body, where 10 percent of its student body that just graduated will go into voluntary service throughout the world, not just America, to help the hungry, to help the poor, to help the thirsty and to put a lot of emphasis on social justice.

I want to thank the Holy Cross Order that helps Father Hesburgh and Father Malloy, now the president of the university.

Last year, more than two-thirds of the U.S. House of Representatives cosponsored my bill to award the Gold Medal to Father Hesburgh. The companion bill was also cosponsored by more than two-thirds of the U.S. Senate. The legislation was passed with unanimous consent and signed into law by President Clinton on December 9, 1999.

This bipartisan measure recognizes Father Hesburgh's countless and enduring contributions to the United States and the global community.

Father Hesburgh's remarkable record of public service is as distinguished as his contributions are numerous. Over the years, he has held 15 Presidential appointments and remained a national leader in education, civil rights, and in social justice issues in the Third World. Highlighting a long list of awards received by Father Hesburgh is a Presidential Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor, bestowed on him by President Johnson in 1964.

Equal justice has been the primary focus of Father Hesburgh's pursuits. He

was a charter member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and later, its chairman. Father Hesburgh passionately supported the civil rights movement and was dismissed from the commission when he criticized the administration for not fully implementing its recommendations.

Father Hesburgh was the longest serving active president of an institution of higher learning when he retired from the University of Notre Dame in 1987. He continues, he continues, Mr. Speaker, in retirement as a leading educator, a leading humanitarian, and inspiring generations of students and citizens to serve their country while sharing his wisdom and vision for the rights of man.

Father Hesburgh has served his Nation well, not only on matters of civil rights here and abroad, but he has fought against unemployment, fought against poverty, fought against hunger, and in support of better agriculture for developing nations so that they can feed their people.

In a recent speech, the United Nations Secretary Kofi Annan said that there are one in five of the population in the world today that does not have access to safe drinking water. Kofi Annan went on to say one out of every five people in the world lives on less than a dollar per day.

Father Hesburgh continues to make these people his highest priority, the hungry and the thirsty. Father Hesburgh is beloved by all who have known him. I am personally grateful to Father Hesburgh for his friendship and guidance, starting with my years as a student at the University of Notre Dame. I firmly believe that this resolution to use the Rotunda for presenting the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Hesburgh is entirely an appropriate tribute to one of America's greatest citizens and champions of human rights.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support the resolution and, again, express my deep gratitude to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), to the leadership of both sides in this bipartisan tribute to be considered on the House floor today. I thank both gentlemen for the 6 minutes of time to talk about Father Hesburgh's lifetime of accomplishments.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, I want to again thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), a distinguished graduate of an institution that was led so ably and whose service to this country, not only leading Notre Dame but service to this country, is so deserving of recognition, which the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) has assured will happen. I congratulate the gentleman for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT).

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I did not plan to speak on this issue, I will be brief. As an athlete, I played against

Notre Dame. I think it is fitting that the Congressional Gold Medal be awarded to this great American.

I want to commend the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) and I know the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY) is not here, a great Notre Dame fan as well, but I think as we think about the Congressional Gold Medal, the world will always think about Father Hesburgh every time they see that golden dome on the television screen and the tenacity and the spirit of Notre Dame, much of it has been imbued, developed by Father Hesburgh. I think his fingerprints rest on the university of such great acclaim. It is known throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), this is very fitting, so I want to thank the Republican leadership, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), our ranking member, I believe this is most fitting. I am just honored to be a part, to be able to say that I had a vote in this Congressional Gold Medal award.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, lest anyone think that although this is being presented in a bipartisan way, that it is purely a partisan interest in Notre Dame. I really would be remiss if I did not mention that there are a number of Republicans who have attended and indeed graduated from Notre Dame, and one that I know is no greater Irish hunk than our former colleague Dan Lungren from California, who not only bleeds green and gold, but would occasionally wear green and gold on the floor of the House, especially after a much-needed win over the University of Southern California in the annual football contest.

Having heard these words about Father Hesburgh, this is simply an introduction and an invitation to join in the Rotunda in the presentation of that Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this legislation, which authorizes the use of the Capitol rotunda on July 13, 2000 for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore M. Hesburgh.

We look forward to honoring Father Hesburgh for his many achievements in such areas as education and international and peace studies. This remarkable leader has not only served our nation's presidents but has also served a 35 year tenure as President of the University of Notre Dame and has demonstrated his leadership in a number of international organizations. The list of his accomplishments reflects his devotion to many noteworthy and noble causes.

Father Hesburgh was born in Syracuse, N.Y. on May 25, 1917, the son of Anne Murphy Hesburgh and Theodore Bernard Hesburgh.

Educated at Notre Dame and the Gregorian University in Rome, Father Hesburgh received

a bachelor of philosophy degree in 1939. In 1943 he was ordained a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross. He received his doctorate at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, and he joined the Notre Dame Department of Religion in 1945. In 1948, he was appointed head of the department and also served as chaplain to World War II veterans on campus. When he was 35, in 1952, Notre Dame named him their 15th president, and he retired on June 1, 1987.

In addition to his accomplishments at Notre Dame, Father Hesburgh's list of appointments and public service demonstrates a life-time of promoting peace, justice, civil and human rights, and education. He has held 15 Presidential appointments in such fields as civil rights, peaceful uses of atomic energy, and Third World development. He chaired the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights from 1969–1972. Between 1979–1981, he chaired the Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy, and its recommendations became the groundwork for Congressional reform legislation 5 years later.

He has also served four Popes, and from 1956–1970 he was Vatican City's representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. In 1968, Pope Paul IV appointed him head of the Vatican representatives attending the 20th anniversary of the UN's human rights declaration in Teheran, Iran.

In the field of education, Father Hesburgh has served on a number of commissions and study groups that have analyzed issues such as public funding of independent colleges and universities and the purpose of foreign languages and international studies in higher education. His dedication has earned him 135 honorary degrees.

After retiring as president of Notre Dame, Father Hesburgh has continued to promote important causes and, as President Emeritus, to work for his university's future. He has continued to participate in international organizations; he has traveled the world as a distinguished speaker; written numerous articles, books as well as his autobiography, "God, Country, Notre Dame;" and furthered the interest of several Notre Dame academic institutes. Moreover, Father Hesburgh chairs the advisory committee for the Kellogg Institute for International Studies and the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, which was named in his honor.

Numerous awards reflect all of these achievements. In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson awarded him the Medal of Freedom. Other awards include the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Medal for Worship, the Distinguished Peace Leader Award, and the National Service Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Speaker I urge our colleagues to join in supporting this legislation to recognize Father Hesburgh's many accomplishments as well as his honorable life dedicated to noble causes.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol rotunda for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh, President Emeritus of the University of Notre Dame. I also want to thank my colleague from Indiana, TIM ROEMER, for his leadership in the effort to bestow this honor on Fr. Hesburgh.

As a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, I have long admired Father Hesburgh's commitment to excellence in higher education

and his extraordinary leadership in the cause of civil rights. I was happy to cosponsor the legislation last fall to present him with this distinguished award.

Under Father Hesburgh's stewardship as Notre Dame's president from 1952 to 1987, Notre Dame established itself as a top academic institution while maintaining its standing as a leading Catholic university. Fr. Hesburgh's greatest challenge was to demonstrate that it was possible to achieve prominence in both arenas and he succeeded, creating a model for other Catholic institutions of higher learning across the country.

One of Father Hesburgh's most enduring contributions to the Nation as a whole is his commitment to the pursuit of civil rights for all Americans. As a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights for 15 years, three of them as its chairman, Fr. Hesburgh was instrumental in the movement that culminated in the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. His legacy of leadership in the cause of civil rights and other issues of moral imperative has served as an example for America and, indeed, the world.

Mr. Speaker, in light of these and all of Father Hesburgh's many contributions in service to our Nation, I wholeheartedly support this resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 344, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMAS. 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. Con. Res. 344, as amended, the concurrent resolution just agreed to.

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

There was no objection.

SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT STATES SHOULD MORE CLOSELY REGULATE TITLE PAWN TRANSACTIONS AND OUTLAW IMPOSITION OF USURIOUS INTEREST RATES ON TITLE LOANS TO CONSUMERS

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 312) expressing the sense of the Congress that the States should more closely regulate title pawn transactions and outlaw the imposition of usurious interest rates on title loans to consumers, as amended.