

puts artificial boundaries on the Internet when the Internet is designed specifically to transcend boundaries.

I share my colleagues's desire to protect society from the dangers of abusive gambling which can be a corrosive agent, both culturally and personally. However, H.R. 3125 does not do what it purports to do. If Congress wants to ban gambling on the Internet then it should ban all gambling on the Internet. The piecemeal approach embodied in H.R. 3125 is an exercise in hypocrisy. I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 3125.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3125, the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act. During Judiciary Committee mark-up, I brought up my concerns relating to the tribal gaming exemption. I am pleased that the Gentleman from Virginia, Mr. GOODLATTE, and the Gentleman from Alaska, Mr. YOUNG, were willing to work with me to include language which addresses my concerns about what I believe was an ambiguous section of the bill.

I would like to take a moment to explain my concerns and how, through the manager's amendment, these concerns were addressed. The provision exempting gambling on a closed loop system requires both the sender and the receiver to be on Indian lands. This is not limited to the Indian lands on which the game is conducted, therefore, it would allow linking of all Indian lands nationwide. My concern with this language was how multi-Tribal linking could impact individual Tribal/State gaming Compacts.

Let me provide an example: If State A's Compact allows for slots, and State B's Compact allows for blackjack and slots, absent clarification, the tribe in State A could argue it can now participate in blackjack. Included in the manager's amendment is additional language on this section to ensure that no Class III gaming activity can occur without the explicit authorization of a Tribal/State Compact. This language does not require Tribes to renegotiate their Compacts with states; rather it reinforces the Tribal/State Compact.

In conclusion, the Indian gaming language has been clarified so that the carefully negotiated Tribal/State compacts are not at risk. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I oppose H.R. 3125, the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act.

I am concerned that the bill creates unfair carve outs. In-home gambling on horse and dog races is allowed, but tribal Internet gaming is prohibited. I fail to see how dog races are acceptable but tribal gaming is not. This bill does not deserve our support.

The bill is so riddled with exemptions it is opposed by the Traditional Values Coalition, which says that the bill does little to address the problems it purports to solve.

Tribal gaming has been essential in furthering economic development on our reservations. It has allowed for medical clinics and upgrading of substandard housing. It has lifted Native Americans from poverty. It has given them self-determination over their destiny. It has furthered Native American sovereignty.

It is important we recognize all Native Americans have given to this country. For that reason, earlier in the year I introduced H. Res. 487 to honor Native Americans.

Native Americans have shown their willingness to fight and die for this nation in foreign lands. They honor the American flag at every powwow.

Native Americans should be treated fairly. We should not burden them with restrictions we are unwilling to place on others.

The bill is opposed by the Department of Justice, AT&T, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Computer and Communications Industry Association, Covad Communications, Center for Democracy and Technology, National Congress of American Indians, Electronic Privacy Information Center, ACLU, Traditional Values Coalition, Seniors Coalition, Free Congress Foundation, Americans for Tax Reform, CATO Institute, American Association of Concerned Tax Payers, and Coalition for Constitutional Liberties.

For all of the above reasons, I am opposing H.R. 3125.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to H.R. 3125, which could more appropriately be re-titled the Internet Gambling Proliferation Act.

What this proposed legislation does is impose a new set of laws that selectively privilege some forms of gambling by exempting them from these laws. At the same time, other forms of gambling are condemned. What Congress should do is work with the states to enact legislation, which deals rationally with prohibiting or regulating Internet gambling.

Furthermore, in my home State of New Mexico—as in many other states—this legislation would unnecessarily complicate the ability of states and tribal governments to work out a rational regulatory scheme.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3125, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. CONYERS. 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 8, rule XX 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. GOODLATTE. 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. 3125.

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

There was no objection.

SEMIPOSTAL AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4437) to grant to the United States Postal Service the authority to issue semipostals, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4437

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 "Semipostal Authorization Act".

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SEMIPOSTALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 416. Authority to issue semipostals

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

"(1) the term 'semipostal' means a postage stamp which is issued and sold by the Postal Service, at a premium, in order to help provide funding for a cause described in subsection (b); and

"(2) the term 'agency' means an Executive agency within the meaning of section 105 of title 5.

"(b) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.—The Postal Service is hereby authorized to issue and sell semipostals under this section in order to advance such causes as the Postal Service considers to be in the national public interest and appropriate.

"(c) RATE OF POSTAGE.—The rate of postage on a semipostal issued under this section shall be established by the Governors, in accordance with such procedures as they shall by regulation prescribe (in lieu of the procedures under chapter 36), except that—

"(1) the rate established for a semipostal under this section shall be equal to the rate of postage that would otherwise regularly apply, plus a differential of not to exceed 25 percent; and

"(2) no regular rates of postage or fees for postal services under chapter 36 shall be any different from what they otherwise would have been if this section had not been enacted.

The use of any semipostal issued under this section shall be voluntary on the part of postal patrons.

"(d) AMOUNTS BECOMING AVAILABLE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The amounts becoming available from the sale of a semipostal under this section shall be transferred to the appropriate agency or agencies under such arrangements as the Postal Service shall by mutual agreement with each such agency establish.

"(2) IDENTIFICATION OF APPROPRIATE CAUSES AND AGENCIES.—Decisions concerning the identification of appropriate causes and agencies to receive amounts becoming available from the sale of a semipostal under this section shall be made in accordance with applicable regulations under subsection (e).

"(3) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The amounts becoming available from the sale of a semipostal under this section shall be determined in a manner similar to that provided for under section 414(c)(2) (as in effect on July 1, 2000).

"(B) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Regulations under subsection (e) shall specifically address how the costs incurred by the Postal Service in carrying out this section shall be computed, recovered, and kept to a minimum.

"(4) OTHER FUNDING NOT TO BE AFFECTED.—Amounts which have or may become available from the sale of a semipostal under this section shall not be taken into account in any decision relating to the level of appropriations or other Federal funding to be furnished to an agency in any year.

"(5) RECOVERY OF COSTS.—Before transferring to an agency in accordance with paragraph (1) any amounts becoming available from the sale of a semipostal over any period, the Postal Service shall ensure that it has recovered the full costs incurred by the Postal Service in connection with such semipostal through the end of such period.

"(e) REGULATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c), the Postal Service shall prescribe any regulations necessary to carry out this section, including provisions relating to—

"(A) which office or other authority within the Postal Service shall be responsible for making the decisions described in subsection (d)(2);

"(B) what criteria and procedures shall be applied in making those decisions; and

"(C) what limitations shall apply, if any, relating to the issuance of semipostals (such as whether more than 1 semipostal may be offered for sale at the same time).

"(2) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—Before any regulation is issued under this section, a copy of the proposed regulation shall be published in the Federal Register, and an opportunity shall be provided for interested parties to present written and, where practicable, oral comment. All regulations necessary to carry out this section shall be issued not later than 30 days before the date on which semipostals are first made available to the public under this section.

"(f) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Postmaster General shall include in each report rendered under section 2402, with respect to any period during any portion of which this section is in effect, information concerning the operation of any program established under this section.

"(2) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT.—If any semipostal ceases to be offered during the period covered by such a report, the information contained in that report shall also include—

"(A) the commencement and termination dates for the sale of such semipostal;

"(B) the total amount that became available from the sale of such semipostal; and

"(C) of that total amount, how much was applied toward administrative costs.

For each year before the year in which a semipostal ceases to be offered, any report under this subsection shall include, with respect to that semipostal (for the year covered by such report), the information described in subparagraphs (B) and (C).

"(g) TERMINATION.—This section shall cease to be effective at the end of the 10-year period beginning on the date on which semipostals are first made available to the public under this section."

(b) REPORTS BY AGENCIES.—Each agency that receives any funding in a year under section 416 of title 39, United States Code (as amended by this section) shall submit a written report under this subsection, with respect to such year, to the congressional committees with jurisdiction over the United States Postal Service. Each such report shall include—

(1) the total amount of funding received by such agency under such section 416 during the year;

(2) an accounting of how any funds received by such agency under such section 416 were allocated or otherwise used by such agency in such year; and

(3) a description of any significant advances or accomplishments in such year that were funded, in whole or in part, out of amounts received by such agency under such section 416.

(c) REPORTS BY THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.—

(1) INTERIM REPORT.—The General Accounting Office shall submit to the President and each House of Congress an interim report on the operation of the program established under section 416 of title 39, United States Code (as amended by this section) not later than 4 years after semipostals are first made available to the public under such section.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—The General Accounting Office shall transmit to the President and each House of Congress a final report on the operation of the program established under such section 416, not later than 6 months before the date on which it is scheduled to expire. The final report shall contain a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the General Accounting Office, together with any recommendations it considers appropriate.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"416. Authority to issue semipostals."

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The program under section 416 of title 39, United States Code (as amended by this section) shall be established within 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SEMIPOSTALS FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 414(g) of title 39, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(g) This section shall cease to be effective after July 29, 2002, or the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Semipostal Authorization Act, whichever is later."

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—No later than 3 months and no earlier than 6 months before the date as of which section 414 of title 39, United States Code (as amended by this section) is scheduled to expire, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Congress a report on the operation of such section. Such report shall be in addition to the report required by section 2(b) of Public Law 105-41, and shall address at least the same matters as were required to be included in that earlier report.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. 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. 4437.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as with any measure of this magnitude, the point at which a bill comes to the floor of this House, of course, is realized only through the concerted efforts and a great deal of hard work by a number of good people, and that is certainly the case here today.

In that regard, I want to begin by expressing my deepest appreciation particularly to the ranking member on the subcommittee, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), his staff, the staff of the full subcommittee, for their efforts, for their support and most importantly their substantive and constructive input. I would say not only is the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) a primary cospon-

sor of this legislation, he is indeed one of the primary authors; and frankly his input, his participation made what I think is a good piece of legislation even better.

I also want to thank the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), and, of course, his colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), the ranking member on the full committee, for their cooperation and for their efforts in helping to bring this very worthy piece of legislation before us today.

The bill before us, Mr. Speaker, seeks to achieve two very important objectives. The first is to extend the authorization of the highly successful breast cancer research stamp. It was not that long ago in the 105th Congress under the guidance of two of our former colleagues, a fellow State associate of mine, the gentlewoman Susan Molinari from New York, and Vic Fazio, the gentleman from California, who worked so hard in realizing what became the first ever semipostal issuance in the history of the United States. Since that time, since the creation of the breast cancer research stamp, the proceeds from the sales of these issues from voluntary purchases has resulted in some \$15 million in additional funds made available for breast cancer research.

There is truly, Mr. Speaker, not a person in this country that has not in some way been touched by the cruel hand of this disease, a wife, a mother, a close friend, a loved one or, in my own case, a grandmother. Those dollars, willingly donated by millions upon millions of caring individuals, will hopefully bring us ever closer to the day when this scourge is but a sad and very frightening memory. Without our action here through this bill, Mr. Speaker, the current authorization will end at the conclusion of this month, on July 29, in fact.

So many in this House, so many in this Nation have called upon us to act further. In the House, I would say we owe particular thanks to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. BASS), who gathered 117 of our colleagues calling for this extension. In fact, the authorization for such an action contained in this bill is modeled on the gentleman from New Hampshire's bill and would extend the current program for an additional 2 years.

As I mentioned, our presence here today also comes through the urging and support of many, many others, far too many to properly credit them all by name. But we certainly want to thank and commend each and every one of those folks. But I do want to pay particular tribute to just a few, if I might. Ms. Betsey Mullen, who was here with us in Washington earlier today, I believe and I hope she still is, and her colleague at the Women's Information Network Against Breast Cancer, Dr. Bodai, for their untiring efforts. I would also like to thank Ms. Mullen's 6½-year-old nephew and her

8½-year-old niece who took the time out of what I know are their busy lives and busy summers to actually address handwritten letters to all of us here in Congress urging our continued efforts on behalf of this semipostal.

Mr. Speaker, I include the letters in their entirety for the RECORD.

DEAR CONGRESS, Girls and boys can get breast cancer and I don't want girls and boys and the President and his wife, cat and dog to get sick. Keep the stamp going.

From Brendon Fisher.

JULY 16, 2000.

DEAR CONGRESS, I think it's very important to keep the stamp because if we don't every girl is going to worry about it or maybe get breast cancer. But if we keep it we will get money to cure to stop it. My Aunt Betsey risked her life on it and I'm proud of her. If you think about it no one likes it because you can die from it. I think and a lot of other people agree with me that it would be best to keep the stamp and then things will go perfect.

Hope my letter makes a difference because not just me is counting on this.

By Paige Fisher, 8 in a half years old, MD.

If I might, I would like to read a part of both of those.

"Dear Congress:

"Girls and boys can get breast cancer and I don't want girls and boys and the President and his wife, cat and dog to get sick. Keep the stamp going."

That is from Brendon Fisher, who is, as I said, 6½ years old.

□ 1500

And this one: "Dear Congress, I think it is very important to keep the stamp, because if we don't, every girl is going to worry about it or maybe get breast cancer. But if we keep it, we will get money to cure, to stop it. My Aunt Betsey risked her life on it and I'm proud of her. If you think about it, no one likes it because you can die from it. I think, and a lot of other people agree with me, that it would be best to keep the stamp and then things will go perfect. I hope my letter makes a difference, because not just me is counting on this. By Paige Fisher, 8½ years old."

Paige, I want to let you know that yours and Brendon's efforts have indeed made a difference. As I said, I have many to thank.

I would like to give a personal thanks to a special individual, a lady by the name of Jennifer Katz, who has a tangential professional interest in this cause, but who long before this question evolved, Mr. Speaker, through her own life experiences taught me and I suspect many, many others how to learn from her efforts that through tragedy one can identify important goals and challenges and learn in life some things so personal that can become bigger than self, and to thank her for helping me better understand that reality.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, and certainly not least, we all owe our thanks to the dedicated administration and employees of the Postal Service, because it was through their selfless commit-

ment, through their efforts that this program in its initial stages has reached the historic levels that it has. Yes, Mr. Speaker, many, many thanks to so many people.

The second equally important part and important section of this bill would establish a permanent process and give defined authority within the Postal Service to regularly and formally establish future semipostals that will serve similar purposes in the national American public interest.

The success of the Breast Cancer Research Stamp has understandably led many of our colleagues to propose similar initiatives that are designed to benefit many other worthy causes. And, indeed, this year alone in this Congress, we have had some 14 bills introduced into both bodies that attempt to achieve just such a goal.

Mr. Speaker, I will read from them briefly: the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) on AIDS research; the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) on diabetes; the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. WEYGAND) on Alzheimer's; the gentleman from California (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) on prostate cancer; the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) on emergency food relief; the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) on organ and tissue donation; the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) on World War II memorial; the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) on the American Battle Monuments Commission; the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) on domestic violence. And in the other body, Mr. LOTT on Highway-Rail Grade crossing safety; Mr. NIGHTHORSE-CAMPBELL on domestic violence; Mr. DEWINE on organ and tissue donation, and the list goes on and on.

Clearly, Mr. Speaker, all of these are very worthy initiatives, and I think it is just that fact that perhaps most clearly of all calls for the passage of this bill. I fear absent our action, Mr. Speaker, that none of these may be achieved, that in the perhaps regrettable, but I think undeniable political reality of this Congress as we push back and forth toward trying to achieve our own personal and sometimes equally laudable goals, none of them may be passed.

Mr. Speaker, through this legislation, we can say to the postal service, we must establish a system that must consider these kinds of initiatives and they must issue them on a regular basis. In this fashion, Mr. Speaker, I think we can most assuredly guarantee that these kinds of initiatives will indeed continue into the future, as I think they should.

Mr. Speaker, I would say, while the Breast Cancer Research Stamp Initiative has gone exceedingly well, it has not been without its flaws. Some observers including the General Accounting Office have found that some of the procedural and administrative shortcomings have been less than perfectly

implemented. This bill seizes upon a report done by the GAO that calls for certain reforms within future issuances, providing for better accounting methods to make sure that both the expenditure and the revenue side are clearly defined and clearly recorded, a provision for full reporting on the program, including regularly reports to both bodies in this Congress, methods to ensure full costs coverage, so that those who choose not to participate in the stamp are not somehow burdened with added costs, to ensure that any future, postal increases necessitated are not a result of semipostals no matter how worthy the cause.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, I do firmly believe that this is a balanced and well-reasoned and in my humble opinion a very worthy and necessary piece of legislation, and I would urge its passage here today.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HASTINGS of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, first let me thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH), the chairman of this committee, for being forthcoming with reference to this legislation. Additionally, I would like to thank the delegate, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), my good friend, for graciously allowing me to manage the time on this important measure.

I would like to join the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) in the consideration of H.R. 4437, the Semipostal Authorization Act, legislation, granting the postal service the discretionary authority to issue semipostals. This measure was unanimously reported from the committee on June 29, 2000.

I am pleased to note that on June 29, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) reported out an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 4437, which made a number of important changes to the original text. We owe our interests in semipostals to Dr. Ernie Bodai, chief of surgery at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Sacramento, California, and one of our former colleagues, former Congressman Vic Fazio from California.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bodai first proposed the idea of a semipostal with the money raised going toward breast cancer research. He took his idea to Congressman Vic Fazio; and on May 7, 1996, Congressman Fazio introduced the first semipostal bill, H.R. 3401, the Breast Cancer Research Stamp Act.

He was joined in this effort by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN when she sponsored identical legislation in the Senate. Congressman Fazio subsequently reintroduced his bill in the 105th Congress as H.R. 407. On May 13, 1997, Representative Fazio joined Representative Susan Molinari from New York,

former Congresswoman, in sponsoring H.R. 1585, Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act.

The bill, as amended, and passed by the House on July 22, 1997, by a vote of 423-3 permitted the postal service to establish a special rate of postage for first class mail, not to exceed 25 percent of the original first class rate of postage. Stamps issued under this special rate are available for purchase by the public on a voluntary basis and as an alternative to regular postage.

After deducting an amount sufficient to cover reasonable costs attributable to the printing, sale, and distribution of the stamps, the postal service would transfer 70 percent of the amount generated to the National Institutes of Health and 30 percent to the Department of Defense for breast cancer research.

The National Institutes of Health designated the money to support innovative pilot studies that will further breast cancer awareness. The Department of Defense designated the money for awards intended to encourage innovative approaches to breast cancer research.

H.R. 1585 was subsequently enacted into law, Public Law 105-41, in addition to authorizing the breast cancer research stamp for 2 years, required the General Accounting Office to submit a report to Congress that evaluated the effectiveness and the appropriateness of this method of fund-raising.

In its April 2000 report, entitled "Breast Cancer Research Stamp, Millions Raised for Research, But Better Costs Recovery Criteria Needed," the GAO determined that the semipostal was successful. It is expected that by July 28, 2000, well over 215 million stamps will have been sold and more than 15 million in revenue raised.

GAO further determined that the semipostal was an effective and appropriate way to fund-raise.

Mr. Speaker, the incidence of breast cancer continues to far outstrip available resources and funds. The statistics are as sobering as they are rising. Breast cancer is still the number one cancer killer of women between the ages of 15 and 24. The disease claims another woman's life every 15 minutes in the United States. More than 2 million women are living with breast cancer in America today, yet 1 million of them have not been diagnosed.

More and more people are joining the ranks of breast cancer survivors rather than breast cancer victims due in large part to breakthroughs in cancer research. According to the American Association for Cancer Research, 8 million people are alive today as a result of cancer research. The bottom line is that every dollar we continue to raise will save lives.

Clearly, the American public by purchasing more than 215 million breast cancer semipostal stamps believes this is a good cause and one worthy of contributions. I would urge on behalf of the gentlewoman from the District of

Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the committee that we move quickly and pass H.R. 4437.

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

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I would ask the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) if he has any further requests for time.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests, but before yielding back, let me compliment and express my appreciation to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for his invaluable assistance here and to associate myself with his remarks about not just the importance of this bill in its two major aspects but to the invaluable contributions of both our former colleagues, Mr. Fazio and Ms. Molinari, as I attempted to state in my remarks, but also as I said, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), and others for the great assistance that they have given and urge all of our colleagues to join us in expressing their support of this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4437, 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.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VICKI COCEANO POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3985) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14900 Southwest 30th Street in Miramar City, Florida, as the "Vicki Coceano Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3985

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

SECTION 1. VICKI COCEANO POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14900 Southwest 30th Street in Miramar, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Vicki Coceano Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Vicki Coceano Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. 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. 3985.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor of standing on this floor just last week as we proposed four similar naming bills and made the comment that I felt very strongly then, and I continue to believe in that we are indeed fortunate to have the efforts of so many Members of this body from across the country who work so hard and have done such a tremendous job in identifying truly worthy individuals to which and upon whom we can extend this honor of a post office naming.

□ 1515

I would like to pay my compliments and thanks to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), the primary sponsor of this legislation, for keeping us on track in that regard and for helping us to uphold a record in which we all take a great deal of pride.

As the Clerk has read, Mr. Speaker, this bill does indeed designate the United States Postal Service building located at 14900 Southwest 30th Street in Miramar, Florida, as the Vicki Coceano Post Office Building.

H.R. 3985 was amended by the full committee but only as a result of a necessary technical correction to the address that was originally identified by the Postal Service, and has no other substantive impact upon the bill itself.

We are indeed fortunate, as we just heard on the previous piece of legislation, to have the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) with us, and I know that he is prepared to make a very full statement about Ms. Coceano. I do not want to take away from that opportunity, but let me note that as we attempt to do on all of these bills we have looked over the background and the contributions of this very special lady, a special lady, who I understand is affectionately known in her community as Mayor Vicki, which I think speaks volumes about the affection and the respect of those who know her best and how they view this very, very unique individual.

As a resident of South Florida for some 40 years, I understand that is a fairly remarkable achievement in a State that benefits from the migration of many people from my State, for example. So she has been there for 4 decades contributing to her community, as her nickname suggests, serving in public office and serving in a distinguished way, but clearly her contributions extend far beyond that of running