

very supportive of this legislation and, as a member of the World Council on Credit Unions, has contributed technical assistance to aid the growth of credit unions in key transitional countries such as the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Bolivia.

Again, Mr. Speaker, overseas cooperative projects are simply a good investment towards building good economic stability and democratic habits in developing countries, and this Member urges his colleagues in this body to support H.R. 4673.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill. I would first like to commend the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. BEREUTER), the subcommittee chairman, for introducing this important piece of legislation, and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the chairman of the committee, for moving it through the legislative process so quickly.

Mr. Speaker, credit unions and cooperatives give people more opportunity to help themselves. By promoting business enterprises and financial institutions which operate through a democratic decisionmaking process, the Congress can play a critical role in encouraging broad-based economic and social development, both at home and abroad.

The legislation before the House today will ensure that our foreign aid money adequately promotes credit unions and cooperatives overseas. The legislation states that priority must be given first to technical assistance to local-income farmers who farm, who form and develop cooperatives for farm supplies, marketing and value-added processing; the promotion of national credit union systems that strengthen the ability of low-income people and small businesses to have access to credit. It also establishes a rural electric and telecommunications cooperative for universal access for rural people and villages; and, finally, the promotion of community-based cooperatives which provide employment opportunities and other important services.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the legislation requires the Agency for International Development to report to Congress every 6 months on the implementation of this important program.

Mr. Speaker, cooperatives and credit unions allow communities to pool their financial resources, spread risk, and keep money in local circulation for the economic well-being of the constituency and localities they serve. This legislation, by promoting cooperatives and credit unions overseas, will ensure that Americans get the most bang for their buck in foreign aid money.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4673.

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I want to again express my appreciation to the distinguished gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY) for his outstanding cooperation, his assistance, and for being a full partner in drafting this legislation. I appreciate his effort. With that said, I urge support of the resolution.

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4673, a bill introduced by our Committee Members, Mr. BEREUTER, the gentleman from Nebraska, and cosponsored by Mr. POMEROY, the gentleman from North Dakota, would serve to enhance and expand international economic assistance programs that utilize cooperatives and credit unions. This bill encourages the formation of credit unions and grassroots financial institutions as a way to promote democratic decision-making while concurrently fostering free market principles and self-help approaches to development in some of the world's poorest and neediest countries.

The bill's purpose is multi-faceted. It encourages the creation of agricultural and urban cooperatives in the electrical, telecommunications, and housing fields as well as the establishment of base-level credit unions. By doing so, the bill also promotes the adoption of international cooperative principles and practices in our foreign assistance programs and encourages the incorporation of market-oriented principles into these programs. By ensuring that small businessmen and women as well as small-scale farmers have access to credit, and also a stake in their own financial institutions, the United States will foster the key values of self-reliance, community participation, and democratic decision-making in programs that directly affect their lives.

The bill amends Section 111 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the section of the Act that concerns the development and promotion of cooperatives, by adding specific language that promotes agricultural cooperatives, the establishment of credit unions and financial systems, and the creation of rural electric and telecommunications and housing cooperatives. The bill lists these increasingly critical areas of development as priorities for foreign assistance programs and requires the Administrator of the Agency for International Development to prepare and submit a report to the Congress on the implementation of Section 111 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 as amended.

I commend my colleagues for drafting this bill that also strengthens the intent and spirit of H.R. 1143, the Microenterprise for Self-Reliance Act of 1999 that the International Relations Committee reported and the House passed last year. Although strides have been made to increase access to credit for those who need it most, it is clear to me that much more needs to be done to enhance micro credit institutions and credit unions as well as agricultural cooperatives in the developing world to ensure that sound fiscal practices are applied in both rural and urban areas of the world's poorest countries.

I commend the bill's sponsors for their efforts to promote the formation of more and better managed cooperatives as well as the establishment of credit unions that are managed by the poor themselves to address agricultural, housing, and health care needs.

Accordingly, I urge passage of this worthy measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINDER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4673.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4975) to designate the post office and courthouse located at 2 Federal Square, Newark, New Jersey, as the "Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office and Courthouse".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4975

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF FRANK R. LAUTENBERG POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE.

The post office and courthouse located at 2 Federal Square, Newark, New Jersey, shall be known and designated as the "Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office and Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the post office and courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office and Courthouse.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARR of Georgia. 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. 4975.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us, H.R. 4975, was introduced by our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO) and was originally cosponsored by all members of the House delegation of the State of New Jersey on July 26, this year. This legislation designates the Post Office and courthouse located at 2 Federal Square in Newark, New Jersey as the FRANK R. LAUTENBERG Post Office and Courthouse.

This legislation was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The committee then discharged the bill and it was subsequently rereferred to the House Committee on Government Reform. The

building located at 2 Federal Square in Newark, New Jersey is wholly owned by the United States Postal Service.

The Senator from New Jersey after whom the building will be named under this legislation was born in Paterson, New Jersey in 1924, the son of an immigrant silk mill worker. He graduated from Nutley High School in Nutley, New Jersey in 1941 and served with distinction in the United States Army Signal Corps from 1942 until 1946. Mr. LAUTENBERG received his B.S. degree from Columbia University School of Business in New York in 1949. He served as commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey from 1978 to 1982 for a 6-year term. He was subsequently appointed by the governor to complete the unexpired term of Senator Brady and was reelected in 1988 and 1994 for the term ending January 3, 2001.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation to name a postal facility in Newark, New Jersey after our colleague in the other House, Senator LAUTENBERG.

I want to just reference his work in the United States Senate since 1982 on a whole range of items, but I want to particularly point out and commend to all of my colleagues his work in the area of education, his sponsorship of the \$1,500 HOPE scholarship credit, and his support for the largest increase in Pell grant assistance in the history of the Pell grant program. He has been a strong supporter of environmental legislation and other very important pieces of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is entirely appropriate to join my colleague from the great State of Georgia in commending to the House this legislation.

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

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO).

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding to me, and I rise in very strong support of this legislation.

Senator LAUTENBERG has been a great ally and friend to the citizens of New Jersey, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), and I all join in urging this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to come before the House today in support of H.R. 4975, a bill designating the Post Office and Courthouse at 2 Federal Square in Newark, New Jersey the "Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office and Courthouse."

As many of you may know, Senator LAUTENBERG is retiring at the end of this year after 18 years of distinguished service in the United States Senate on behalf of the state and the citizens of New Jersey.

Since I came to Congress in 1995, I have had the pleasure of working with Senator LAU-

TENBERG on several occasions. We have been able to work together in a bipartisan fashion on many issues of importance to my district—such as aviation funding, beach replenishment projects, protecting the interests of the coast guard and his work on behalf of the Coastal Heritage Trail. These are just some of the issues that we have been able to roll-up our sleeves on and make a meaningful difference that will benefit the lives of those who live in South Jersey.

I would like to pay special attention to the Senator's work on protecting the New Jersey shore from erosion and the ocean water from contamination. As the Representative of the Second District in New Jersey, which has hundreds of miles of shoreline, protecting the shore is one of my highest legislative priorities.

Recently, I had the opportunity to join with the Senator and the Mayor of Atlantic City, James Whelan, in urging the Senate to pass legislation that would require the EPA to use the latest technology available to sample and test ocean water at our beaches to ensure the public's health. I cosponsored and voted in favor of companion legislation, which passed the House in April of last year.

In fact, there hasn't been an issue that the Senator and I have worked together on since 1995 that we haven't achieved results. We have been able to come together on numerous occasions to protect the interests of South Jersey residents. Although the Senator and I don't necessarily agree on every issue, I agree that naming the post office and courthouse in Newark after Senator LAUTENBERG is an excellent way to pay tribute to him on the eve of his retirement from public service.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4975 has gained the support of the entire New Jersey Congressional delegation, who have come together in a bipartisan fashion to support this bill and honor a distinguished public servant for the state of New Jersey. I would also like to thank the Majority Leader, Mr. ARMEY, for bringing this legislation before the full House today for consideration and my colleague Mr. PAYNE.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Pennsylvania and the gentleman from Georgia for allowing me to have a few words to say on H.R. 4975, the Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office and Courthouse designation.

As we know, this is a very important and proud day for us in New Jersey and, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a sponsor of the bill to name the post office in my hometown of Newark, New Jersey, after one of our State's most accomplished and dedicated public servants, my friend and colleague, Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG.

Senator LAUTENBERG is well known throughout New Jersey and the Nation for his prolific legislative achievements, but even before his election to the United States Senate, he worked tirelessly in pursuit of the American dream.

His is indeed a classic American success story. Born to immigrant parents

who were forced to move constantly in search of work, he set goals for himself early in life and never wavered in his quest to fulfill his aspirations.

After completing high school in Nutley, New Jersey, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving in the Army Signal Corps in Europe during World War II. And he is very proud of his war record.

After World War II, he earned a degree with the great GI Bill of Rights, which gave opportunities to people who fought to preserve democracy and opportunity for higher education. And he earned a degree from Columbia University.

Then, in the spirit of American entrepreneurship, which he fought so hard to defend, he joined with two boyhood friends in establishing a payroll service company, Automatic Data Processing, which now has grown to be one of the largest companies in the world. This started in a basement with two fellows saying, we have an idea.

It is especially fitting that this post office we are naming for Senator LAUTENBERG in his honor is located in Newark because he has been a champion of the revitalization efforts in our city.

From the day I was elected to the House of Representatives back in 1988, I have been able to count on Senator LAUTENBERG as an advocate of major economic development efforts, including the world-class Performing Arts Center, the development of the waterfront, millions of dollars in funding for Urban Core mass transit projects, including the Newark-Elizabeth Rail Link.

Senator LAUTENBERG has gained a national reputation as a powerful voice for environmental protection, fighting for safe drinking water, clean air, a ban on ocean dumping of sewage, clean beaches, prevention of oil spills, and a strong supporter of Superfund legislation to clean up toxic sites.

His legislation to ban smoking on airplanes will go to save many, many lives in this country and in the world because this has been taken up by everyone in the world.

So as I conclude, Senator LAUTENBERG has worked to improve educational opportunities in our Nation so that coming generations will have a chance to live the American dream as we all see it.

Senator LAUTENBERG helped author the HOPE scholarship, which provides a \$1,500 tax credit for students going to college. He fought to improve our public schools. He fought to have new computers in our high schools.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Senator.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE).

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise in support of H.R. 4975, the bill that is sponsored by

my colleague, the gentleman from Newark (Mr. PAYNE), to honor Senator LAUTENBERG with the naming of the post office in Newark in his honor.

I cannot say enough about FRANK LAUTENBERG. There is no more effective Member of the United States Senate or of the United States Congress than FRANK LAUTENBERG.

Let me say that over his three terms in office, and I suppose it adds up to 18 years as a Member of the United States Senate, I do not think anyone would suggest that anybody but FRANK LAUTENBERG was the most effective advocate for our concerns in the State of New Jersey. He is the Senator that gets things done.

My colleague, the gentleman from Newark (Mr. PAYNE), talked about the various things that Senator LAUTENBERG has done over the years, legislatively. But I just wanted to focus briefly on the environmental issues, because my district in Middlesex and Monmouth Counties has a heightened concern with regard to the environment.

In Middlesex County, the northern county, we have a number of Superfund sites. And over the 12 years or so that I have been in Congress, I have seen Senator LAUTENBERG constantly out there helping me and helping my constituents to clean up the Superfund sites, to improve the program, to get citizens involved in the process. That is his hallmark. He is a grassroots person that gets the money and gets things done.

In Monmouth County, which is the county where I live along the shore, we have had concern for many years about ocean dumping, about the need for shore protection, about water quality. And if there is any area where Senator LAUTENBERG has shined and worked hard in this Congress, it is with regard to the need for clean water and improving our water quality.

I would say that our economy would not exist in the strong state that we have now along the Jersey shore were it not for Senator LAUTENBERG's efforts to provide funding for beach renourishment, to stop all the various ocean dumping sites that existed when he was first elected to the Senate. There were about 12 sites for dumping of toxic dredge materials, sludge materials, acid materials, wood burning. All these things have now passed and all these sites have been closed because of the efforts of Senator LAUTENBERG.

It is an amazing achievement over 18 years in the Senate. I only hope that this legislation, this naming of the post office, is just the first of many opportunities that we will have after he retires this year to name things after him and to make designations in his honor. Because he truly deserves it. I appreciate the fact that we here in the House have been the first to start the process with the naming of this post office today.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to support this legislation which

honors my friend and senior Senator from New Jersey, FRANK LAUTENBERG.

I am a proud cosponsor of this legislation, and applaud my colleagues, Congressman PAYNE and Congressman LOBIONDO, for bringing this important measure to the floor.

Senator LAUTENBERG is a great American and a son of my hometown of Paterson, New Jersey. Good things and great people hail from Paterson!

The son of immigrants, FRANK LAUTENBERG came from a working-class background. In fact, his father worked in the silk mills in Paterson, located around the same area where I grew up.

After graduating high school, he served the United States citizens by joining the Army Signal Corps in Europe. Upon his return, Senator LAUTENBERG began a life of public service to the citizens of the Garden State.

Along with two friends, Senator LAUTENBERG started a company that served as one of the largest employers of New Jersey workers, and helped shape the way business is conducted in America.

Automated Data Processing was and still is one of the foremost computing services companies in the world. It provides employer services to hundreds of thousands of businesses by providing the paychecks to more than 29 million wage earners each payday.

In 1982, I joined the majority of New Jersey residents in voting for FRANK LAUTENBERG to the office of Senator. We were impressed by his dedication to providing work and service in New Jersey and trusted that he would represent us well in the United States Congress.

Our gut and our vote proved right. The impact he has had on our nation's health, safety and security is significant, and that is why we honor him today.

He is the author of laws that have shaped the lives and enriched the health and safety of Americans.

We can thank Senator LAUTENBERG for establishing 21 as the national legal drinking age, for banning smoking on airplanes and for making it illegal for anyone convicted of domestic violence to own a gun.

A strong environmental leader, Senator LAUTENBERG also helped write the Superfund, Clean Air and Safe Drinking Water Acts.

As Ranking Democratic Member of the Senate Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator LAUTENBERG has consistently supported sound investment in our nation's infrastructure.

Furthermore, he has worked tirelessly to secure hundreds of millions of dollars for New Jersey's highways, mass transit systems, airports and ports.

The Garden State has known this about Senator LAUTENBERG for 18 years, and I am proud to share his accomplishments with colleagues and fellow Americans who may not realize the impact that he has had on American policy and life.

So, as the great city of Newark continues to rise, it is more than appropriate that FRANK LAUTENBERG should be honored in name and reputation in this manner.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 4975, and am proud to join with others in recognizing the hard work and immeasurable contributions he made to the economy, quality of life, and safety for the citizens of New Jersey and America.

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

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers on this side, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4975.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GERTRUDE A. BARBER POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4625) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2108 East 38th Street in Erie, Pennsylvania, as the "Gertrude A. Barber Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4625

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

SECTION 1. GERTRUDE A. BARBER POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2108 East 38th Street in Erie, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "Gertrude A. Barber 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 "Gertrude A. Barber Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARR of Georgia. 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. 4625.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us, H.R. 4625, was introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH). The legislation designates the facility of the United States Postal Service Building located at 2108 East 38th Street in Erie, Pennsylvania as the Gertrude A. Barber Post Office Building. The House delegation from the State of Pennsylvania has cosponsored this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH).

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, this is a great privilege. Let me, first of all,