

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 57.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. MICA. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

ESTABLISHING A DAY OF CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF DR. DOROTHY IRENE HEIGHT

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 55) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a day of celebration in honor of Dr. Dorothy Irene Height.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 55

Whereas, for nearly half a century, Dr. Dorothy Irene Height has been a leader in the struggle for equality and human rights;

Whereas Dr. Height founded the Center for Racial Justice, served as President of the National Council of Negro Women and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and held several leadership positions with the Young Women's Christian Association of America;

Whereas, under the leadership of Dr. Height, the National Council of Negro Women achieved tax-exempt status, developed model programs on topics ranging from teenage parenting to eradicating hunger, and established the Bethune Museum and Archives for Black Women, the first institution devoted to the history of black women;

Whereas Dr. Height conceived of and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration, which is now in its eleventh year and has had 14,000,000 participants;

Whereas Dr. Height has worked with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Phillip Randolph, and others to prevent lynching, desegregate the Armed Forces, reform the criminal justice system, and provide equal access to public accommodations;

Whereas Dr. Height has served as a participant at conferences hosted by the United Nations and the President of the United States;

Whereas the distinguished service and contributions of Dr. Height to making the world more just and humane have earned her more than 50 awards and honors from local, State, and national organizations, and from the Federal Government, including the Spingarn Medal from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Clinton, and induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame;

Whereas Dr. Height has received more than 24 honorary degrees from educational institutions worldwide; and

Whereas the life of Dr. Height exemplifies a passionate commitment to the realization

of a just society and a vision of a better world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes Dr. Dorothy Irene Height as a valiant advocate and crusader for human rights; and

(2) acknowledges the more than 6 decades of distinguished leadership and service of Dr. Dorothy Irene Height.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 55, the legislation before us.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have before the House for consideration House Resolution 55, legislation introduced by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD).

Mr. Speaker, this legislation honors the work of Dorothy Height. Throughout her career, Dr. Height has been recognized as a leader in the struggle for equality and human rights for all people. As president of the National Council on Negro Women, Dr. Height has an outstanding record of accomplishments. Under her leadership, the council developed model programs on topics ranging from teenage parenting to eradicating hunger and established the Bethune Museum and Archives for Black Women, which was the first institution devoted to the history of black women.

Dr. Height organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration which is now in its 11th year with over 14 million participants. Dr. Height's contributions have earned her more than 50 awards and honors from every level, local, State and national organizations. For her tireless efforts on behalf of the less fortunate, President Ronald Reagan presented her the Citizens Medal award for distinguished service to the country in 1989.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to encourage all of the Members of the House to support this resolution.

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

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

Dynamic, committed, engaging, steadfast. These are only some of the many words that come to mind to describe Dr. Dorothy Height, a tireless champion of women, children, civil rights, peace and justice. For nearly half a century, Dr. Height has been a leader in the struggle for equality and

human rights. In 1935 as a caseworker for the New York City welfare department, Dr. Dorothy Height became the first black person named to deal with Harlem rights and thus emerged, as a very young woman, into public life.

She quickly became one of the young leaders of the national youth movement of the New Deal era. When Dr. Height was serving as assistant director of the Harlem YWCA in 1937, Mary McLeod Bethune, founder and president of the National Council of Negro women, asked Dr. Height to join her in her quest for women's rights for full equality and employment, that is to say, equal employment, pay and education.

That was the beginning of Dr. Height's dual role as YWCA staff and NCNW volunteer, integrating her training as a social worker and her commitment to rise above the limitations of both race and sex. Dr. Height was elected national president of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority in 1947 and ushered in a new era of organizational development.

During the 1960s, she worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Roy Wilkins and others to prevent lynching, desegregating the Armed Forces, reform the criminal justice system and secure the landmark civil rights legislation.

In 1957, she assumed the presidency of the National Council of Negro Women. As president, she has brilliantly led a crusade for justice for African American women and has both conceived and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration which has been held here in Washington and in cities throughout the country since 1986.

Dr. Height is now chair and president emerita of NCNW. She has worked tirelessly in the international arena with UNESCO, USAID and as a representative of numerous world meetings, conferences and missions. As a recipient of more than 25 honorary doctoral degrees and countless awards, Dr. Height continues more than six decades as a public servant in every sense of the word as a dream giver, as an earth shaker, and as a crusader for human rights.

Mr. Speaker, that is my official statement. If I may, I would like to offer a personal statement, because Dorothy Height reminds me every time I see her that she has moved from New York City; and she is now my constituent. And what a constituent she is to have. This resolution marks half a century of unique work for human rights, for all the people of the world, from an extraordinary woman.

February is Black History Month, so it is appropriate to celebrate the life and work of Dorothy Height. March is Women's History Month; and we could equally have celebrated Dr. Height's work next month, for this is a woman who has managed to make history in two identities at once, as an American woman and as an African American.

You will hear her extraordinary accomplishments in detail momentarily.

I want simply to pay tribute to her on a specific score, a leadership role that has made a very special difference.

When the feminist movement thrust forward in the 1960s, there was extraordinary confusion in the African American community about how to greet this enormous onslaught of white women calling themselves a movement. The confusion was among black women, black men, minority people around the country. It was as if they had forgotten that half of the black people are black women.

Dorothy Height had the courage to step forward in the midst of that confusion and declare proudly that she was not only a civil rights leader, a leader of African Americans, but she was a feminist leader. Few others had the courage in the late sixties and early seventies to step right up in front, put her hands on her hips and say, "Look at me, I'm both. I'm black and I'm a woman, and I'm going to get out here and fight for both."

When you try to divide her identity that way, you divide the great movement for human rights. Representative Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman to serve in this body, was another of those courageous women that stepped forward. Black men and women as a result, both in this body and in the country, have been among the foremost feminists and among the foremost advocates of women's rights precisely because there were a very few leaders who exercised the preeminent role of leadership and clarified what the right thing to do was and is.

Thus, I simply want to take special note of Dorothy Height's active leadership in this regard to add to her many, many medals of leadership, her unwillingness to bifurcate human rights in any form.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield the balance of my time to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) whose foresight is responsible for this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from California will control the balance of the time.

There was no objection.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia. In fact, she brought such a spirit to this debate and to this presentation. She is absolutely right. We are 2 days before Women's History Month, and I was really grappling with the whole notion of whether we should introduce this month or the next month. But we know that there are young African American women who look up to Dorothy Height and the struggle that she had in trying to bring human dignity and human rights to this country, and so we thought that it was necessary to do this in the month of February.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) in the absence

of my cochair, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT), who could not be here to introduce it on the Republican side.

□ 1500

Mr. Speaker, in keeping with our celebration of Black History Month, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 55, which honors Dr. Dorothy Irene Height's life and achievements. I have had the honor of knowing her for years but have formed a closer relationship since coming to Washington. I have always been impressed with her grace, dignity and wisdom.

Recently, the League of African American Women, an organization of over 40 women groups that I founded about 10 years ago, honored Dr. Height for her vision and leadership. It was at that event that I expressed a need for a national declaration of gratitude for the works of this great leader and the seeds of greatness she has planted for future generations. Thus, the reason for this resolution.

For more than half a century, Dr. Dorothy Irene Height has given leadership to the struggle for equality and human rights for all people by founding the Center for Racial Justice, promoting racial justice and religious freedom at the YWCA, and working with the National Council of Negro Women on women's rights, pay equity and educational advancement. Her life exemplifies a passionate commitment for a just society and a vision of a better world.

During Dr. Height's career, she worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young and A. Philip Randolph and others and was the only woman allowed to be present in several high-powered strategy sessions, and I can remember looking at her and admiring her when I was a young girl as her being the only woman that sat in the room with President Johnson, and all of the men whose names I have just mentioned, to craft the civil rights laws.

As a result, Dr. Height has participated in virtually all major civil and human rights events.

Dr. Height is also known for her extensive international advocacy work, educating work and promoting human dignity in training assignments in Asia, Africa, Europe and South America.

With more than six decades of public life as a valiant advocate, earth shaker and crusader of human rights, it is fitting to celebrate this illustrious woman as we enter into a new millennium. I am proud to honor Dr. Height by sponsoring this resolution with the women of the House. I am also very proud to announce that tomorrow cities around the Nation will be declaring February 28 of 2001 as Dr. Dorothy Irene Height Day.

Dorothy Height is truly a historic figure and a renaissance woman, and I urge all Members to support this resolution and join me in honoring her life-time achievements.

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

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

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES).

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Dr. Dorothy Irene Height. I would like to commend my colleague, the great woman from the State of California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) for her insight in pushing such a resolution.

Dr. Height exemplifies the best qualities of leadership as reflected in her six decades of work to improve the lives of other people. Dr. Height once stated we have to improve life, not just for those who have the most skills and those who know how to manipulate the system but also for and with those who often have so much to give but never get the opportunity.

This philosophy has never been needed more than now, at this period of our history in the year 2001. Currently, we live in a period of unparalleled opportunity. However, there are many people who are unprepared to take advantage of these opportunities. At this time in our history, we must be mindful of the goals of Dr. Height's work to lift as we climb.

Today, the Congressional Black Caucus held an historic hearing regarding electoral reform, the first hearing to be held after the November election debacle. Consistent with her words to improve life, we move to say we are not going to get over it; we cannot get over it, and Dr. Height would not want us to get over it.

With Dr. Height's graduation from New York University in 1933, she earned a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in educational psychology. Not many opportunities were available to women and people of color. Her career then began to unfold and it represents the liberation of African America, of black African America, and the advance of women's rights and the struggle and effort to lift up the poor and powerless.

She became a volunteer with the National Council of Negro Women and worked with Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, became President of that organization after Ms. Bethune's death. She worked closely with other great civil rights leaders.

As a self-help advocate, Dr. Height has been instrumental in the initiation of NCNW-sponsored food.

I close with this: I am proud to honor Dr. Height today; proud to be a member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, a national service sorority dedicated to providing assistance to those in need.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come here on the floor to pay tribute to a woman

who is a dear friend of mine and who is a mentor of mine. I am just so pleased and I want to commend the authors of this resolution for bringing it out on the floor.

Dorothy Height reminds me of something that Shakespeare said, "Those about her, from her shall learn the perfect ways of honor," and indeed she epitomizes that.

It is a pleasure to recognize a pioneer for both human and civil rights. Throughout Dr. Dorothy Irene Height's career, which spanned over six decades, Ms. Height has joined with other such great leaders as Martin Luther King, Jr., Whitney Young, Mary McLeod Bethune to make our country a better place for all people.

In 1957, Dorothy Height assumed presidency of the National Council of Negro Women, which led the civil rights movement for voting rights and desegregated education. In addition to her 20 honorary degrees and over 50 awards, Dorothy Height received the Citizens Medal Award for distinguished national service in 1989, the Stellar Award and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1994, to name simply a few.

Dr. Height's international influence initiated the only African American private voluntary organization in Africa, as well as organizations in Asia, Europe and South America. Her national associations include the inauguration of the Center for Racial Justice and founded the Black Family Reunion Celebration, which is an event that has attracted over 11 million visitors and supporters.

Before her retirement in 1996, Dorothy Height secured funding for a national headquarters for the National Council of Negro Women in Washington, D.C., our Nation's capital. I have appeared with her in panels and forums. I have also listened to her speak, and I am always absolutely amazed at her insight and her brilliance and her identification with people, with all people.

Throughout her life, Dorothy Height has made an immense impact on both women's rights and human rights issues with her tireless passion and positive nature.

She continues to be an inspiration and a teacher to us all and my personal friend and role model. I am proud to join my colleagues in recognizing her life's achievements.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK).

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this Congress owes a tribute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD) for having the foresight of introducing this legislation regarding Dr. Dorothy Irene Height. I am pleased and privileged to be here today. I have known Ms. Dorothy Height for 50 years as she started out in a college where I taught many years

ago, Bethune Cookman College. She was a colleague and a friend of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, so it is with privilege and honor that I stand here today to pay tribute to Dr. Height.

It is very hard to describe Dr. Height because she is a phenomenal woman. It is very hard to even describe a superlative for Dr. Height. She is an academic. She is a scholar. She is a social worker. She is a giver for everyone. Dr. Height was a mainstream black woman who did things for everybody, not only black America but white America as well, and particularly for women. She reached out through her work with the YWCA and through her work with the National Council of Negro Women. During those days, it was sort of a courageous stand to be a member of the National Council of Negro Women.

She has been a leader in the struggle for equality and civil rights and human rights for everyone. Her life exemplifies her passionate commitment to a just society and a vision for a better world. Dr. Height was more than words. She was a woman of action. She is known all over the world for her extensive international and developmental education work. She initiated the first African American private voluntary organization working in Africa way back in 1975, building on the success of the National Council of Negro Women's assignments in Asia, Africa, Europe, and South America.

Working closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Philip Randolph and others, Dr. Height participated in virtually all major civil and human rights events in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s. It took a phenomenal woman to do that, Mr. Speaker.

In 1989, she received a Presidential Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service to the country. Each President in this country has honored Dr. Height in some way, both Republican and Democrat, and all of them understood that this woman was a little bit different and a cut above. Therefore, they honored her in every way.

After nearly five decades of national leadership, Dr. Height still remains very active in the struggle for equality and human rights for all people. She still serves as chair of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and Chair Emeritus of the National Council of Negro Women. She is a role model for all of us in the Congress and for all who aspire to positions of leadership. Dr. Height rightfully takes her place as one of our Nation's giants in social and educational leadership.

Dr. Dorothy Irene Height is my hero, and, Mr. Speaker, we do her honor.

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

Mrs. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5½ minutes.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, what an honor to join the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD) for this great day and to thank her for her leadership of the Women's Caucus, but thank her in particular for her leadership on this issue. I am proud to join her as an original cosponsor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the House and I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) for his leadership as well.

I am going to speak from the heart. I have a prepared text but this is such a grand day that I am overwhelmed with emotion, and it is a day that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD) has helped bring to fruition, and we thank her for it; long overdue.

Just a few hours or so ago, we were in a hearing talking about how to empower the election process of America. Dorothy Height is the successor to the great leader of that wonderful college, Bethune Cookman, and I am always reminded of her statement about educating the little children. Mary McLeod Bethune had five broken little chairs and she decided to organize a college, a beautiful college, that now exists that my predecessor at the mike, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) went to and graduated and had the honor of calling her her mentor. Well, she trained Dorothy Height and Dorothy Height came to the front of the leadership realm during a time when women were usually sitting down and not sitting down like Rosa Parks were. They were pushed to the back.

□ 1515

Dorothy Height stood tall and she was regal, but she was sound and she was heard, having the ear of Presidents, starting I think as early as Franklin Delano Roosevelt, moving through Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon. There was not one, including Carter and others since that time, with whom Dorothy Height did not have an active role.

What was her issue? Her issue was dealing with the American people, the hopeless and helpless. It was dealing with improving education in historically black colleges, with uplifting women and providing them with training so they could go outside of the home and become contributing members, as they desired to do. It was opening the doors of opportunity.

She got her start from the YWCA, and getting her start there, she was able to promote a number of programs that helped women. She worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, and A. Phillip Randolph. She knew Barbara Jordan, Barbara Jordan asking and answering

the question, what do we want: "just simply what America promises," and that is equality and opportunity. That is what Dorothy Height spoke to us about.

She was head of the National Council of Negro Women, which seems to isolate her, but I would say, the head of an organized body of women wanting what is better for women, what is better for Americans: helping us move beyond our own stereotypes, helping the aged, and working to ensure that those people who cannot speak can be heard.

She had a vision, and the vision was that we would own property, meaning the National Council of Negro Women, on Pennsylvania Avenue. I believe it is the only property owned by African-Americans. What a dream.

Now, just a few hundred yards down from the White House, sits this beautiful edifice that is not a testament to isolated Americans, it is a testament to what Americans can do when they pull up their bootstraps. That is what Dorothy Height did on behalf of the National Council of Negro Women.

I honor her out of my heart, out of my soul, and out of my spirit, Mr. Speaker, a woman who stood next to all the civil rights fighters and spoke on my behalf when I could not. This is a great day.

Mr. Speaker, I would simply close by acknowledging the dream she had, which was to enhance the property of Pennsylvania Avenue with our presence. Now we have this wonderful building that is not just in bricks and mortar, but it is a building that studies how to improve the working conditions of women; how to deal with enhancing the educational needs of a larger community; how to heal the racial divide in our country; how to actively say that civil rights is not an isolated part of one particular constituency, but it is of all Americans.

Out of that, let me say, Mr. Speaker, that she has been acknowledged by the Stellar Award; the Spirit of Cincinnati Ambassador Award; The Camille Cosby World of Children Award; the National Caucus and Center on Black Aged Living Legacy Award; the Caring Award by the Caring Institute.

I have been honored by receiving a Dorothy Height Award, and what a precious award of leadership, not because I deserve it, but because Dorothy Height deserves to have an award named after her, after all the years that she has stood alongside of the civil rights fighters; the only woman, I think, to speak, or one of the very few women, in 1964 at the March on Washington, when she heard the words, "I have a dream."

I would simply say that Dorothy Irene Height has an outstanding record of accomplishment.

As a self-help advocate, she has been instrumental in the initiation of the National Council of Negro Women's sponsorship of food, child care, housing, and career educational programs that embody the principles of self-reliance.

As a promoter of black family life, she conceived and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration in 1986 to reinforce the historic strength of family, both the African-American family, but the American family. Now it is in its 9th year.

So Dr. Dorothy Irene Height deserves this lifetime resolution, this lifetime acknowledgment of her achievement. She is a brilliant woman, an advocate of women's rights, and she is still going on. So I simply close by saying I will walk with the Constitution because Dorothy Irene Height gave me the right to stand tall as a woman.

Mr. Speaker, Dorothy Height's lifetime of achievement measures the liberation of Black America, the advance of women's rights and a determined effort to lift the poor and the powerless into the Hall of Power and influence in our Nation.

Dorothy Height began her career as a staff member of the YWCA in New York City, becoming director of the Center for Racial Justice. She became a volunteer with the National Council of Negro Women, when she worked with NCNW founder Mary McLeod Bethune.

When Bethune died, Height became president, a position she continues to hold. NCNW, an organization of national organizations and community sections with outreach to 4 million women, develops model national and international community-based programs, sent scores of women to help in the Freedom Schools of the civil rights movement, and spearheaded voter registration drives. Height's collaborative leadership style brings together people of different cultures for mutual benefit.

Because of Dorothy Height's commitment to the Black family she has hosted since 1986, the Black Family Reunion Celebration in which almost 10 million have participated.

Born in Richmond, VA, she moved with her parents to Rankin, PA, at an early age. Winner of a scholarship for her exceptional oratorical skills, she entered New York University where she earned the Bachelor and Master degrees in 4 years.

While working as a caseworker for the welfare department in New York, Dr. Height joined the NCNW in 1937 and her career as a pioneer in civil rights activities began to unfold. She served on the national staff of the YWCA of USA from 1944 to 1977 where she was active in developing its leadership training and interracial and ecumenical education programs. In 1965 she inaugurated the Center for Racial Justice which is still a major initiative of the National YWCA. She served as the 10th national president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. from 1946 to 1957 before becoming president of the NCNW in 1958.

Working closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Philip Randolph, and others, Dr. Height participated in virtually all major civil and human rights events in the 1950's and 1960's. For her tireless efforts on behalf of the less fortunate, President Ronald Regan presented her the Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service to the country in 1989.

Dr. Height is known for her extensive international and developmental education work. She initiated the sole African-American private voluntary organization working in Africa in 1975, building on the success of NCNW's assignments in Asia, Africa, Europe, and South America.

In three decades of national leadership, she has served on major policymaking bodies affecting women, social welfare, economic development, and civil and human rights, and has received numerous appointments and awards. The most recent recognitions include appointment to the Advisory Council of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities by President Bush and to the National Advisory Council on Aging by Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan. Her awards are extensive with the most recent ones including the Stellar Award; the Spirit of Cincinnati Ambassador Award; Camille Cosby World of Children Award; National Caucus and Center on Black Aged Living Legacy Award; the Caring Award by the Caring Institute; NAFEO Distinguished Leadership Award; the Olander Foundation's Generous Heart Award; and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom From Want Award. She also received 19 honorary doctorates from colleges and universities.

As president of NCNW, Dorothy Irene Height has an outstanding record of accomplishments. As a self-help advocate, she has been instrumental in the initiation of NCNW sponsored food, child care, housing and career educational programs that embody the principles of self-reliance. As a promoter of Black family life she conceived and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration in 1986 to reinforce the historic strengths and traditional values of the African-American Family. Now in its ninth year, this multicity cultural event has attracted some 11.5 million people.

Dr. Dorothy I. Height's lifetime of achievement measures the liberation of Black America, the brilliant advance of women's rights, and the most determined effort to lift up the poor and the powerless. Dream giver and earth shaker, Dr. Dorothy Height has followed and expanded on the original purpose of the National Council of Negro Women, giving new meaning, new courage and pride to women, youth and families everywhere.

Dorothy Height has been recognized numerous times for his contributions to America. She has received the Spingarn Medal from the NAACP, July 1993 and has been inducted into "National Womens Hall of Fame", October, 1993.

I am pleased and honored to stand with fellow women of the Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus to recognize a living American legend and champion of equal rights and justice for all Americans—Dorothy Height.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 55.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) for introducing this important resolution, for her efforts to bring to the floor this resolution today, and also to recognize, at a

time when our young people so desperately need role models, someone who follows in the footsteps of some of my African-American female heroes: Mary McLeod Bethune; Zora Neal Hurston, someone who I love and adore as a black author, and whose works have not been properly recognized until late; Barbara Jordan; and today I saw so many Barbara Jordans on the floor who I am very proud of, and who serve as role models in the House of Representatives, again for so many young people across this land who need role models.

Dorothy Height's life exemplifies her passionate commitment to a just society, and her vision of a much better world for everyone. It is fitting today that Congress acknowledge more than 6 decades of distinguished leadership and service provided by Dorothy Irene Height.

I want to again thank the sponsors of this legislation, and thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), chairman of our full committee, and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCARBOROUGH), chairman of the Subcommittee on Civil Service of the Committee on Government Reform, for bringing this legislation forward; and also the ranking member, and the chief ranking member, of course, is the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), and also Mr. DAVIS, for working expeditiously to bring this resolution to the floor today.

I urge Members to lend their support to this resolution.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, throughout her career, Dr. Dorothy I. Height has been a leader in the struggle for equality and human rights for all people. Her life serves as an example of one who is passionately committed for a just society and her vision of a better world.

In 1965, she started the Center for Racial Justice which is still a major initiative of the National YWCA.

She worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Philip Randolph as well as others. Dr. Height participated in virtually all major civil and human rights events in the 1950s and 1960s. For her tireless efforts on behalf of the less fortunate, President Ronald Reagan presented her the Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service to the country in 1989.

Dr. Height is known for her extensive international and developmental education work. She initiated the sole African American private voluntary organization working in Africa in 1975, building on the success of NCNW's assignments in Asia, Africa, Europe, and South America. In three decades of national leadership, she has served on major policymaking bodies affecting women, social welfare, economic development, and civil and human rights, and has received numerous appointments and awards. The most recent recognitions include appointment to the Advisory Council of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities by President Bush and to the National Advisory Council on Aging by Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan. As a self-help advocate, she has been instrumental in the

initiation of NCNW sponsored food, child care, housing and career educational programs that embody the principles of self-reliance. As a promoter of Black family life she conceived and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration in 1986 to reinforce the historic strengths and traditional values of the African American Family. Now in its ninth year, this multi-city cultural event has attracted some 11.5 million people.

Dr. Dorothy I. Height's lifetime of achievement measures the liberation of Black America, the brilliant advance of women's rights, and the most determined effort to lift up the poor and the powerless. Dream giver and earth shaker, Dr. Dorothy Height has followed and expanded on the original purpose of the National Council of Negro Women, giving new meaning, new courage and pride to women, youth and families everywhere.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, today we salute a true living legend—Dr. Dorothy Height. An icon, Dr. Height has been a model in the struggle for human rights everywhere. Throughout a career spanning over six decades, Dr. Height has served as a notable leader, filling an array of positions, and always doing so with an unyielding sense of commitment, determination, class, and integrity.

There are so many different words with which one might describe Dr. Height:

Stalwart because of her dedication to women and the Black community. She has given over three decades of committed leadership and service as President of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) where she orchestrated their child care, housing, and career educational programs;

Fashionable because of her stunning grace and trademark stylish hats, turning heads everywhere she goes;

A heroine and role model, Dr. Height filled the post of national president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and served on the national staff for the YWCA; and

An incredible champion for her work as a valiant civil rights leader, serving with the likes of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, and A. Phillip Randolph.

I salute Dr. Dorothy Height with a quote from famous poet Nikki Giovanni's poem, "Ego Tripping":

She was born in the congo
She walked to the fertile crescent and built
the sphinx
She designed a pyramid so tough that a star
that only glows every one hundred
years falls into the center giving divine
perfect light
She is bad!!

She is so perfect so divine so ethereal so
surreal
She cannot be comprehended except by her
permission
I mean . . . She can fly like a bird in the
sky . . .

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize a distinguished woman who devoted her life to fighting for human rights, peace, and justice.

Dr. Dorothy Irene Height was the first African-American named to deal with the Harlem riots of 1935 and became one of the young leaders of the National Youth Movement of the New Deal era.

She dedicated her life to more than six decades of distinguished leadership and service. Dr. Height established the Center for Racial Justice and the Bethune Museum and Ar-

chives for Black women. She served as president of the National Council of Negro Women and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration.

She worked hard to improve lives while working at the YWCA and the National Council of Negro Women, as the fourth elected President.

She diligently worked to expand women's rights for full and equal employment, pay, and education. She not only worked to expand women's rights in the U.S., but also in the international arena.

She has touched many lives through her instrumental work on improving child care, housing projects, and career and educational programs that embody the principles of self-reliance.

I want to commend Dr. Height for her work to better people's lives through her commitment to fight for human rights as well as uphold justice, equality, and freedom throughout the world. Thank you Dr. Height for your tremendous work. You are a living legacy.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to join with my colleagues in passing House Resolution 55, honoring Dr. Dorothy Irene Height as an activist and crusader for human rights. Dr. Height has dedicated her life to serving her community. She has affected great change in the areas of women's empowerment, social welfare, economic development, and civil and human rights.

She has been a tireless advocate, working for decades on behalf of socially and economically disadvantaged communities. And she is perhaps most notable because she understands the diversity of this country and our world, utilizing a collaborative leadership style, to bring people of different cultures together for mutual benefit. She is a true leader in the struggle for equality and social justice.

Dr. Dorothy Irene Height is truly an amazing individual, for whom I have a great deal of admiration and respect.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 55.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE MADE BY 28 UNITED STATES SOLDIERS KILLED DURING OPERATION DESERT STORM

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 39) honoring the ultimate sacrifice made by 28 United States soldiers killed by an Iraqi missile attack on February 25, 1991, during Operation Desert Storm, and resolving to support appropriate and effective theater missile defense programs.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 39

Whereas, during Operation Desert Storm, Iraq launched a Scud missile at Dhahran,