

MAKING IN ORDER ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2001, OR ANY DAY THEREAFTER CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 51, APPROVING EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT WITH RESPECT TO PRODUCTS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time on September 5, 2001, or any day thereafter, to consider in the House the joint resolution (House Joint Resolution 51) approving the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment with respect to the products of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; that the joint resolution be considered as read for amendment; that all points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration be waived; that the joint resolution be debatable for 2 hours equally divided and controlled by the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means and a Member opposed to the joint resolution; and that consistent with section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 the previous question be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion.

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

There was no objection.

MAKING IN ORDER ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2001 CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2833, VIETNAM HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time on the legislative day of Thursday, September 6, 2001, without intervention of any point of order, to consider in the House H.R. 2833, the Vietnam Human Rights Act; that the bill be considered as read for amendment; that the bill be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on International Relations; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE REGARDING DEATH OF THE HONORABLE FLOYD SPENCE FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 234) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 234

*Resolved*, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable

FLOYD SPENCE, a Representative from the State of South Carolina.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these solutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) for 1 hour.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to yield 30 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM).

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, while we were on recess, FLOYD SPENCE, a native South Carolinian, a friend of us all, and a Member of excellent standing passed away.

FLOYD was a star athlete, a student leader, a naval officer in Korea, a State legislator, and a pioneer Republican in a State that, at the time, was thoroughly Democratic.

For 30 long, dedicated years he served here proudly, with total loyalty to this grand old institution of the Republic and to the Armed Forces of the United States, whom he effectively represented on the Committee on Armed Services for all of that time, 6 of them as a very able chairman of the committee.

Many Members overcome obstructions or hurdles or suffer hardships to serve here. Few of us endure what FLOYD SPENCE endured, a double lung transplant. At the time, he was one of the few in America ever to survive such a procedure. I can recall his recounting how after the operation every movement of his body was excruciatingly painful. Yet, even though he had reason, I never heard him complain. I never heard him express anxiety about his condition. I never heard him boast.

I often heard him stand before groups, particularly from South Carolina, and tell them, "I am glad to be here." He would pause a minute and say, "Heck, I am glad to be anywhere." It was that kind of understated humor, that kind of affability, that kind of civility, that made him the gentleman from South Carolina on this floor, in the committee, not just in name but in the truest sense of the word. He left us all a worthy example to emulate, personally and professionally.

To his family, to his four proud sons, to Debbie, his wife, we extend our heartfelt sorrow. We will miss FLOYD too, but rest assured, we will always, always, remember him, and never forget his courage, his spirit, and the sterling example he left us of what it means to serve in this great institution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ).

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of knowing FLOYD SPENCE for about 20 years. He was my good friend.

Just like my good friend, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT), says, he had a great sense of humor. I can remember when one day he said, You know, I have more spare parts than a used car dealer.

He was a great gentleman. I loved him. My family loved him, and Debbie, who nourished him when he had the double lung transplant. When we would see FLOYD, as the gentleman said, we would ask, "You have a new suit?" And he would say, "No, it is secondhand used." This was the kind of guy he was. We loved him.

To Debbie and his sons: We are going to miss this great American.

Mr. Speaker, like my colleagues, I rise with a heavy heart today as we pay tribute to a friend, a colleague, and a stalwart for our nation's armed services and the country. FLOYD SPENCE and I were friends for as long as I have been in Congress.

In addition to his zeal and dedication on behalf of his constituents in his beloved South Carolina, I admired his outlook on life.

FLOYD was determined to squeeze every drop of life he could from his time on this earth—and he succeeded.

From the double lung transplant to the kidney transplant, FLOYD said he had more spare parts than a used car dealer. What was amazing was that he survived all this for so long. He had an amazing ability to recover from deadly afflictions.

He was supremely dedicated to his duty to South Carolina, to our armed services, and to the United States of America. I know this because I traveled with FLOYD to places on every part of this planet to inspect our military bases. Wherever we went, he insisted we talk to enlisted men, not just the generals.

Our nation has lost a great hero. I have lost my friend, *mi amigo*.

I offer Debbie and his children—David, Zack, Benjamin and Caldwell—my deepest condolences for their loss.

FLOYD loved his family so very much. It was Debbie, when FLOYD had the double lung transplant and was at his lowest, who gave him the support and encouragement he needed, and nursed him back to health.

FLOYD had a stubborn resolution to live, to enjoy life. He knew his time was one day at a time—he told me that each day was extra icing on the cake of his life. The antirejection medicine he took greatly diminished his ability to ward off simple infections.

I will miss that giant of a man with a laugh he was quick to share. The camaraderie often noted as now missing in the House of Representatives had led our critics, and ourselves, leads people to say that we lack either bipartisanship or simple human trust.

But because of my friendships with so many of my Republican colleagues, most notably my friend FLOYD SPENCE, I know the trust we engender here is real and it works on behalf of the American people.

We may disagree on the issues of the day, but we are united in our belief that close bipartisan relationships serve all of us and the American people we represent.

I will miss you, FLOYD. I thank the gentleman from South Carolina for speeding our consideration of this resolution today.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STUMP), chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution recognizing the tragic and untimely death of our friend, colleague, and former chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, FLOYD SPENCE. He was a patriot, most of all a gentleman, and one of Congress' most ardent supporters and tireless advocates for our Nation's military.

During his long and distinguished career in the military and then public service, FLOYD devoted his life to the belief that there are certain principles worth defending: freedom, democracy, and the promise of global stability achieved through a policy of peace through strength.

As chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, FLOYD led our committee and this country through many tough times. It was largely due to his efforts that we were able to reverse the trend of the decline in spending for our military.

FLOYD leaves behind a proud legacy of accomplishment and service to our Nation and to the Armed Forces to which every public servant should aspire. It was a privilege to serve with him. I will miss him as a leader, a colleague, and most of all, a friend.

It is only fitting that we send FLOYD off with a traditional Navy farewell wish: fair winds and following seas.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), a ranking member of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, FLOYD SPENCE was a true southern gentleman, a good friend, a dedicated Congressman, and a champion of a strong national defense. I had the privilege and pleasure of serving with him on the Committee on Armed Services during his chairmanship, and I found that he always worked for the betterment of our men and women in uniform and for our national security. I will miss him. I will miss him very much.

Almost a year ago, an overflow crowd gathered in the Committee on Armed Services hearing room for the unveiling of FLOYD's portrait as chairman of the committee. Often we do not have the chance to let friends know how we feel about them before they are gone, so I am very grateful that we had that evening together to enjoy FLOYD's company, and to let him know personally how much he meant to us.

FLOYD SPENCE began serving this country as an active duty member of the United States Navy Reserve during the Korean conflict. That service continued until the end of his life.

Our former chairman understood that our Nation needs a strong national defense, and he worked tirelessly with Members on both sides of the aisle to strengthen our Armed Forces and to take care of the men and women in uniform and their families. No one

spoke out more forcefully on the need to maintain readiness.

On rare occasions we disagreed, but never disagreeably. Our relationship was one of mutual respect based upon values which we both learned in small towns named Lexington, one in South Carolina and one in Missouri.

During the years FLOYD SPENCE served on the Committee on Armed Services, he blessed us with his leadership, honored us with his friendship, and inspired us with his courage. FLOYD SPENCE was courteous, he was thoughtful, he was respectful of others. It was a pleasure for me to serve in Congress with this decent, fair, and honorable man. We are all the richer for his years of dedicated service to the Committee on Armed Services, the Congress of the United States, the people of South Carolina, and our Nation.

I extend my deepest sympathy to his wife, Debbie, to his four sons, and to his entire family.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON), a true American hero and a former POW.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Tonight I rise to pay tribute to a great American. Everybody has said it, he was, and he was also a true patriot, my friend, FLOYD SPENCE.

FLOYD and I first became friends when I came to the Congress in 1991. As a career Air Force fighter pilot for 29 years, I felt inclined to keep abreast of issues of importance to our national security and Armed Forces. Knowing my passion for the military, FLOYD went out of his way to update me early and often, even though I had not served on his committee.

In fact, because I was a POW in Vietnam and also a veteran of the Korean War, FLOYD turned to me in confidence regarding issues before his committees, the Committee on Veterans Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services, and he found it important to hear an outside perspective.

He was a true conservative. He did support our American military and our American way of life in all that he did. FLOYD was a true friend and a faithful leader for our men and women in the Armed Forces, and he always put our services' interest first and foremost.

Mr. Speaker, just this year FLOYD traveled with us to the Paris air show, where he looked there at foreign airplanes and ours in demonstration, and how proud he was of our own Armed Forces when they were out there performing before the world. It was a reflection that just made me admire him all the more.

□ 1900

In reflection, I am sad that I can no longer turn to my friend FLOYD on the floor. His family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers. I know he is in a better place. FLOYD SPENCE was and is a great American.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member of the Committee on the Budget and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) for yielding me time as we join tonight in true bipartisan fashion to remember and pay tribute to our great and good friend, FLOYD SPENCE.

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) outlined the resume of accomplishments of our friend FLOYD, the fact that he was a star athlete at the University of South Carolina. Now that football season has started, I think of his beloved Gamecocks that have had great success last year and promise in this season. He was captain of the track team, one who served this country with distinction as an officer in the Navy. The gentleman from South Carolina is right: he set the pace for a Republican birth really in the 20th century in South Carolina in 1962.

He came to this institution 3 decades ago. Mr. Speaker, I think of the lives he has touched, the difference he made for this Nation, not with grand and glorious orations, but with simple acts of kindness and repeated instances of a healthy dose of common sense.

He understood that our Constitution clearly calls for this Nation and this Government to provide for the common defense. He made no bones about his feelings and his priority for national security. And through it all in his days here he showed us the gift of being able to disagree without being disagreeable. Mr. Speaker, no Member of this House is as beloved as our friend FLOYD.

We thank him for his service. We thank his family and the State of South Carolina for giving us in this House a remarkable public servant.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

(Mr. HANSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I walked in this place in 1980, and I was asked to sit on the Committee on Ethics. Nobody wants to serve on the Committee on Ethics, but the ranking member of the Committee on Ethics happened to be FLOYD SPENCE. FLOYD served there for years and years and years.

We had a horrible case right off the bat. It was called the sex scandal with pages made up by CBS and one of their reporters. FLOYD handled that with more dignity than I have ever seen anyone handle anything. He was the ranking member, and he served longer on that committee than anybody in this House.

I hate to admit it, but I matched it at 14 years when I was on the Committee on Ethics. He did that with great distinction. I remember when we used to watch FLOYD come across in a wheelchair with his girl Carolyn pulling him across there with the oxygen. He heard of a doctor down in Mississippi who could do a double lung

transplant, a doctor from India. He did this with a young boy who was killed on a motorcycle. He became very close to the family. He called the mother Mom. She used to come up here. They were very close. That is what we would expect from a man like FLOYD SPENCE, a man who was a Navy captain himself, who had more compassion for people than most I have ever seen in my life. I stand amazed at the compassion he had and point out what a gentleman he was. It is too bad there are not more southern gentlemen left in America today, a person who always opened the door for somebody, a person who took somebody for what they were and not what they could give them. This is the kind of person that FLOYD SPENCE was.

I have to say that the people who wear the uniform today, if you are watching this today and you are a private or a general, you owe an awful lot to FLOYD SPENCE. I do not know a man among this bunch of 435 of us who looked out more for the military. He used to say, I make no bones about it. I will take care of our military boys, our enlisted kids, our officers; and we will have the best we can.

He left a legacy for all of us. I appreciate FLOYD SPENCE. To his wife, Debbie, and his family, we wish them the very best.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, FLOYD SPENCE was a good, a valued, and valuable Member of this House. He will be missed greatly. I want his family to know and all of his friends and constituents what a tremendous contribution he has made to the country. The gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) just outlined in brief form the contributions he made to our armed services.

FLOYD SPENCE was a living, breathing, walking miracle and he knew it. It affected his life, and it affected all of us who knew FLOYD.

I had a friendship with him my entire 23 years here. He began service earlier than that. We shared a passion for planting trees on our respective acreage in South Carolina and Nebraska. We are members of the same religious denomination. We talked about religion and its importance to us many times. Mostly, I knew FLOYD SPENCE because of his involvement with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, formerly known as the North Atlantic Assembly. I chair that delegation and have since 1995. FLOYD, much senior to me, was a very valuable member of that delegation. All of us on that delegation, Republicans, Democrats and our spouses and staff, miss the tremendous contributions that he has made. We miss them already.

He was a member of the Defense and Security Committee of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and, of course, as a chairman and then former chairman of our House Committee on Armed

Services, his word was greatly respected and sought after in that assembly. FLOYD did not speak often; but when he did, people listened. At our last meeting he was an important contributor on a discussion about national missile defense. Regardless of how one feels about that subject, he made us proud that he was a Member of the House of Representatives.

So to Debbie and their four sons, whom he talked about all the time, and their families, we offer our most sincere condolences. FLOYD made a major contribution to this country. We thank him, we thank you, his family, for sharing his talent and his courageous character with this House.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), one of FLOYD's closest friends.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I recall when a number of us went down a few days ago to the memorial service in South Carolina, I thought one of the great parts of the eulogy when FLOYD's doctor who did the double lung transplant read the nurses' notes that were transcribed the day that FLOYD got married, shortly after the operation. He read the nurses' notes saying, "It appears now people are filing into the hospital room for a marriage." She seemed to be somewhat surprised by that, and later on it said in fact the marriage ceremony had taken place; and she concluded, "The patient has tolerated the marriage well so far."

I thought that was a great remark and reflection on FLOYD SPENCE's life because FLOYD SPENCE tolerated a lot of things well. He tolerated discord and disharmony and tough times and times when it seemed like all of political opinion was going against you very well. But he was a man of steel. It has been mentioned he was a man of great civility. He also had literally an absolute iron backbone. I can remember watching FLOYD SPENCE tell a Speaker of the House in no uncertain terms no, something that is pretty difficult to do.

I recall his days talking to STROM THURMOND back in the early 1960s, and he said, I think I am going to change parties and become a Republican. STROM THURMOND said, I do not think the district is ready for that. The district was not ready for it. I think he lost his first election but later on was sent to a seat in the House of Representatives. He talked about that day, and whether you are a Democrat or a Republican you have to admire the absolute iron will of this guy who walked down the streets of his hometown having changed parties in a State that still remembered the War between the States, and where lots of folks had lots of ancestors who lost parts of their bodies in the Civil War and lost lots of other things and was still a place where there was feelings about that war and about Mr. Lincoln's armies.

FLOYD SPENCE walked down the streets of his hometown and had peo-

ple, friends and neighbors, who had known him for years turn their backs on him. I recall he said he walked into the post office and an old friend who had been with him for years walked up to him, turned his back up to him deliberately and said, I used to have a great friend but now he is dead, and walked away.

I thought, what a remarkable resolution and resolve and strength this guy had to have to do that at a time when it was very, very difficult politically. Yet, with this great strength and determination and resolve that resided in FLOYD SPENCE's heart, we never heard him brag. The only people he talked about, if he was talking about his family, were his grandkids and his kids and all of his wonderful daughters-in-law.

FLOYD SPENCE left us with a legacy of civility. If we follow that legacy of civility, along with the resolve to follow our principles as strongly as he did, we will continue to be a great Nation.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds to add to what the gentleman just told. The best part of the doctor's story was he said he was beeped. He thought surely something happened to FLOYD. He was well away from the hospital so he rushed to the telephone. He called the number. They put FLOYD on the phone; and he said to the surgeon, Doctor, I am getting married. He said, Fine. That is wonderful. When? FLOYD said, Right now.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BROWN).

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we honor a great American and a great South Carolinian who will be sorely missed not only here in the halls of Congress but in the entire Nation.

His leadership in the area of national security is without equal. FLOYD SPENCE had been hailed by Democrats and Republicans for devotion to God and country. He spent his career fighting for our men and women in uniform. He was a strong advocate of improving the life of military personnel including pay raises and better living conditions. He understood that a well-trained and equipped military is the first priority by the Federal Government and the best way to preserve the peace.

FLOYD leaves behind a legacy of accomplishment that includes service in the United States Navy, 6 years in the South Carolina House, 4 years in the Senate and 3 decades in the United States House of Representatives.

In 1971 he was the first House Member to sponsor a constitutional amendment calling for a balanced budget.

He served for 13 years as the ranking Republican on the Committee on Ethics, and he also chaired with distinction the House Committee on Armed Services from 1995 to 2000.

FLOYD SPENCE was one of our most distinguished patriotic public servants as well as a southern gentleman in the best of the tradition. He was a great colleague and a wonderful friend. His

guidance, optimism, statesmanship, and strong leadership will be missed by all that knew him. He was a mentor to me and a great friend. God bless FLOYD SPENCE and his family.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise on this occasion to join our colleagues in paying tribute to our good friend FLOYD SPENCE, to the people of South Carolina, of expressing our heartfelt condolences to the family of our distinguished friend FLOYD.

FLOYD was a true southern gentleman, a good friend to many of us, a committed husband and father, and a dedicated public servant to the men and women of our armed forces and to the people of South Carolina and to his beloved Nation.

I have had the pleasure and honor of serving in the Congress with FLOYD for more than 3 decades.

□ 1915

As a Navy veteran, he was a staunch, unwavering advocate for our men and women in uniform. As chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, he fought tirelessly to improve the quality of life for our military personnel.

FLOYD was a man of great perseverance. From his early football injury through his more recent lung transplant, FLOYD continued to give all he had to others, and he committed his life to fully serving his people in South Carolina.

FLOYD SPENCE was elected to serve the Second District of South Carolina in the House of Representatives in 1970 and served some 15 terms. In 1971, he was the first House Member to sponsor a constitutional amendment calling for a balanced budget. He served for 13 years as the ranking Republican on the Committee on Ethical Conduct, and in 1995 was named chairman of the Committee on Armed Services where he served with distinction, always keeping in mind the national security of our great Nation.

Georgia and I join the many friends and Members of this body in sending our prayers and condolences to his wife, Deborah, his four sons, David, Zack, Benjamin and Caldwell, and to all of the members of the Spence family. FLOYD's public service was a testimony to his life, a model for all of us. He will be sorely missed, not only by his colleagues, but by the entire Nation.

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

Mr. Speaker, being from South Carolina and in politics, having people around for awhile is not an unusual circumstance. Senator THURMOND, most people recognize his name, was elected in 1954; I was born in 1955. We tend to keep people around.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) led this debate, and I know that the family is very appreciative of all of the kind

words. In South Carolina we pride ourselves on being a delegation that comes together for the good of the State, and remembers our upbringing pretty well. Every now and then we fuss and fight, but I doubt if my colleagues will find any Democrat or Republican in this body that ever had a disagreement with FLOYD, that they walked away from that disagreement believing anything less of the man. That is something we are losing in the country.

I have been in politics since 1994. It has been a contentious time, but we have done a lot. In a delegation this small, Members get to know each other pretty well, and FLOYD SPENCE was the nicest person I have ever met in political life. That is saying a lot coming from my State, because most of us try to be nice to each other. And the fact that so many Members came to speak of his kindness and his commitment to the men and women in the military proves that Members can be quiet and make loud statements.

FLOYD will not be known by the volume that he carried, but by what was in his heart. FLOYD did change parties. At the time that was tough, but I do not know of any Democrats back home that thought that FLOYD SPENCE was anything other than a gentleman. Any disagreements with FLOYD were political, never personal.

He had a devoted wife, Debbie, and many Members know about that situation. The marriage that the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) was referring to was to his second wife, Debbie Spence, who was a devoted wife and friend to FLOYD, and they were married in the hospital right after his historic double-lung transplant. I have never met anyone more devoted to their spouse than Debbie. FLOYD often said he was blessed to have two special women in his life. FLOYD was also very proud of his four sons. He said he had four boys that all married female women. To know FLOYD, that made sense. He was very proud of his family and his grandchildren.

In the 10 years-plus after he received a double-lung transplant and eventually a kidney transplant, he said, this is my second life.

Mr. Speaker, FLOYD appreciated every day the good Lord gave him. He has a group of grandchildren, varied ages, some of them very, very young. They have something exciting to behold in their life. They will not be able to know their grandfather like we knew him. They will hear about him through family and friends. They will hear about FLOYD through a thousand different ways.

They will hear about their grandfather from statements in the post office, "Was your grandfather FLOYD SPENCE?" And they will say, "Yes." People will say, "Let me tell a story, how he helped me."

I do not think there is any better legacy than what FLOYD left behind: kindness to everybody, a smile on his face. This body has lost a real gentleman

and a true friend to the men and women who serve in the military.

Mr. Speaker, if we could all be more like FLOYD SPENCE, we would be a better Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS).

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I was with FLOYD on his last trip. We flew into Paris to go to the Lafayette Escadrille Memorial, a memorial to recognize 60 Americans in World War I who fought with the French against the Germans. These 60 individuals were killed in France, and they were memorialized at the Lafayette Escadrille, a large memorial. Congressman SPENCE led the delegation, and I gave a speech on their behalf, and he was a strong participant.

I will cherish that trip because that was the last time I spent any time with FLOYD. I think, as pointed out by other speakers, he was a gentleman in the real sense of the word, but he also had a spirit, a spirit of survival, a spiritual makeup that one felt he was in tune with the Lord, and that he continually reminded all of us to appreciate each and every day.

I will miss him when he used to come up on the House floor and say hello. He would always have that kind of expression, and when asked how he was doing, he would respond, I am here and I am very thankful.

When we talk about a person's life, if Members can talk about him with a certain sense of joy, I think that is a positive thing, and I think we are here tonight to say in many ways he brought joy to our lives with his spirit. I am speaking tonight about his accomplishments, but also about his spirit.

Mr. Speaker, I served 10 years on the Committee on Veterans Affairs with him, and in addition to the active military personnel, he was very interested in the retired military, particularly veterans. He was very religious in his attending of subcommittee assignments. I was impressed that he, as chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, would still have time to come to our Committee on Veterans Affairs, and his participation was very active and commendable considering how much he had on his plate.

Mr. Speaker, I think it should be pointed out that many of us did not see him in his prime athletic years when he was a great athlete. We saw him here with the various replacements he had with his lungs, his kidney, but we did not have the opportunity to see him when he was a strong athlete. He was a leader, a naval officer, and when Members look at the spectrum of his career, it was magnificent and impressive; and when one tops that with his love for the country, it was a perfect package, and I close on that note.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD).

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, FLOYD SPENCE was a remarkable individual. He was remarkable for his accomplishments: The fact that he was a steady voice for the national security of this country; the fact that he led the Committee on Armed Services with such great distinction. He was a statesman in the truest sense of the word.

In a way it is not so much all of the things that he did, but his demeanor, the way that he carried himself throughout his efforts that really I think inspires many Members to come to the floor this evening to make commentary on FLOYD.

He came to the chairmanship of the Committee on Armed Services at a time when the majority took over the House, and in a way, the majority was very fortunate to have a leader like him because he was steadfast in his principles, yet he was not personally very polarizing; and as a consequence, he was able to sustain his positions very well and successfully.

Frequently we hear the phrase, kind of a trite phrase, "Courtesy is contagious," but with regard to FLOYD SPENCE, it really was. He was a very kind man. In my personal interactions with him, he always found the time to talk and ask me about how the military was doing in Guam, and what he could do to help us. In that sense, courtesy was contagious. He was the quintessential Southern gentleman. There are still many examples of that around, and we are happy to see that, and I hope it continues to infect the rest of us here who are not from the South.

Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to FLOYD who was my chairman for 6 years. He was a joy to work with, and certainly an inspirational figure in his own way, and it demonstrates that in politics it is not the power of words, but the power of spirit that carries the day. He provided ample evidence of that in his own work.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. RYUN).

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I have very fond memories of FLOYD SPENCE. As a freshman on the Committee on Armed Services looking for direction, he was always there as a friend, and he was willing to give counsel.

I particularly remember when I asked him to come to Fort Riley in my district to visit the soldiers and see the installation and meet the people. As I visit with people back in the district, they still remember him as being very warm, very committed, very sincere, and a great leader.

Mr. Speaker, most people have a birthday every year in their life just to celebrate life, but the one thing that always interested me with Mr. SPENCE was, the Committee on Armed Services had a birthday to celebrate his lungs because he had been given a special gift as a result of complications he had in his life.

My family and I loved him very much. He was always very kind to

them. He was willing to give time whenever he could provide it. He was a man who had known he had been given a great gift from God. He fought for what was right for this country, even if it meant going against Members of his own party because he had that kind of commitment. Debbie was a great contribution to his life.

Mr. Speaker, I want to finish by saying, Mr. SPENCE, will be missed, and we thank him very much for his great contributions to this great Nation.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT).

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true champion of freedom from the great State of South Carolina, Congressman FLOYD SPENCE. It was an honor and a personal privilege to serve with FLOYD in Congress. He served his district, his State and his country by fighting for the values that we all cherish. He was a true patriot and a remarkable man.

Congressman SPENCE was recognized around the world as an authority on defense issues. Vice President DICK CHENEY recently said Mr. SPENCE was one of the watchmen over America's security. He had a deep respect for the military, and that respect was returned. He was a patriot who served his country well. FLOYD was chairman emeritus of the Committee on Armed Services, and a senior member of the Committee on Veterans Affairs. He was the only Member of Congress to have served as chairman of the Committee on National Security.

A decorated veteran himself, he received many military honors. Most recently, Congressman SPENCE received the 2001 Distinguished Service Award from the Military Order of the World Wars.

FLOYD became a personal friend of mine, and I remember so many occasions on the back of this floor just talking with him. It was his encouragement and sense of humor that gave me a good perspective of our work here: to keep the focus on our country and security and what is best for those who live here. He was an inspiration to me, and I want to honor him tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a champion of freedom from the great state of South Carolina, Congressman FLOYD SPENCE. It was an honor and a personal pleasure to serve with FLOYD in Congress and get to know him over the past few years. He served his district and his country fighting for the values we cherish. He was a true patriot, a remarkable man.

As you know, FLOYD was a walking medical miracle. In 1988, at age 60, he underwent a then rare double-lung transplant. In 1990 when asked to reflect about this operation, FLOYD said "I thank my maker for allowing me to have a second life." This past year he also had a kidney transplant. His doctor characterized FLOYD as a man of extraordinary courage who respected and embraced life. He often said that he was "grateful for any additional day God granted him." Through those experiences, FLOYD continued to serve and became

an active supporter of organ donor awareness programs.

Congressman SPENCE was recognized around the world as an authority on defense issues. Vice President DICK CHENEY recently said SPENCE was one of the "watchmen over America's security." He had a "deep respect for the military, and that respect was returned. He was a patriot who served his country well." FLOYD was the Chairman Emeritus of the Committee on Armed Services and a senior member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. He is the only member of Congress to have served as the chairman of the Committee on National Security. A decorated veteran himself, he received many military honors. Most recently, Congressman SPENCE received the 2001 Distinguished Service Award from the Military Order of the World Wars.

Before coming to Congress in 1970, Congressman SPENCE was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1956-1962 and the South Carolina Senate from 1966-1970. He was a man of faith, a solid conservative, a wise mentor and a shining example of service to myself and the rest of the delegation.

My heart goes out to his wife Debbie and the entire Spence family. Our prayers are with you as you grieve—thank you for sharing such a man of integrity with us.

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Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER).

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come to the floor tonight and also join in the eulogy of a friend of the House and a friend of the country. FLOYD SPENCE, I think, was an individual whom many of us here in this body could call a friend, because FLOYD in his aw-shucks kind of Southern gentleman demeanor would come up and ask you how is your health, how are you doing, how is your family, and he always put the needs of others ahead of himself. Even though FLOYD may have been failing in his health, he always wanted to know how you were doing and how you were feeling. That was a lot about who FLOYD was and the impact he had on a lot of us and the impact he left upon a country, because he dedicated his life to public service.

It was truly honorable in the manner in which he conducted not only his everyday life but also his profession. He had so many positive attributes that he could not help but have an impact upon each of us and a nation. I think as an individual that dedicated his efforts to national security and making sure that the men and women who wear the uniform, when they take that uniform off, in his dedicated service to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, he made sure that that solemn oath that that veteran took, that the government in fact fulfilled their commitments to the veterans of this Nation. He taught each of us every day that freedom is not free and that we must be vigilant as a Nation, leaning forward so that we could respond.

FLOYD may not be with us in body but the lives of whom FLOYD SPENCE

touched will be forever with us in spirit. There is a song and the lyrics of that song may have been heard but not listened to by many and it is that life is about more than who we are, it is about what we do with the span of time in which we have. FLOYD embodied that. He made sure that the imprint that he left upon each of us and the Nation was one that was very positive.

FLOYD, to your family, you spoke often of your sons and of your grandchildren, we wish you and your family well. One day we will join you, my friend.

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

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I join my colleagues in bidding a fond farewell to our colleague and "My Chairman," FLOYD SPENCE, who died last month. Our condolences to his wife Deborah and his four children. FLOYD SPENCE was a hero, a patriot, a family man, a man of God, and, above all, a gentleman. In his more than 30 years in this body, he demonstrated civility, respect and kindness toward his colleagues. He was in the finest tradition of Southern gentlemen.

Mr. Speaker, FLOYD SPENCE served his country honorably in the U.S. Navy, on active duty in the Korean War era, and then as a Reservist, even while a Member of Congress for decades thereafter. His commitment to our troops in uniform was unsurpassed and obvious to those of us who served with him.

In his role as Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee for the six years ending in January, FLOYD really came into his own, in highlighting the deteriorating conditioning of our armed forces and strengthening congressional resolve to address this issue.

I was honored to be in attendance at his funeral, along with Vice President CHENEY, Secretary Rumsfeld and so many others. His voice will be missed in this body, but never forgotten.

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, It is with a heavy heart that I stand here today to honor the memory of a dear friend and respected colleague, FLOYD SPENCE. FLOYD was a patriot and a statesman who devoted his 30 years in Congress to securing America's defense and supporting our nation's veterans. As such, he was a well-known voice of experience and leadership on both the House Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs Committees, on which he proudly served for much of his career.

FLOYD assumed the powerful chairmanship of the Armed Services Committee when Republicans gained control of the Congress in 1995. He quickly proved himself a skilled chairman, pushing for and securing billions more in desperately needed defense funding when the Clinton Administration was seeking to gut the military to pay for the massive growth of government social programs. FLOYD helped to save and protect our national defense and laid the groundwork for the current drive to rebuild and redefine our defense capability to better respond to the challenges of the new century battlefield.

Winning tough battles was not uncommon for FLOYD. During his tenure, the gentleman from South Carolina was successful in instituting instrumental legislative initiatives while gaining the admiration and friendship of members from both sides of the aisle.

His quiet strength also got him through some very rough health challenges. Despite these problems, I never heard FLOYD complain. In fact, I can't recall him ever walking into a room without a smile and kind word.

FLOYD was a great American and a personal friend. I greatly value my days serving with him, especially on the Armed Services and VA Committees. He was a source of wisdom and counsel on difficult issues, and his presence in these hallowed halls will be sorely missed.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, also on the note earlier echoed by the gentleman from Indiana, Mr. BUYER, we will miss FLOYD but he has made us all richer.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ATTEND FUNERAL OF THE LATE HONORABLE FLOYD SPENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KIRK). Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, August 2, 2001, the Speaker on Tuesday, August 21, 2001, appointed the following Members to attend the funeral of the late Honorable FLOYD SPENCE:

Mr. SPRATT of South Carolina;  
Mr. HASTERT of Illinois;  
Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma;  
Mr. CLYBURN of South Carolina;  
Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina;  
Mr. DEMINT of South Carolina;  
Mr. BROWN of South Carolina;  
Mr. YOUNG of Florida;  
Mr. HUNTER of California;  
Mr. SAXTON of New Jersey;  
Mr. HEFLEY of Colorado;  
Mr. McNULTY of New York;  
Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland;  
Mr. MCHUGH of New York;  
Mr. CHAMBLISS of Georgia.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CURRENT IMMIGRATION ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KIRK). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first let me offer my deep appreciation and sympathy, appreciation

for FLOYD SPENCE's life and sympathy to his family.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that we have been expecting new immigration agreements to be announced when the Mexican President, Vicente Fox, visits Washington this week. Instead, we have the White House issuing a statement that they expect a comprehensive U.S.-Mexico immigration reform package in the next 4 to 6 years.

Since their elections last year, both President Fox and President Bush have pressed immigration to the top of their agendas. President Bush has stated that he is willing to embrace a more inclusive vision of America, one that would welcome the talents and contributions of immigrant communities all over this Nation, hardworking, tax-paying immigrants coming from places as far away as Poland, England, Brazil, Guatemala, Singapore and other places that people would be interested in coming to the United States.

It is disappointing that both Presidents believe that reform will take so long to broker. Immigration is extremely complex; however, we cannot delay dealing with the issues involved. The time has come to bring these people out of the shadows and allow them to bask in the sunlight of mainstream American life. The time has come to educate the American people, to make them stakeholders in improving the lives of all Americans and those who access the American dream. Given the momentum the two Presidents have generated up until now and given the expectations, if they do not take advantage at this moment, they will have missed an historic opportunity.

By pushing back a reform in immigration policy, President Bush is losing sight of the millions of hardworking, tax-paying immigrants who have lived in this country for a number of years and have contributed to the economic prosperity of our Nation. What the White House is doing with our immigrant community is nothing more than gesturing, lip service designed to attract badly needed Hispanic support to the Republican fold. We cannot wait 4 to 6 years for real immigration reform. The time has come for a change in U.S. immigration policy.

The Democratic Principles on Immigration provides this necessary immigration reform by rectifying current problems in immigration policy. The principles of the statement are family reunification, earned access to legalization, border safety and protection, enhanced temporary worker program, and ending unfair discrimination against legal immigrants.

A policy based on these five principles will bring stability to the lives of millions of people. In addition to strengthening the national economy, such a policy would honor family values, reward hard work, provide worker protections and enhance civil rights. It would also benefit people who have come to the United States from every corner of the globe. Any new program