

westward to recognize the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The Treasury Department has the authority to change the nickel once every 25 years. It was the intent that this new design be presented as the replacement for Monticello.

I learned further that this new design was chosen internally at the U.S. Mint with no input from Congress or the American people. Even more striking, I was shocked to learn that the Mint planned to announce this redesign in just 10 days from our meeting.

As a proud Virginian and American, I was concerned about the Mint's plan because Jefferson's beloved Monticello represented so much to the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia and, for that matter, to all Americans. I also feared that the new design and the process by which it was conceived was reminiscent of the failed Sacagawea one-dollar coin experience.

Monticello is the autobiographical masterpiece of Thomas Jefferson or as he called it, his "essay in architecture," and is recognized as an international treasure. Monticello, "little mountain" in Italian, is the only home in America on the World Heritage List of Sites that must be protected at all costs. It is there that Jefferson assumed his place in history, shaping, debating, and producing his prolific writings on the topics of liberty, democracy, and equality for all.

In America after September 11 we all know that these are the very principals that are under attack by the radical terrorists and their global organizations.

H.R. 4903 authorizes the U.S. Mint to implement an interim design change on the reverse side of the nickel for the years 2003, 2004, and 2005 in order to recognize the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark expedition. In 2006, Monticello will once again resume its place on the 5-cent piece. Additionally, so that the American people will not experience another Sacagawea debacle, my bill provides a mechanism to ensure public input to this or any redesign of our coinage.

The bill creates a nine-member coin design advisory committee which will make recommendations to the Secretary of the Treasury as to the appropriate designs for the Lewis and Clark series. It will review all designs or redesigns of circulating and commemorative coins and of Congressional Gold Medal ideas that the Mint is assigned with. This committee will be made up of a coin collector, an internationally recognized coin museum curator, an expert in American history, and either a sculptor or a medallist, all appointed by the President, as well as four persons named by the leadership of the House and the Senate.

This committee will be able to provide the Secretary of the Treasury with a broad range of expertise and input to ensure that any redesign or circulating coinage as well as the design for commemorative coins or Con-

gressional Gold Medals be artistically appropriate and consistent with broad American themes and values.

Mr. Speaker, this bill represents a positive step forward, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4903 today.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4903, the Keep Monticello on the Nickel Act. For nearly 65 years, the image of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello has graced our Nation's nickel. This legislation, introduced by my friend and colleague from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Mr. CANTOR, is a win-win. It ensures that Monticello has a permanent home on the five-cent piece, and also recognizes the need for a fair and open process to evaluate other commemorative coinage efforts, such as the one honoring the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence and the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom, the third president of the United States and the founder of the University of Virginia. He voiced the aspirations of a new America as no other individual of his era. From his home in Monticello, Jefferson served his country for over five decades.

Monticello is more than a classic piece of architecture; its significance even supercedes the fact that it is the only house in the United States on the United Nation's prestigious World Heritage List of sites. It is more: a symbol of Jefferson's age of optimism, of all that was and is great about America. It is, quite simply, Jefferson's autobiographical masterpiece.

Mr. CANTOR's legislation strikes a reasonable balance. It provides for nickel redesigns in 2003 and 2004 to commemorate both the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark expedition, returning Monticello to the reverse side of the coin in 2005. The legislation also establishes a Congressionally-appointed advisory board, whose responsibility it will be to advise the Secretary of the Treasury on any proposed changes to U.S. coins.

I join my fellow Members of the Virginia Delegation in urging all Members to support H.R. 4903, to allow for a three-year recognition of one of Jefferson's greatest accomplishments, the Louisiana Purchase, before returning to the foundation of all of his successes, Monticello.

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

Mr. KING. 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 New York (Mr. KING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4903, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "To ensure continuity for the design of the 5-cent coin, establish the Coin Design Advisory Committee, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1645

TRUE AMERICAN HEROES ACT OF 2002

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5138) to posthumously award Congressional gold medals to government workers and others who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and perished and to people aboard United Airlines Flight 93 who helped resist the hijackers and caused the plane to crash, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Spirit of America, recognizing the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5138

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "True American Heroes Act of 2002".

TITLE I—MEDALS FOR RESPONDERS AND RESISTERS

SEC. 101. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS WHO RESPONDED TO THE ATTACKS ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND PERISHED.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—In recognition of the bravery and self-sacrifice of officers, emergency workers, and other employees of State and local government agencies, including the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and of the United States Government and others, who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, and perished in the tragic events of September 11, 2001 (including those who are missing and presumed dead), the Speaker of the House and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design for each such officer, emergency worker, employee, or other individual to the next of kin or other personal representative of each such officer, emergency worker, employee, or other individual.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike gold medals with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary to be emblematic of the valor and heroism of the men and women honored.

(c) DETERMINATION OF RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall determine the number of medals to be presented under this section and the appropriate recipients of the medals after consulting with appropriate representatives of Federal, State, and local officers and agencies and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

(d) DUPLICATIVE GOLD MEDALS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DUTY STATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall strike duplicates in gold of the gold medals struck pursuant to subsection (a) for presentation to each of the following, for permanent display in the respective offices, houses, stations, or places of employment:

(A) The Governor of the State of New York.

(B) The Mayor of the City of New York.

(C) The Commissioner of the New York Police Department, the Commissioner of the New York Fire Department, the head of

emergency medical services for the City of New York, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

(D) Each precinct house, fire house, emergency response station, or other duty station or place of employment to which each person referred to in subsection (a) was assigned on September 11, 2001, for display in each such place in a manner befitting the memory of such persons.

(e) **DUPLICATE BRONZE MEDALS.**—Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under subsection (a) at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the bronze medals (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses) and the cost of the gold medal.

(f) **USE OF THE UNITED STATES MINT AT WEST POINT, NEW YORK.**—It is the sense of the Congress that the medals authorized under this section should be struck at the United States Mint at West Point, New York, to the greatest extent possible.

SEC. 102. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR PEOPLE ABOARD UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 93 WHO HELPED RESIST THE HIJACKERS AND CAUSED THE PLANE TO CRASH.

(a) **CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds as follows:

(1) On September 11, 2001, United Airlines Flight 93, piloted by Captain James Dahl, departed from Newark International Airport at 8:01 a.m. on its scheduled route to San Francisco, California, with 7 crew members and 38 passengers on board.

(2) Shortly after departure, United Airlines Flight 93 was hijacked by terrorists.

(3) At 10:37 a.m. United Airlines Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

(4) Evidence indicates that people aboard United Airlines Flight 93 learned that other hijacked planes had been used to attack the World Trade Center in New York City and resisted the actions of the hijackers on board.

(5) The effort to resist the hijackers aboard United Airlines Flight 93 appears to have caused the plane to crash prematurely, potentially saving hundreds or thousands of lives and preventing the destruction of the White House, the Capitol, or another important symbol of freedom and democracy.

(6) The leaders of the resistance aboard United Airlines Flight 93 demonstrated exceptional bravery, valor, and patriotism, and are worthy of the appreciation of the people of the United States.

(b) **PRESENTATION OF CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS AUTHORIZED.**—In recognition of heroic service to the Nation, the Speaker of the House and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design for each passenger or crew member on board United Airlines Flight 93 who is identified by the Attorney General as having aided in the effort to resist the hijackers on board the plane to the next of kin or other personal representative of each such individual.

(c) **DESIGN AND STRIKING.**—For the purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (b), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike gold medals of a single design with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(d) **DUPLICATE MEDALS.**—Under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals struck under subsection (b) at a price sufficient to cover the cost of the bronze medals (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses) and the cost of the gold medals.

SEC. 103. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS WHO RESPONDED TO THE ATTACKS ON THE PENTAGON AND PERISHED.

(a) **PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.**—In recognition of the bravery and self-sacrifice of officers, emergency workers, and other employees of the United States Government, who responded to the attacks on the Pentagon Washington, D.C. and perished in the tragic events of September 11, 2001 (including those who are missing and presumed dead) the Speaker of the House and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design for each such officer, emergency worker, or employee to the next of kin or other personal representative of each such officer, emergency worker, or employee.

(b) **DESIGN AND STRIKING.**—For the purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike gold medals of a single design with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) **DETERMINATION OF RECIPIENTS.**—The Secretary of the Treasury shall determine the number of medals to be presented under this section and the appropriate recipients of the medals after consulting with the Secretary of Defense and any other appropriate representative of Federal, State, and local officers and agencies.

SEC. 104. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medals struck under this title are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

**TITLE II—SPIRIT OF AMERICA
COMMEMORATIVE COINS**

SEC. 201. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) On September 11, 2001, the United States suffered the worst act of terrorism in its history.

(2) The more than 6,000 people who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks that occurred in New York City, at the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001, will not be forgotten.

(3) Hundreds of emergency personnel responded heroically to the crisis and lost their lives as a result.

(4) People from everywhere in the United States responded to the crisis with an outpouring of support for the victims of the terrorist attacks and their families.

(5) The civilized world stands with strength and fortitude in opposition to the cowardly terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001.

(6) It is essential to remember not only the tragedy of the attacks, but also the strength and resolve demonstrated by the people of the United States in the aftermath of the attacks.

(7) The minting of coins in commemoration of the Spirit of America will pay tribute to the countless heroes who risked their lives during the terrorist attacks and in their aftermath so that others may live and to a united people whose belief in freedom, justice, and democracy has never swayed.

SEC. 202. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) **DENOMINATIONS.**—In commemoration of the Spirit of America, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this title referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) **\$50 GOLD COINS.**—Such number of 50 dollar coins as the Secretary determines under subsection (b), which shall—

(A) weigh 1 ounce;

(B) have a diameter of 1.287 inches; and

(C) contain 91.67 percent gold and 8.33 percent alloy.

(2) **\$1 SILVER COINS.**—Such number of 1 dollar coins as the Secretary determines appropriate to meet demand, which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(3) **HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.**—Such number of half dollar coins as the Secretary determines appropriate to meet demand, which shall—

(A) weigh 11.34 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

(C) be minted to the specifications for half dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) **NUMBER OF GOLD COINS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The number of gold coins minted and issued under this title shall equal the sum of 25,000 and the number determined under paragraph (2).

(2) **DETERMINATION OF NUMBER.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General of the United States and the Governors of New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia shall determine the number of innocent individuals confirmed or presumed to have been killed as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001, and shall identify such individuals. The Secretary, under subsection (a)(1), shall mint and issue a number of 50 dollar coins equal to the number of such individuals.

(c) **LEGAL TENDER.**—The coins minted under this title shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(d) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this title shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(e) **SOURCES OF BULLION.**—For the purpose of minting coins under this title, the Secretary may only use metals that are from natural deposits in the United States or any territory or possession of the United States.

(f) **SPECIAL TREATMENT UNDER EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES.**—

(1) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds as follows:

(A) The limitations contained in paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) of section 5112(m) of title 31, United States Code, and section 5134(f)(1)(B) of such title have well served, and continue to serve, their purpose of bringing greater stability to the markets for commemorative coins, maximizing demand and participation in such programs, and ensuring that such programs have a broad base of private support and are not used as the primary means of fundraising by organizations that are the recipients of surcharges.

(B) The shocking circumstances of September 11, 2001, the broad base of public interest in showing the Spirit of America and participating in the raising of funds for the victims of the crimes committed on that date, and the importance of implementing this coin program as quickly as possible, notwithstanding the fact that 2 commemorative coin programs are already in effect for 2001 and 2002, justify exempting the coins produced under this title from such limitations.

(2) **EXEMPTION.**—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 5112(m) of title 31, United States Code, and section 5134(f)(1)(B) of such title shall not apply to coins authorized under this title.

SEC. 203. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The design of the coins minted under this title shall be emblematic of the tragic events that occurred at the Pentagon, in New York City, and in Pennsylvania, on September 11, 2001.

(b) **DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.**—On each coin minted under this title there shall be—

(1) a designation of the value of the coin;
 (2) an inscription of the date "September 11, 2001" (and such coin shall bear no other date); and

(3) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(c) **SELECTION.**—The design for the coins minted under this title shall be selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts.

SEC. 204. STRIKING AND ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) **QUALITY OF COINS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided under paragraph (2), coins minted under this title shall be issued in uncirculated quality.

(2) **GOLD COINS.**—50 dollar coins minted under section 202(a)(1) shall be issued only in proof quality.

(b) **MINT FACILITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided under paragraph (2), only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this title.

(2) **CLAD COINS.**—Any number of facilities of the United States Mint may be used to strike the half dollar coins minted under section 202(a)(3).

(c) **PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary—
 (1) shall commence issuing coins minted under this title as soon as possible after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) shall not issue any coins after the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date such coins are first issued.

SEC. 205. SALE OF COINS.

(a) **SALE PRICE.**—The coins issued under section 202(a) (other than the 50 dollar gold coins referred to in subsection (d)) shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;
 (2) the surcharges required by section 206(a) with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) **BULK SALES.**—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under section 202(a) at a reasonable discount.

(c) **PREPAID ORDERS.**—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders received before the issuance of the coins minted under section 202(a). The sale prices with respect to such prepaid orders shall be at a reasonable discount.

(d) **GOLD COINS.**—Notwithstanding section 204(c)(2), the Secretary shall issue a 50 dollar coin minted under section 202(a)(1) for presentation free of charge to the next of kin or personal representative of each individual identified under section 202(b). The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of such gold coins.

SEC. 206. SURCHARGES ON SALE OF COINS.

(a) **ASSESSMENT.**—Any sale by the Secretary of a coin minted under this title shall include a surcharge of an amount determined by the Secretary to be sufficient to cover the cost of the gold coins minted under section 202(a)(1) (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, and shipping) for presentation in accordance with section 205(d), which charge may not be less than—

(1) \$100 per coin for the 50 dollar gold coins;
 (2) \$10 per coin for the 1 dollar coin; and
 (3) \$5 per coin for the half dollar coin.

(b) **DISTRIBUTION OF EXCESS PROCEEDS.**—Any proceeds from the surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this title in excess of the cost of

producing all coins issued under this title (including coins issued for individuals identified pursuant to section 202(b)(2)) shall be—

(1) used to cover the costs incurred in the production of gold medals under title I that have not been recovered from the sale of duplicate bronze medals under such title; and

(2) with respect to any amount remaining after the costs described in paragraph (1) are covered, transferred to any fund for victims of the tragedies of September 11, 2001, that the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General jointly determine to be appropriate.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore (Mr. **CULBERSON**). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. **KING**) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. **ISRAEL**) each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. **KING**. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this legislation.

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

There was no objection.

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

At the outset, let me commend the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. **MALONEY**), also the gentleman from New York (Mr. **ENGEL**), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. **STEARNS**), the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. **TANCREDO**), the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. **ROUKEMA**), and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. **WATTS**), all of whom are cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation we are bringing up today is our attempt to honor those men and women who laid down their lives in the line of duty at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and in bringing down Flight 93 on September 11. No one is ever going to forget where they were or forget what they were doing on those terrible days of September 11, when we saw the terrible attack on the World Trade Center, the attack on the Pentagon. We saw Flight 93 being brought down and then the rescue efforts that began over the subsequent days.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation today will award Congressional Gold Medals to all of those Government workers who laid down their lives in the line of duty at the World Trade Center, including, of course, the 343 New York City firefighters, the Port Authority police, the New York City police, the New York State court officers who laid down their lives carrying out the greatest rescue mission in the history of this country. Twenty-five thousand people were rescued that day from the World Trade Center.

In addition, it will award Congressional Gold Medals to those who died in the line of duty at the Pentagon carrying out rescue operations, and in addition to that, those who were deter-

mined by the Attorney General to have been responsible for thwarting the terrorists on Flight 93 and bringing that flight down before it could actually strike here in Washington, either at the Capitol or the White House or wherever the target was intended to be.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, there were others who were not uniform officers, who were not government employees, who also became part of the rescue operation that day. For instance, there were construction workers who were not even working in the World Trade Center who rushed into the building that day to carry out a rescue operation. One, just for the purposes of the **RECORD**, will be Charles Costello of Elevator Constructors Local 1, who again raced into the building as part of the rescue operation and was killed, not a government worker but yet a hero who laid down his life in the line of duty.

In addition to that, we had a number of paramedics and six EMT, six, I believe, who were not government workers but were either hospital employees or members of volunteer ambulance corps. These men and women also laid down their lives and should be recognized.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, the bill includes legislation initially introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. **ENGEL**) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. **STEARNS**) which brings about coins, which they can explain in greater detail, but commemorative coins which will describe for all time the terrible tragedy of that day, but also the glory of that day, and I am sure the gentleman from New York (Mr. **ENGEL**) will discuss that, and the gentleman from New York (Mr. **ISRAEL**), in greater detail.

That is an integral part of this bill because a similar bill to this was enacted last December. It did encounter some questions in the Senate, and it is our sincere hope that by making the changes we have made today, by melding together two different pieces of legislation, uniting them as one, that it will make it easier for the bill to be passed by the Senate so that it can be presented to the President to be signed prior to September 11.

Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11 were the first great battle and the first great war of the 21st century, and the American people have responded in a way that surpasses what anyone could have ever hoped for, could have ever dreamt of, but the reality is that would not have happened if there was not such tremendous courage shown on the day of September 11 itself when the rescue workers came forward, when those who worked in the buildings, all of whom were heroes in their own right, did what had to be done.

This was America at its best, and by adopting this legislation, both as far as the gold medals and as far as the commemorative coins, Mr. Speaker, it will be our way as a Congress of showing the dedication that we have to those

men and women who lost their lives on September 11. Also, Mr. Speaker, it will be a source of some consolation and solace to the survivors of those poor brave men and women who died that day.

It is a small step. I think it will mean a lot to those families if they can see the unity that we feel, the sense of dedication that we in the Congress feel toward honoring and commemorating all those men and women.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague and friend from Long Island for bringing this important resolution to the floor today. I have two daughters and they do not like it much when I talk about them publicly, but in the wake of September 11, both of them asked me many questions. They asked me why I was attending so many memorial services and funerals. They asked why did this have to happen. They asked why did some people die and not others. That is a question that we have been asking ourselves every day since September 11. It is a question that we will continue to ask ourselves every day in the future, and each of us has our own answers inspired by our own faiths and beliefs and experiences.

We may not know why except for this. For the fire and rescue workers who died that day, it was their job to save lives. When everyone was running away from danger, they rushed towards it. Aboard a jet over Pennsylvania, a group of ordinary citizens banded together to force their plane down to save our Capitol but to end their own lives. They were heroes. Why did they do it?

They knew that the terrorists were not simply trying to end our lives. They were seeking to end our way of life. They knew that those terrorists wanted to bring that plane down on the Capitol itself, destroying not only the dome of this building but the very foundation of our democracy, and rather than fleeing danger, they accepted it to save a way of life, to save our way of life, and we all know what that way of life is, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, what was built by Washington and Adams and Jefferson has been saved by the heroes that we recognize today, people like Ray Downey of Deer Park and Glen Pettit of Ronkonkoma and John Viggiano of West Islip and 100 others in my district on Long Island who lost their lives.

Every day, firefighters across this land risk their lives to protect us. We are right to honor them with the Congressional Gold Medal and coins mined by the United States Mint, a coin that will include the phrase "In God We Trust."

I want to again thank the gentleman for bringing this to the floor.

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

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Staten Island, New York (Mr. FOSSELLA).

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time. I also commend him for his leadership on this initiative, and I think it is going, as he said, to serve well for those thousands who lost their lives on September 11.

In particular, I would like to commend my colleagues, the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL), for their leadership in paying honor to so many who lost their lives.

Earlier today, I heard, I think, a right discussion to bring attention to the Battle of the Bulge, and we heard some Members come forward to express decades later how this country honors those who have sacrificed. In a way, this is a similar attempt to do the same thing. We are attempting to honor hundreds, if not thousands, of people who were either doing their job on September 11, who were on their way to rescue, which was and is the largest rescue effort in the history of the United States.

We had firemen rushing to these burning buildings who never escaped. Some were on the job. Rescue 5 on Staten Island, all but one of their people who rushed into that fire died, people like Mike Esposito, whom I grew up with, and so many of his colleagues. Their families are still looking for closure, and we are trying to help.

People who were not even working that day, a guy, Stephen Siller on his way to play golf with his brothers, like he did on a regular basis, heard the call, saw the burning buildings, rushed into the trade center never to come out.

Some firefighters on the job for just a few days, one of their first calls was the trade center, young guys with families, never to return.

Then we had those who were just doing an honest day's work, young people like Jason DeFazio, married to my cousin, newlyweds, about to raise family. He was doing his job, a good kid. He will not ever see the light of day again.

The way this all comes about is because people like the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) and the people he represents, and the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) and so many other of us in this House who represent more than Staten Island, where alone over 200 people were killed on September 11, and what this Congress fortunately is doing today in a small but I think symbolic and significant way is saying they are heroes, and the gold medal represents that.

It will not bring back the loved ones, no, but I think it sends a signal to those families, people that live just a few blocks from me, Captain Marty Egan and his wife Diane live just a couple of blocks away. I hope Diane, when

she gets this gold medal, understands that the entire Nation, through its elected representatives, says, Diane, your husband was a hero, or again, to people like my cousin who lost their young husband and in a similar sort of way with some hard evidence that this country, through its representatives, says thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I think that this is highly appropriate, and I again commend the gentlemen and ladies who made this possible and a way to say thanks to so many people who lost their lives on September 11.

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from New York for yielding to me and, Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5138, the True American Heroes Act.

This is a combination of two bills, one originally sponsored by myself and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS) and the other one by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY). I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) for his many courtesies as subcommittee chairman in helping to combine the bills and to get these bills through.

Contained within the legislation is the bill I coauthored with the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS) which we called the Spirit of America Commemorative Coin. This honors the memory of all the victims of the terrible tragedy of September 11.

For all Americans, September 11 is seared into our memories. As the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) mentioned, we will always remember where we were on that day and where we were when we heard about the tragedies. We were scared together, we cried together and we were inspired together. We watched with horror as men with hatred in their hearts turned airplanes into weapons of mass destruction.

I was in New York City that day and I remember standing in disbelief. We watched with immense sorrow the destruction of a great American icon, and we watched with pride the men and women of the New York Fire Department, Police Department, Port Authority, EMTs, Iron Workers and other volunteers rush to the World Trade Center to try and save lives. Many of them, as of course, was mentioned by the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA), lost their lives in doing so.

The Nation went through the same roller coaster of emotions as the Pentagon was attacked, and we did it again as we learned of the heroism and the bravery of the passengers of Flight 93 who most assuredly saved countless more lives here in Washington, D.C.

I can only hope that for most Americans life has settled into a new routine. However, for those of us in New York, there is still a gaping hole in our city and in our hearts.

I remember going to the World Trade Center site with President Bush the Friday after September 11, and I remember standing there and thinking I cannot believe this is New York City, I cannot believe this is the area that I passed through hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of times before. It just seemed like some kind of a burned-out, bombed-out, ravaged zone which, of course, it was. But I could not believe that this was New York City.

□ 1700

However, we New Yorkers are tough; and we have started to heal. But we are committed to remembering those who suffered so much, and the Spirit of America Coin Act is part of that remembrance. Each family who lost a loved one will be presented with a gold version of this coin and the American people will be able to purchase a gold, silver, or clad version to help in their remembrance.

Our original bill had called for the front side of the coin to bear an image of the Pentagon and the U.S. flag and the back side of the coin a picture of the World Trade Center. Though the new bill does not include these direct requirements, the bill still requires "The design of the coins minted under this title shall be emblematic of the tragic events that occurred at the Pentagon, in New York City, and in Pennsylvania on September 11th, 2001." And I would hope that the Mint will be very cognizant of what more than 290 Members of this body endorsed.

We had more than 290 cosponsors of this bill, the majority of the House; and many of these sponsors personally met with me on the floor of this House to discuss this bill. So I would hope the Mint would take into account the fact that we would like to have the Pentagon and the American flag on one side of this coin and the World Trade Center on the other side of the coin. I plan on working closely with the U.S. Mint as they develop the design for this important coin. They must take into account the wishes of this Congress, and it must stand out as a great tribute to the spirit of America.

I am so pleased to say that bringing this bill to the floor has truly been a nonpartisan effort. Again, I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING). I owe great thanks to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS), and the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. ROUKEMA), who helped with the original bill. I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) as well; the chairman, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING); and the ranking member of the subcommittee and authors of the medal portion of this bill. I also want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) for their assistance in this effort. And, finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of the staff who spent so many hours working

on this legislation, in particular my legislative director, Pete Leon.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a fitting tribute to the men and women who lost their lives on September 11. None of us who represent districts in downstate New York were spared constituents, unfortunately, who lost their lives. Many of us attended many funerals for these constituents. I want to particularly site Christian Regenhart, who was a young firefighter in my district, who rushed into the World Trade Center to try to save lives. His mother, Sally Regenhart, has been a friend of mine for many, many years; and Christian, unfortunately, lost his life at the World Trade Center.

I want to also mention the Richman and Zucker families from Riverdale in my district. None of us escaped the personal feelings of constituents and friends and loved ones and family who lost their lives in the World Trade Center and, of course, as well as the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. I urge all my colleagues to support the passage of this bill, and I commend all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for making this truly a team effort.

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY).

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me this time; and particularly I am pleased to join my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), in support of the True American Heroes Act. Actually, I just am coming in from New York, having toured yet again Ground Zero.

This legislation combines a bill that the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) and I were able to get through the House last December that would present gold medals to emergency rescuers who perished at the World Trade Center with legislation put forth by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) to create a Spirit of America coin, as well as suggestions for honoring rescuers at the Pentagon and the brave passengers who wrestled Flight 93 to the ground in Pennsylvania.

More than 10 months after September 11, the pain from that day has not begun to fade for my constituents in New York. While we have cleaned up the site and begun to focus on rebuilding, no New Yorker can walk past a firehouse or see a police car race through the city without being reminded of this incredible horror that happened and the incredible heroism displayed by 343 firefighters, 37 Port Authority police, and 23 New York City police who gave their lives to save the lives of others.

In my own district, 25 different fire stations lost people in the attack. One firehouse in my district on Roosevelt Island had the special operations unit, and it lost 10 men. The loss was so great from this facility and others be-

cause of a duty change which was in progress, so men who were finishing a shift grabbed their equipment and headed to the scene. As a result, twice as many perished as would have otherwise.

At Ground Zero, on September 12, we heard estimates that as many as 20,000 people had perished. We now know that thanks to the heroic work of the rescue workers the death toll was under 3,000 because these rescue workers charged up into the towers to save as many strangers as they could. From the moment the plane struck the towers, from all over the city and surrounding areas rescuers poured out of firehouses and precinct houses and reacted without regard for their own safety. They were cops, firemen, EMTs, and other public servants.

This legislation lets us honor these men and women who died so that others could live. Thousands of families are missing members after 10 months, but perhaps the best reason to pass this bill is that tens of thousands of families are not. As New York and the world watched in horror as the planes struck and the towers were engulfed, these individuals honored by this bill thrust themselves toward danger without a second thought. They are true American heroes.

In the past, the Congressional Gold Medal has been awarded to honor contributions to America for outstanding individuals and groups. The True American Heroes Act will award Congressional Gold Medals to brave rescuers who perished in the attack. What better way to pay tribute than to award these families the most distinguished honor bestowed by Congress.

This legislation also designates that the individual precinct houses, firehouses, and emergency response stations that lost people in the attack will receive copies of the gold medal.

As you pass the firehouses and precincts in New York, the emotion of this tragedy is still overpowering. This legislation will ensure that we will forever have public displays around the city to preserve the memory of those rescuers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The offices of the Mayor, the Governor of New York, and the head of the Port Authority will also be awarded copies of the medals. As we all know, the head of the Port Authority himself, my friend Neil Levin, was lost in the attack. Neil was serving as the executive director of the Port Authority, the agency that ran the World Trade Center for 28 years.

In addition to the gold medals, the U.S. Mint will make bronze reproductions of the medals available to the general public. The bill also awards medals to the exceptional brave passengers who battled the hijackers of Flight 93. They saved an untold number of lives and, quite possibly, the very building in which we are now standing.

Finally, the bill is much improved with language provided by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS)

and my fellow colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL). Together, they worked over the past 10 months to create an official U.S. Mint coin to commemorate September 11. This Spirit of America Coin is a highly appropriate remembrance for this solemn occasion. I thank them for their important contributions to the legislation.

I also thank very much my colleague and counterpart, the chairman of the Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy, Technology, and Economic Growth, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), who has worked on this legislation tirelessly; and we all owe a deep debt of gratitude to him.

New York is thankful to all of the Members of this House who have responded to the City of New York in its time of need. We thank you so much for the 20-plus billion dollars in rescue aid and rebuilding aid; and we thank you, hopefully, for your support for this legislation.

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

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me again thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for the tremendous cooperation she has given throughout this process. We also thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for working so closely with us and combining the two pieces of legislation. I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) for his very moving remarks here today, and, of course, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) for the job he has done today and for the terrific job he has done since September 11 in working with the many victims' families in his district and working closely with me with the victims' compensation fund.

I would also like to say on a personal note, Mr. Speaker, in my own district there were more than 150 constituents who were killed on September 11. There were a number of friends and neighbors. I would like to point out just several in my own community. Firefighter Tim Haskell and his brother, Fire Captain Tom Haskell.

Also, I would like to point out Police Lieutenant John Perry, who, ironically, was actually putting in his retirement papers at the moment that the World Trade Center was hit. He took his papers back, went across the street, took part in the rescue effort and was killed.

I would also like to commend firefighters Michael Boyle and David Arce, both of whom were very active in my campaigns and worked with me for many years. They, though, are just typical of so many of the firefighters, police officers, and civilians who died that day doing what they were paid to do, to save others, to do their job, and to really symbolize the very best of America.

So on that note, Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge the House to adopt this legislation as a fitting tribute to those who died that day and also as a fitting

tribute to the survivors who are carrying the fight forward; and also, I think, as a symbol of the unity that our country has shown since September 11 in working with the President and both parties, in a bipartisan way, standing together to win the war against terrorism.

So, again, I urge adoption of the legislation. I certainly hope that it will be passed readily in the other body so that it can be signed by the President by September 11 as a fitting tribute to what occurred on September 11 as far as those who demonstrated such bravery, and the country itself for the way it showed such resolve and unity.

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

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for their bipartisan work on this bill.

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the True American Heroes Act. The men and women who died on September 11th serving our country by saving lives deserve not only our immense gratitude, but also the highest of honors. Today, we look to pass important legislation to recognize—and remember—these true American heroes.

In our darkest hours on September 11th, the heroes in our midst shined brighter than ever. We know some heroic endeavors that were undertaken from stories about cell phone calls and from eyewitness accounts.

Let us recognize the men and women who served us in our most horrific hours in several ways. First, the True American Heroes Act awards the heroes of Flight 93 and the rescue workers who were killed in the Pentagon and World Trade Center Congressional Gold Medals. These medals express the public gratitude of the Nation for their extraordinary actions.

Additionally, this bill incorporates part of a bill I introduced allowing the families of the victims to have a tangible expression of the Nation's gratitude with the Spirit of America coin. This coin will commemorate the spirit and the lives of those who were killed at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and aboard Flight 93.

I would like to recognize several of these outstanding individuals.

UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 93

The True American Heroes Act awards Congressional Gold Medals to all passengers on United Airlines Flight 93. One of my constituents, Jeremy Glick called his wife Lyzbeth from that flight, alerting her that his plane had been hijacked. Jeremy was part of the fearless effort by passengers and crew to stop the terrorists from taking the plane into the heart of Washington, DC.

From his cell phone conversation, we know that Jeremy along with other passengers and crew chose to fight the terrorists who had commandeered the plane. At 10:37 a.m., United Flight 93 crashed in Pennsylvania, just minutes after the White House and the Capitol Building had been evacuated.

Always a hero to his wife, his family and his friends, Jeremy Glick became a hero to the

Nation that day. Today, this House formally recognizes his contribution and all of the heroes aboard Flight 93.

THE FALLEN HEROES OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND PENTAGON RESCUE EFFORTS

This bill also recognizes the bravery of the many firefighters, police officers, and rescue workers who died in Lower Manhattan and the Pentagon. The families of these heroes too will be awarded a Congressional Gold Medal for their loved one's actions. Many of these men and women were from the 5th District. For example:

Dana Hannon of Wyckoff, New Jersey, was a 29-year-old, newly-engaged member of the New York City Engine Company #28, who responded to the reports of a plane crash at the north and south towers of the World Trade Center.

Paul Laszczynski of Paramus was a Port Authority police officer who was honored for his action during the first attack on the World Trade Center. He and a colleague carried a wheelchair-bound victim down 77 floors to safety after the bombing in 1993.

Joe Navas of Paramus was a 44-year-old Port Authority police officer. In his hometown of Paramus he volunteered as a Little League Coach for his two boys. His wife and family had to learn about his earlier heroic exploits by reading it in the Bergen Record.

The example set by these outstanding individuals is not unique. Our fire departments and emergency services are the first on the scene to fires, motor vehicle accidents, natural disasters, hazardous waste spills, and, yes, even terrorist attacks.

And they never draw attention to themselves. In their minds, they are "just doing their jobs. . . ." That Tuesday, their work and their courage brought them into the building lobbies as people flooded out into the streets. These men and women ran up the stairs while instructing people to immediately get down those same stairs and outside. They ran to help as others ran to safety. Their efforts will never be forgotten, especially by those who were saved.

TRUE AMERICAN HEROES

Mr. Speaker, the men and women that we honor today died fighting selflessly against those who hate all that our country stands for. But our country's strength goes beyond these men and women.

This bill also honors with commemorative coins all those who were killed in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon—the men and women who were simply doing their jobs. These men and women were citizens and workers who played an integral role in our country's financial markets and national defense. As proud Americans in their work, they were killed for what they stood for. But their spirit will triumph overall. As President Reagan said in his first Inaugural Address, "we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. It is a weapon our adversaries in today's world do not have. It is a weapon that we as Americans do have."

In the days immediately following September 11th, I spoke with many people who lost friends, coworkers, or even casual acquaintances in the World Trade Center. They wanted to do so much to help, and also wanted something to share in the memory of their friends. This legislation makes the Spirit of

America coins available to all Americans. The inspiration and spirit of those who died that day will reach beyond the families and across America with a physical reminder of these heroes of September 11th.

Although these medals and coins will not relieve the sorrow of the families of these victims, I hope that they will take comfort in the fact that their loved ones will not be forgotten. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

God Bless America.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5138, the True American Heroes Act which will bestow Congressional Gold Medals to government workers who selflessly responded to the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington on September 11, 2001 and were killed as a result of their heroics. This Resolution also requires the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Spirit of America, recognizing the tragic events of September 11th.

On that tragic day in September, our Nation witnessed the best and the worst of humanity. The despicable and cowardly terrorist acts were valiantly countered with the incredible heroism and courage of not only our firefighters, law enforcement officers, and emergency personnel but also our fellow citizens.

Accordingly, it is incumbent upon our Nation to appropriately honor these departed heroes. Bestowing the Congressional Gold Medals on these deserving men and women is a fitting tribute to their memory and their contribution to our Nation's freedom. Accordingly, I urge my fellow colleagues to support this important measure.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague for bringing this bill to the floor. The bill before us posthumously awards Congressional Goal Medals to government workers and others who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and perished and to people aboard United Airlines Flight 93 who helped resist the hijackers. Last year, I introduced a similar bill for the crew and passengers of Flight 93, and since have worked with Mr. ENGEL on his Spirit of America Coin Bill to award to families who lost loved ones in the attacks. I especially want to thank Mr. ENGLE and his staff for their tireless effort on that piece of legislation.

Earlier today, we passed a bill to create a memorial for Flight 93. It is widely presumed that the terrorists who took control of United Airlines Flight 93 intended to use the aircraft as a weapon and crash it into the United States Capitol Building in Washington, DC. From what we have been able to find out, upon learning from cellular phone conversations with their loved ones, that 3 hijacked aircraft were used as weapons against the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the passengers and crew of United Airlines Flight 93 recognized the potential danger and took heroic and noble action to ensure that the aircraft they were aboard could not be used as a weapon. In the ultimate act of selfless courage and supreme sacrifice, the crew and passengers of United Airlines Flight 93 fought to recapture the flight from the terrorists and prevented further catastrophic loss of life.

This same selfless act was demonstrated by the emergency workers, and other employees of State and local government agencies, including the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and of the United States Govern-

ment who gave their lives in responding to the attacks, working to save the lives of others.

I am pleased that we have the bill before us today that not only honors those who gave their lives, with a Congressional Gold Medal, but also provides the opportunity for all Americans, with the authorization of a Spirit of America Coin, to hold the tragic events of September 11 as a reminder of the sacrifices made by not only those who serve and protect our country, but to all citizens who live in—and believe—in this country that is freedom.

As President Lincoln stated in his Gettysburg Address, "We here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain, that the Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the Earth."

I thank my colleagues for bringing this legislation to the floor and urge its adoption.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5138, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAKING IN ORDER ON TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2002, OR ANY DAY THEREAFTER, CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 101, DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF WAIVER AUTHORITY OF SECTION 402(c) OF TRADE ACT OF 1974 WITH RESPECT TO VIETNAM

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time on July 23, 2002, or any day thereafter, to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 101) disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to 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 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means (in opposition to the joint resolution) and a Member in support of the joint resolution; that consistent with sections 152 and 153 of the Trade Act of 1974, the previous question be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion; and that the provisions of sections 152 and 153 of the Trade Act of 1974 shall not otherwise apply to any joint resolution disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Vietnam for the remainder of the second session of the 107th Congress.

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

There was no objection.

MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4775, 2002 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FURTHER RECOVERY FROM AND RESPONSE TO TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to consider the conference report to accompanying H.R. 4775; that all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration be waived; and that the conference report be considered as read when called up.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING CORINNE "LINDY" CLAIBORNE BOGGS ON OCCASION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF CONGRESSIONAL WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 439) honoring Corinne "Lindy" Claiborne Boggs on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Congressional Women's Caucus.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 439

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress honors Corinne "Lindy" Claiborne Boggs for her extraordinary service to the people of Louisiana and the United States, recognizes that her role in founding the Congressional Women's Caucus has improved the lives of families throughout the United States, and commends her bipartisan spirit as an example to all elected officials.

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

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

□ 1715

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor one of the most influential and respected women in the history of American politics, former Congresswoman Lindy Boggs of Louisiana.

Assuming the seat held by her late husband, then House Majority Leader Hale Boggs in 1973, Lindy Boggs once considered herself to be "a bridge between the old and new, liberals and conservatives, whites and blacks, men and women, Republicans and Democrats." This assertion, given by the