

devoted resident of the town of Fallon in the gentleman from Nevada's (Mr. GIBBONS) district. At this time, Mr. Speaker, the sponsor of the legislation, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS), has asked me to read a statement on his behalf because he regrets that he is unable to be here today.

"It is only fitting that this post office, which is an integral part of the Fallon community, be named after the man who dedicated his life to the town, its people, and the goal of keeping small communities like Fallon connected to the world through their local newspaper.

"A prominent resident of Fallon, Nevada, Rollan Melton established a remarkable career in journalism and never forgot his hometown roots.

"Born July 21, 1931, in Boise, Idaho, Rollan Melton moved to Fallon as a young boy. He played football for the Fallon High School and went on to the University of Nevada on a Harold's Club scholarship. He always appreciated his Fallon years and would later endow a scholarship at Fallon's Churchill County High School to celebrate the help he had from his high school teachers and coaches.

"As a young man, Melton quickly embarked on a career of journalism. He would write for the London Observer, the Wall Street Journal and several New York City papers. Yet, Melton loved his home State of Nevada and in 1957, he joined the Reno Evening Gazette where he could write about his hometown and the surrounding communities.

"He would hold various positions at the paper including reporter, sports editor, telegraph editor, promotion manager, and, finally, editor and publisher of the paper which would become known as the Reno Gazette-Journal.

"Throughout his newspaper career, he remained active in numerous philanthropic organizations. He served as a trustee and officer of the Jon Ben Snow Trust based at Syracuse, New York. The trust gives about \$300,000 in grants each year in Nevada.

"Melton was also a member of the Nevada Board of Regents, earning the designation of a Distinguished Nevadan.

"Of all his positions, the one he loved the most was columnist, and he wrote frequently about Fallon and its people. On November 30, 2001, Melton was inducted into the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame. He was also named to the Nevada Newspaper Hall of Fame.

"Melton completed 23 years of column writing in October 2001. His first book, *Nevadans*, was published in 1988. His second, an autobiography entitled *Sonny's Story*, was published by the University of Nevada in 1988. And the third book, *101 Nevada Columns*, was published on his 70th birthday on 2001.

"As a distinguished writer, Rollan Melton found his inspiration in the people of Nevada. Naming the Fallon Post Office in his honor would be a great tribute to his work and commit-

ment to the Silver State and to the town he loved so much, Fallon, Nevada."

Mr. Speaker, this concludes the statement from the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 4102.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague who, as usual, is doing a great job on this for his colleague and for the entire delegation over there.

Mr. Speaker, I am a member of the House Committee on Government Reform and I am pleased to join the gentleman in the consideration of H.R. 4102 which names that post office in Fallon, Nevada, for the late Rollan D. Melton.

Mr. Speaker, As a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 4102, which names a post office in Fallon, Nevada, after the late Rollan D. Melton, H.R. 4102, which enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire Nevada delegation, was introduced by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS (R-NV)) on April 9, 2002.

Mr. Rollan Melton graduated from the University of Nevada in 1955. A journalism major, Rollan served as the sports editor of the campus paper, "Sagebrush" and worked as the city editor of a Nevada weekly. In 1957, he joined the Reno Evening Gazette as a reporter, eventually rising to the position of editor and publisher.

As Chairman and CEO of Speidel Newspapers, Mr. Melton negotiated the Speidel merger with Gannett in 1977, and served on the Gannett board for two years. In 1979, he was chosen as a Distinguished Nevadan.

An avid supporter of a sound college education, Mr. Melton served as an interim dean of the Reynolds School of Journalism. He was also a member of the advisory board for the Reynolds School of Journalism, Sigma Delta Chi Journalism Society and the College of Arts and Science.

Active in fine arts and educational programs, Mr. Melton continued to remain a columnist for the Reno Gazette-Journal until his death on January 13, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I comment the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) for seeking to honor Rollan D. Melton by naming a post office after him in his adopted city of Fallon, Nevada and urge the swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this measure.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4102.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of

those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### JOSEPH D. EARLY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5333) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4 East Central Street in Worcester, Massachusetts, as the "Joseph D. Early Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5333

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

#### SECTION 1. JOSEPH D. EARLY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4 East Central Street in Worcester, Massachusetts, shall be known and designated as the "Joseph D. Early Post Office Building".

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration, H.R. 5333.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5333, sponsored by our distinguished colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), designates the facility of the United States Postal Service in Worcester, Massachusetts as the Joseph D. Early Post Office Building. All Members of the House delegation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, with this legislation we honor a man who has been a fixture in Massachusetts politics for over 40 years.

Joseph Early was born and raised in Worcester and attended the College of Holy Cross. Early was the captain of the Holy Cross Crusaders basketball squad that won the 1954 National Invitational Tournament, at that time the

major tournament in America, I might point out.

After college he served in the United States Navy before returning to Worcester to teach and coach basketball. Early began his long career of service to the people of Worcester in 1962 when he was elected to the Massachusetts State House. He served until his election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1974. He served in this body until 1993.

Here in the House Mr. Early sat on the Committee on Appropriations and tirelessly but quietly advocated the causes important to himself and to his constituents. His stewardship of the National Institutes of Health is especially noteworthy and undoubtedly resulted in many medical advances.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of H.R. 5333.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this is, in fact, a bill that was presented by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and cosponsored by all of the Members from that delegation.

Mr. Early has, in fact, served a distinguished career in Massachusetts. It was mentioned by my colleague from Utah (Mr. CANNON), he was a Worcester, Massachusetts native, born in 1933. He went through the schools in Worcester and the College of the Holy Cross. He graduated from there in 1955. He served in the United States Navy and after that was a teacher and a coach. He has been a member of the Massachusetts House. He was a staunch Democrat. He was also a delegate to many conventions and elected to this House in the 94th Congress and served in eight successive Congresses after that.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time, and I want to also thank him for his assistance in moving this measure forward. As well, I want to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) for his kind words.

Mr. Speaker, today citizens across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are going to the polls to cast their votes in the State's primary election. It is certainly fitting that on this same day, the House of Representatives votes to honor one of Massachusetts' long-serving and distinguished Members of Congress, Joseph D. Early.

I am proud to be joined by the entire Massachusetts delegation in expressing unanimous support for H.R. 5333, a bill to designate a facility of the U.S. Postal Service in Worcester, Massachusetts, as the Joseph D. Early Post Office Building.

As both a predecessor of mine in Congress and as a cherished friend, I am proud to have sponsored this legislation which will properly honor Joe Early with a Federal building to bear his name.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Early is undeniably one of the City of Worcester's favorite sons. Long before the Jesse Burkett Little League team of this year, Joe Early brought national prominence to the City of Worcester as cocaptain of the Holy Cross College basketball team that won the 1954 National Invitational Tournament. The same tenacity Joe regularly demonstrated on the hardwood later proved to be the hallmark of a remarkable career in public service.

First elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1962, Joe rose through the ranks to ultimately become Vice Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. In the legislature, Joe earned a reputation as a forceful advocate for social programs and a staunch supporter of organized labor. This unwavering commitment to New Deal principles remained firmly intact when Joe Early arrived as a newly elected Member of Congress in 1975.

As a Member of the House Committee on Appropriations, Joe continued to fight doggedly for funding for education, health care and social services. Senior citizens, most notably the frail elderly, never had a more loyal friend or passionate ally in their struggle to retain health care benefits in the late 1980s than Joe Early. In an era of shrinking domestic spending, Joe repeatedly cautioned his colleagues to not forsake our priorities at home.

He was the guardian at the gate for medical research funding, and the National Institutes of Health in particular benefitted greatly from his vigilance on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education of the Committee on Appropriations.

Many of the recent advances in the treatment of chronic disease can be attributed in no small measure to Joe's steadfast support of the NIH. Today, people here and around the world live healthier lives because of Joe Early; and while he may not be a household name, he will forever be remembered within the medical research community as a true champion of their cause.

Joe's persistent work in his committee was rivaled only by a fierce devotion to his constituents at home. There are countless untold stories of the assistance performed by Joe on behalf of a family in need. No problem was too big and no person was too small to receive the personal attention and intervention of Congressman Early.

Joe's constituent service was renowned as was his relentless pursuit of funding for the Third District of Massachusetts. The University of Massachusetts Medical School stands as only one shining example of Joe Early's tireless efforts to ensure his district receive its fair share.

Mr. Speaker, in our business there are show horses and there are work horses. Joe Early was the consummate work horse. He never sought the glory

of the spotlight or rushed to grab a headline. Joe was content to let others receive the credit while he worked quietly and effectively on the issues and for the constituents he cared so deeply about. In that respect, Joe Early is very much like the district he represented for 18 years. In fact, it has been said that Joe Early did not represent his beloved City of Worcester as much as he personified its three-decker homes and blue-collar work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, in that spirit, we shall pass this legislation to name a post office building in Worcester for Congressman Joseph D. Early as a small tribute to a great man who humbly and selflessly has given so much of his life in service to others.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY) for his generosity in yielding me time and for his leadership on this issue.

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

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this measure.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5333.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1500

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ACT OF 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 526) providing for the concurrence by the House with an amendment in the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 3253.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 526

*Resolved*, That, upon the adoption of this resolution, the House shall be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table the bill H.R. 3253, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to have concurred in the Senate amendment to the title of the bill and to have concurred in the Senate amendment to the text of the bill with the following amendment:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill, insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Department of Veterans Affairs Emergency Preparedness Act of 2002".