

nominated in 1972 to serve as the Vice Presidential candidate on the Democratic Party's ticket with George McGovern.

Few Americans have given so much to help so many. Yet, in the twilight of this incredible life, Sarge and Eunice continue to give.

To call this record of public service exemplary is a vast understatement. Words cannot adequately convey the decency and humanity that has been brought into the lives of millions worldwide through the work of Sargent Shriver—international lawyer, ambassador, humanitarian. His life's work shall live on long after this and succeeding generations have passed the torch of public service to their progeny.

"Serve, serve, serve," Sarge was known to say, "because in the end it is the servants who save us all."

Mr. Speaker, today, I honor a great American and wish him only the best, and I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this Resolution recognizing Sargent Shriver.

Mr. DUNCAN. 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 Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 299.

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. DUNCAN. 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.

WALTER F. EHRFELT, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3300) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15500 Pearl Road in Strongsville, Ohio, as the "Walter F. Ehrfelt, Jr. Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3300

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

SECTION 1. WALTER F. EHRFELT, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15500 Pearl Road in Strongsville, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "Walter F. Ehrfelt, Jr. 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 Walter F. Ehrfelt, Jr. Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLANCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3300, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3300, introduced by another of my distinguished colleagues on the Committee on Government Reform, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), designates the postal facility in Strongsville, Ohio, as the Walter F. Ehrfelt, Jr. Post Office Building. All Members of the Ohio delegation have signed on as cosponsors to this legislation.

Walter Ehrfelt served as Mayor of Strongsville, Ohio, for 25 years, and he was a civic and social institution in this northern Ohio community outside of Cleveland for even longer than that.

□ 1530

He was reelected six times after first being appointed as mayor in 1978. The town of Strongsville nearly doubled its population during Mayor Ehrfelt's tenure. Largely due to the mayor's efforts over the years, Strongsville boasts a fantastic school system, a productive industrial base, and many safe and wonderful neighborhoods.

Mr. Speaker, Mayor Ehrfelt sadly passed away in office after suffering a heart attack on May 25 of this year. Naming this post office after Mayor Ehrfelt in the city he governed and loved would be a small, but very deserved, tribute to his leadership. I urge all Members to support passage of H.R. 3300. I commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) for working to honor Mr. Walter Ehrfelt.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in support of H.R. 3300, sponsored by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

Walter Ehrfelt, Jr., was first elected mayor of Strongsville, Ohio, in 1978. He was elected for six 4-year terms until his death on May 25, 2003. He was a devoted family man, public servant, and businessman. He served the citizens of Strongsville in many capacities. He was a member of the Strongsville school board, and was later elected president of the board and served as county councilman prior to being elected mayor. In addition to holding positions in many civic organizations, he was an honorary trustee of the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Strongsville United Methodist Church.

I am honored to join my colleagues seeking to honor the many contribu-

tions of Walter Ehrfelt, and I urge swift passage of H.R. 3300.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I feel honored today to support H.R. 3300, a bill to rename the United States Post Office in Strongsville, OH in tribute to the city's distinguished and dedicated former mayor and my friend, the late Walter F. Ehrfelt. I would also like to extend special thanks to my colleague, Congressman LATOURETTE, for helping to bring his legislation to the floor, along with all of the Ohio delegation for co-sponsoring this bill.

Mayor Ehrfelt's impact on the city of Strongsville will never be forgotten. After graduating from Strongsville High School, he began what would become a lifetime commitment to civic involvement. In 1973, while running Ehrfelt Meats, a family business that operates still today, his neighbors convinced him to run for the Strongsville School Board, leading the fight against a campaign to dismiss teachers and ban books in the school district. He won that race, and in 1978 he was appointed mayor of Strongsville, later winning his first mayoral race in November 1979 by more than a 2 to 1 margin. Voters rewarded his effective leadership by re-electing him to six consecutive 4-year terms, the last beginning in 2000.

As mayor, Walter Ehrfelt guided Strongsville through an unprecedented period of growth, evolving from a community of 22,000 to a thriving suburb of 45,000 residents. He served on Governor Taft's State and Local Government Commission and was president of the Ohio Municipal League. But most importantly, Mayor Ehrfelt lived each day with the people of Strongsville close to his heart, truly living his life for the betterment of others.

I'm pleased we have the opportunity to honor Mayor Ehrfelt for his service and spirit today. The people of Strongsville, the state of Ohio, and everyone who knew him will miss him greatly.

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this very fitting and proper legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3300.

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. DUNCAN. 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.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 3198) to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3198

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 "John F. Kennedy Center Reauthorization Act of 2003".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 13 of the John F. Kennedy Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76r) is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

"(a) MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND SECURITY.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Board to carry out section 4(a)(1)(H)—

"(1) \$17,000,000 for fiscal year 2004; and

"(2) \$18,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 and 2006.

"(b) CAPITAL PROJECTS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Board to carry out subparagraphs (F) and (G) of section 4(a)(1)—

"(1) \$16,000,000 for fiscal year 2004; and

"(2) \$18,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 and 2006."

SEC. 3. JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER PLAZA.

(a) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY.—Section 12(b) of the John F. Kennedy Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76q-1(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(6) PROJECT TEAM.—

"(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—To further construction of the Project, the Secretary shall establish a Project Team.

"(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Project Team shall be composed of the following members:

"(i) The Secretary (or the Secretary's designee).

"(ii) The Administrator of General Services (or the Administrator's designee).

"(iii) The Chairman of the Board (or the Chairman's designee).

"(iv) Such other individuals as the Secretary considers appropriate.

"(C) PROJECT DIRECTOR.—The Project Team shall have a Project Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services and the Chairman of the Board. The Project Director shall report directly to the Project Team."

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 12(c)(1) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 76q-1(c)(1)) is amended by inserting ", in consultation with the Project Team," after "The Board".

(2) CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS.—Section 12(c)(3) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 76q-1(c)(3)) is amended by inserting ", in consultation with the Project Team," after "The Board".

(3) APPROVAL BY PROJECT TEAM.—Section 12(c) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 76q-1(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(5) APPROVAL BY PROJECT TEAM.—Notwithstanding section 5(e), any decision by the Board that will significantly affect the scope, cost, schedule, or engineering feasibility of any element of the Project, other than buildings to be constructed on the Plaza, shall be subject to the approval of the Project Team."

(c) GAO REVIEW.—Section 12 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 76q-1) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(g) GAO REVIEW.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Until completion of the Project, the Comptroller General shall review the management and oversight of construction of the Project by the Board and re-

port periodically on the results of the review to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.

"(2) OBJECTIVES.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall assess the progress made by the Board in achieving each of the following objectives:

"(A) Development and implementation of adequate policies and procedures to guide the planning and management of the Project.

"(B) Receipt of timely construction data on schedules and costs related to the Project.

"(C) Improvement of human capital resources and expertise in managing construction of the Project."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3198 reauthorizes the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for 3 years, authorizing funding for its capital repair and maintenance, allows for the GAO review of ongoing construction projects, and creates a new mechanism to ensure effective project oversight.

This bill is the product of a thorough legislative process. The subcommittee held an oversight hearing that included the GAO and the Kennedy Center, reviewed their comprehensive building plan and capital program, and discussed options for improving upon their programs. This process resulted in the bipartisan legislation we are bringing to the floor this afternoon.

I would like to recognize and congratulate the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), and the ranking member, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), as well as full committee chairman, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), for their hard work in developing this legislation.

Since its founding, the Kennedy Center has become one of the world's premier entertainment venues, featuring award-winning theater, opera, and symphony performances. The funds we are authorizing today will go solely towards the upkeep and maintenance of the facility, for such repairs as elevator upgrades, handicap accessibility, enhanced fire and life safety equipment, and improved security systems. These repairs are in line with a comprehensive building plan maintained by the Kennedy Center and created at the direction of Congress in 1994. This legislation also incorporates several provisions that ensure effective project oversight.

It is no secret that there are Federal construction projects that have gone beyond their original budget, beyond schedule, and well beyond their origi-

nal scope. Oftentimes it is the lack of adequate project management and oversight that allow this type of growth. That was the finding of a GAO report requested by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on the Kennedy Center's garage expansion project.

The provision in this bill, including the creation of a project team, the requirement of a project director, and enhanced oversight by the GAO, should prevent such problems as the Kennedy Center goes forward with the construction of a new plaza and two new buildings. However, this reauthorization does not include any money for the plaza project. All of the funding authorized in this bill will be used for the existing structure and its surroundings. By supporting the regular maintenance and upkeep of the Kennedy Center, we will ensure that the center will continue to be a world-class venue well into the future. I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 3198, a bill to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Almost a decade ago, the Committee on Public Works, recognizing the inefficiency of years of divided responsibility for the operations, maintenance, and capital repairs of the Kennedy Center, passed H.R. 3567, which gave the board of trustees of the Kennedy Center centralized responsibilities for these matters.

In an effort to prevent continued deterioration of this landmark structure and Presidential memorial, the board asked for and received authority to maintain and improve the center. Former presidents Wolfensohn and Wilker, along with the current president, Michael Kaiser, continually worked to identify and put in place a capital improvement program to enhance the building. They believed it was of the utmost importance that the Kennedy Center management have the responsible and accountability for the building as well as its performing arts and education activities.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's interest then, as it is now, focuses on the use of appropriated funds for the capital improvement program and the repair and alteration of this Presidential memorial. To avoid the previous situation of unmet building needs and delayed repair, the center is now required to submit a 5-year capital plan to the committee. H.R. 3198 authorizes \$53 million over 3 years for routine repair and alteration and \$52 million for capital projects.

To address improved management for the plaza project, the bill authorizes the Secretary of Transportation, our former colleague, Norman Mineta, to establish a project team and appoint a

project director. The president of the Kennedy Center and the administrator of General Services will serve on the team. The plaza project, when completed, will change the face of Washington in the West End. It is a monumental project that will not only enhance our Nation's Capital, but also provide safer and easier access to the center for patrons, visitors, and tourists. The center, under the leadership of Michael Kaiser, is working diligently to address general management of the facility as well as unmet personal needs. I support H.R. 3198 and urge its passage.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my strong support for H.R. 3198, "The John F. Kennedy Center Reauthorization Act of 2003."

The Kennedy Center serves an important role in our Nation. Not only is it one of the most active theaters in the world, hosting millions of patrons each year to its seven stages, but is also one of the most recognizable theater buildings.

The legislation we are considering this afternoon, which I have offered with my colleagues Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Ms. HOLMES-NORTON, reauthorizes the Capital Infrastructure program of the Kennedy Center for an additional three years. The bill also makes a number of important changes that will improve the management of large construction projects at the Kennedy Center.

This legislation will help ensure that the Kennedy Center continues to have a world class facility to house world class entertainment, which includes everything from classical opera to cutting edge films.

In addition to authorizing funds for maintenance, repair, and security as well as other capital projects, this legislation puts into place important tools for improved project management.

The legislation creates a project team for the plaza project. This team will include the secretary of transportation, administrator of general services, and chairman of the board of trustees of The Kennedy Center. This team will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the plaza project through a project director, who reports to the project team and is appointed by the Secretary of Transportation.

The legislation also provides for ongoing review by the General Accounting Office of the plaza project until its completion, with periodic reporting to the Congress. The GAO will be looking at the personnel, policies and procedures used to carry out the project.

I support The Kennedy Center Reauthorization and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. PORTER. 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 Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3198.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONVEYANCE TO FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, OF EXISTING FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1274) to direct the Administrator of General Services to convey to Fresno County, California, the existing Federal courthouse in that county, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1274

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE TO FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

[On completion of a new Federal courthouse in Fresno, California, the Administrator of General Services shall convey to Fresno County, California, without consideration, the existing Federal courthouse in that county.]

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF B.F. SISK FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE, CALIFORNIA.

(a) *CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.*—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator of General Services may convey to Fresno County, California, for nominal consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the building and site located at 1130 O Street in Fresno, California, known as the B.F. Sisk Federal Building and United States Courthouse.

(b) *TIMING OF CONVEYANCE.*—The Administrator may make the conveyance under subsection (a) only after the completion of construction of a new Federal courthouse in Fresno County and the relocation of the tenants in the building referred to in subsection (a) to the new Federal courthouse.

(c) *RESTRICTIONS ON USE.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The deed for the conveyance under subsection (a) shall include a covenant that provides that the property will be used for public use purposes, and specifically provides for substantial use of the property for the administration of justice.

(2) *REVERSION.*—If the Administrator determines that the property is not being used for the purposes described in paragraph (1), all right, title, and interest in and to the property shall revert to the United States, at the option of the United States.

(3) *EXPIRATION.*—The reversionary interest of the United States in the property under this subsection shall expire 20 years after the date of the conveyance.

(d) *ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—The Administrator may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Administrator considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(e) *APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.*—This section is not subject to the provisions of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11301 et seq.).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1274, introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr.

DOOLEY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH), allows the administrator of General Services to convey the B.F. Sisk United States Courthouse located in Fresno, California, to Fresno County. This is a worthwhile endeavor, as the GSA is currently constructing a new Federal courthouse in Fresno, and this legislation will ensure that the people of Fresno County continue to receive a judicial benefit from the existing Federal courthouse.

This legislation also includes a number of provisions that will help protect the interests of the Federal Government. Among the provisions included in this legislation are the requirement that the courthouse be used for public purpose for at least 20 years, that the transfer not take place until the new courthouse is completed and occupied, and the conveyance may also include any additional provisions the administrator deems necessary to protect the interests of the government. I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1274, as amended, a bill to convey a Federal courthouse in Fresno, California, to the County of Fresno. The bill transfers for a nominal fee an obsolete Federal building in Fresno, California, to the County of Fresno. The bill ensures that the transfer documents contain a reverter clause, as well as a public use clause, both of which protect Federal interests.

I would like to thank the chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), and ranking member, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), for their work on this legislation and for recognizing that outmoded Federal buildings are still viable and can continue to serve a public purpose. I also commend the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLEY) for introducing this bill, which is a win/win for all parties involved.

I support H.R. 1274 and urge its passage.

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

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLEY).

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1274 as introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and me, and I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) for their work in advancing this piece of legislation.

The Eastern District of California is very pleased that they have decided to