

As a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of S. 1718, legislation naming a postal facility after Senator James B. Pearson.

S. 1718, which was introduced by Senator PAT ROBERTS on October 14, 2003, was unanimously approved by the Committee on Government Reform on November 6, 2003. The gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) is the sponsor of H.R. 3255, an identical version of S. 1718. H.R. 3255 has been cosponsored by the entire Kansas congressional delegation.

James Pearson was born in Nashville, Tennessee, and attended public schools in Virginia. He served as a pilot in the Navy during World War II, and after being discharged, he became an attorney and began practicing law in Mission, Kansas. He served in various legal positions before being appointed in 1962 as a Republican to the United States Senate to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Andrew Schoepfel.

Senator Pearson served in the Senate until 1978, working diligently as a senior member of the Foreign Relations Committee and ranking member of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

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Mr. Speaker, this is indeed an honorable act that we take in naming this postal facility. I would urge swift passage.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise today in support of S. 1718, legislation introduced by Senator PAT ROBERTS and cosponsored by Senator SAM BROWNBACK, that will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3710 West 73rd Terrace in Prairie Village, KS, as the Senator James B. Pearson Post Office Building.

Senator ROBERTS introduced this legislation following my introduction of an identical bill, H.R. 3255, with the cosponsorship of the entire Kansas House delegation Representatives JIM RYUN, TODD TIAHRT and JERRY MORAN. I commend them for joining in this bipartisan, all-Kansas effort.

Born in Nashville, Tennessee, Senator Pearson was the son of a Presbyterian minister. Raised in Virginia and educated in North Carolina, where he received a B.A. from Duke University in 1940, he fulfilled his military service requirement in Kansas, where he was a naval transport pilot during World War II, discharged with the rank of lieutenant. At the conclusion of this military service, he married a Kansan from Johnson County, to where they returned after he earned a law degree from the University of Virginia in 1950.

Following 2 years of private law practice in Mission, KS, Pearson served successively as assistant Johnson County attorney, Johnson County probate judge, and State senator. In 1960, he did not seek re-election to the State senate, serving instead as campaign manager for State Attorney General John Anderson's successful campaign for governor.

Appointed to the U.S. Senate in 1962 by Governor Anderson, upon the death of Andrew Schoepfel, James B. Pearson served

our State with distinction from 1962 through 1978. Elected in 1962, and re-elected in 1966 and 1972, Senator Pearson was a workhorse, not a showhorse. A senior member of the Foreign Relations Committee, he also rose to become ranking Republican member of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. Senator Pearson represented our State during an important and turbulent era, addressing issues that included the Vietnam War, the civil rights revolution, enactment of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, America's space exploration program and deregulation of the trucking and airline industries. Senator Pearson was a leader in these and other areas, offering legislation on farm credit, aviation development, and campaign finance reform.

Most importantly, though, Senator Pearson was a quiet voice of thoughtful analysis—something we could use more of in both the House and the Senate today. As he said of the Vietnam War in 1966: "On large issues and small, we cannot hold to irrevocable and unchanging positions. There is a constant need to look at every side of every issue."

Senator Pearson was a voice of reason and common sense during these difficult times and I am proud that his home during this Senate career was Prairie Village, which is located in the Third Congressional District of Kansas. Naming the Prairie Village Post Office after Senator James B. Pearson recognizes, in a small way, the important service he provided to Kansans for 16 years in the U.S. Senate.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEARCE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1718.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RONALD REAGAN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 867) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 710 Wicks Lane in Billings, Montana, as the "Ronald Reagan Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 867

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF RONALD REAGAN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 710 Wicks Lane in Billings, Montana, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald Reagan Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility re-

ferred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Ronald Reagan Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 867, the Senate bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us was introduced in the other body by Senator CONRAD BURNS of Montana. It names the post office in Billings, Montana, after our former President, Ronald Reagan.

What could be said of our 40th President that has not already been said? President Ronald Reagan led America through its longest recorded period of peacetime prosperity. Through his tax-cutting initiative, President Reagan was able to stimulate the economy and create jobs all while curbing inflation. He also secured an unthinkable comprehensive reform of the Tax Code, one that relieved millions of low-income Americans from paying income taxes and eliminated many exemptions for massive corporations.

Internationally, President Reagan strengthened our national defense during a tenuous time in world history. Largely due to his leadership and commitment to building up America's Armed Forces and defense technology, democracy defeated communism as the Cold War ended shortly after he left the White House. President Reagan succeeded because he viewed the Soviets not as people to be simply contained but people who executed a cruel system of government that needed to be crushed. America's success in the Cold War made the world a much safer place.

And who could forget the sad day when he was shot outside the Washington Hilton Hotel just months after being inaugurated in 1981. It reminded many of the 1960s, when our Nation tragically lost so many of our leaders to assassins' bullets. Gracefully, President Reagan pulled through, and the entire Nation rallied around the recovering President's wit and charm in the wake of this life-threatening attack.

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan is the only President ever to reach the age of 92 years. He continues to live in California today with his wife, the former First Lady, Nancy. On behalf of a grateful House of Representatives, I

wish President and Mrs. Reagan the very best.

Ronald Reagan is one of those figures in American history about whom it is very difficult to talk for only a short time. I will simply close by commending the distinguished Senator from Montana for his bill and giving this House the opportunity to remember the national leadership of President Ronald Reagan.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of S. 867, legislation naming a postal facility after Ronald Reagan. S. 867, which was introduced by Senator CONRAD BURNS on April 10, 2003, was approved by voice vote in the Committee on Government Reform on July 10, 2003.

Ronald Reagan was the 40th President of the United States. He served as President from January 1981 to January 1989. At 73, he was the oldest man ever elected President. He was well-known as Dutch, the Gipper, and the Great Communicator. An actor by profession, President Reagan served as Governor of California from 1966 to 1974. During his Presidency, his economic policies came to be known as "Reaganomics."

In 1994, former President Reagan announced that he was afflicted with Alzheimer's. And although a number of facilities have been named after him, schools, streets, highways, a postal facility in West Melbourne, Florida, and even the Washington, D.C. National Airport, a crowning achievement was when President William Clinton dedicated the Ronald Reagan Building in 1998. That building, located in the District of Columbia, houses an international trade center, international cultural activities, the Agency for International Development, and many other entities.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed appropriate that we remember those who have led our country, and naming this postal facility after former President Ronald Reagan fits that description. I would urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume and state again my strong support of Senate bill 867, which names a post office in Billings, Montana, after our illustrious President Ronald Reagan.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 867.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT ALTHEA GIBSON BE RECOGNIZED FOR HER GROUND BREAKING ACHIEVEMENTS IN ATHLETICS AND HER COMMITMENT TO ENDING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND PREJUDICE WITHIN THE WORLD OF SPORTS

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 69) expressing the sense of Congress that Althea Gibson should be recognized for her ground breaking achievements in athletics and her commitment to ending racial discrimination and prejudice within the world of sports.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 69

Whereas Althea Gibson was born on August 25, 1927, and lived with her family in Harlem during the 1930's and 1940's;

Whereas Althea Gibson was first introduced to tennis on the Harlem River Tennis Courts and went on to dominate the all-black American Tennis Association tournaments throughout the early 1940's, when racism and segregation prevented her from participating in tournaments sponsored by the American Lawn Tennis Association;

Whereas Althea Gibson graduated from Florida A&M University in 1953, and was an athletic instructor at the Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri;

Whereas Althea Gibson was the first African-American player, either male or female, to be allowed to enter the Forrester Hills, New York, Championship in 1950, after her talents and celebrity forced the American Lawn Tennis Association to reevaluate its policy;

Whereas Althea Gibson was the first African-American invited to Wimbledon in 1951, eventually winning both the women's singles and doubles in 1957, after which she was greeted by New York City with a ticker tape parade;

Whereas Althea Gibson was the first African-American woman to win the championship at the French Open, in 1956;

Whereas Althea Gibson after finishing her amateur tennis career became a professional golfer in 1959 and won the women's tennis professional singles in 1960;

Whereas Althea Gibson was Athletic Commissioner for the State of New Jersey from 1975 to 1977; and

Whereas Althea Gibson was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1971, and to the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame in 1980: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That it is the sense of Congress that Althea Gibson should be recognized for her ground breaking athletic achievements and for continuing to serve as a role model for the Nation's youth.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 69, the concurrent resolution now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 69 celebrates the remarkable life of Althea Gibson. She was the first African American player to compete at Wimbledon and the U.S. championships. She ultimately won both titles in 1957 and 1958, becoming the first African American to win both tournaments.

Mr. Speaker, more important than her victories has been her presence at these tournaments at which black players had never before competed. She is rightfully known as the "Jackie Robinson of women's tennis," and her courage has had the same incredible impact on her sport that Jackie Robinson had on baseball.

As a young woman, she won 10 straight of the all-black American Tennis Association tournaments beginning in 1948. Her success led her to become quite a celebrity, and the public pressure finally forced the all-white American Lawn Tennis Association to invite her to compete at the U.S. championships in 1950. By the next year, in 1951, Wimbledon invited her to play. Well, not only did she play, Mr. Speaker, but she won both tournaments in 1957, and she won both again the next year. Her skill on the court and her class off the court during this difficult period in American history paved the way for future stars like Serena Williams, Venus Williams, James Blake, Zina Garrison, Arthur Ashe, and others to excel playing the game they love.

Mr. Speaker, this is truly a worthwhile resolution, and I commend the gentleman from New York for working with the Committee on Government Reform for bringing this resolution to the floor. I hope this resolution serves to honor Althea Gibson, for, as the resolution states, her groundbreaking athletic achievements, and for continuing to serve as a role model for the Nation's youth. Althea Gibson's athletic career and her courageous personality are vital threads in the fabric of our Nation's history, and I am pleased that the House is acting on this resolution that pays tribute to her tonight.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Althea Gibson overcame unbelievable odds to achieve international acclaim and success. Her journey from Harlem to Wimbledon reveals her strength of character and her