

With the support of the entire Pennsylvania congressional delegation, I introduced H.R. 2328. I selected this specific location because Bob Borski's late father was a postman who delivered mail from this facility on Willard Street and his mother still lives in the delivery area of this post office. The naming of the Borski post office, accordingly, has a very rich symbolic value and makes this action very meaningful and very emotional for the Borski family.

I first met Bob Borski in 1977 when we were both freshman legislators in the Pennsylvania State House. We came from very different backgrounds and very different political worlds, one from the Richmond neighborhood of Philadelphia, one from suburban Abington, but we became good friends. We served together for 6 years in the State House. Bob got here to Congress well before I did; and when I finally made it, he took me under his wing and served as my mentor. He would only occasionally give me advice. Sometimes I followed it; sometimes I did not. I learned after time I should have always followed it. He is a good man and a good friend.

Mr. Speaker, it is not often that you find an individual with such dedication and commitment to his community. I am pleased to honor Congressman Bob Borski in this manner. He is truly deserving of this honor. I urge swift passage of this legislation.

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

I would just note for the gentleman, we were trying to filibuster a little bit to give him a chance to get to the Chamber to speak on this important resolution.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SHAYS. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. HOEFFEL. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I cannot think of a more eloquent filibusterer than the gentleman from Connecticut. I thank him for doing this honor to Bob Borski.

Mr. SHAYS. He deserves it. He is an outstanding man.

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2328, designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2001 East Willard Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "Robert A. Borski Post Office Building".

Congressman Robert Borski represented Pennsylvania's Third Congressional District, which encompasses Northeast Philadelphia, the River Wards, Society Hill and portions of Queen Village for 20 years.

When he retired from Congress last year, he was the third ranking Democrat on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and was the ranking member on the Highways and Transit Subcommittee. Congressman Borski was also a member of the Subcommittee on Railroads, the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, the Congressional Delegation to the North Atlantic Assembly and the Ad-Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs.

As a senior member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and sub-

committee ranking member, Congressman Borski was a vocal advocate of an improved national transportation system and a strong federal commitment to public infrastructure and mass transit programs. In Philadelphia, his legislative efforts have resulted in millions of dollars for SEPTA, I-95, neighborhood roads, and transportation improvements, which have benefited the Port of Philadelphia and the surrounding area.

In addition to his committee assignments, Congressman Borski represented the concerns of his constituency serving on the Older Americans Caucus, the Diabetes Caucus and the Prescription Drug Task Force.

Mr. Borski built a reputation as an accessible representative, holding public meetings, open office hours and manning two district offices to serve his constituents. Before being elected to Congress in 1982, Mr. Borski served three terms in the Pennsylvania State House where he was equally successful.

Mr. Speaker, I think there is no better way to honor Congressman Borski's 20 plus years of public service than to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 2001 East Willard Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "Robert A. Borski Post Office Building". I urge all of my colleagues to join me today in supporting H.R. 2328.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2328, a bill to name the U.S. Postal Service facility located at 2001 East Willard Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania the "Robert A. Borski Post Office Building."

I had the privilege of serving with Bob Borski on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for twenty years. I know him to be a true public servant, dedicated to the welfare of his constituents in Pennsylvania's 3rd District, and a steadfast friend. This designation could not be more well-deserved, and I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation.

First elected to the 98th Congress, Bob Borski served on the Transportation Committee for two decades until his retirement at the end of the 107th Congress. Throughout his distinguished career, Congressman Borski exemplified the great bipartisan tradition of the Transportation Committee. From 1995 to 2001, he served as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment where he and Subcommittee Chairman BOEHLERT spearheaded the Committee's efforts for bipartisan solutions to some of the Committee's most difficult issues, such as clean water, brownfields, and superfund issues. The Committee's good work on these issues and its ability to pass bipartisan legislation was due in large part to Congressman Borski's perseverance, patience, and willingness to find common ground.

In the 107th Congress, Congressman Borski served as Ranking Member of the Highways and Transit Subcommittee. In that position, he and Subcommittee Chairman Petri did much of the groundwork for the upcoming reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21), holding more than a dozen hearings on issues related to the TEA 21 reauthorization. Last year, Congressman Borski received the "Distinguished Person of the Year Award" from the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) at its annual conference. It is not often that an association, with a major reauthorization bill just

around the corner, honors a retiring Member of Congress. The fact that APTA honored Bob Borski is a tribute to him and the work that he has done to ensure that our communities have safe, affordable transportation choices.

H.R. 2328 is a fitting tribute to the distinguished career of Congressman Borski. I urge my colleagues to support it and to honor the contributions of Bob Borski with this well-deserved designation.

□ 1515

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WHITFIELD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2328.

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.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1472

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1472.

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

There was no objection.

#### REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 286, REQUEST FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY RECORDS ON USE OF AGENCY RESOURCES RELATING TO MEMBERS OF TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Mr. SHAYS, from the Select Committee on Homeland Security, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-223) on the resolution (H. Res. 286) directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit to the House of Representatives not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution all physical and electronic records and documents in his possession related to any use of Federal agency resources in any task or action involving or relating to Members of the Texas Legislature in the period beginning May 11, 2003, and ending May 16, 2003, except information the disclosure of which would harm the national security interests of the United States, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 288, REQUEST FOR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RECORDS ON USE OF AGENCY RESOURCES RELATING TO MEMBERS OF TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Mr. HAYES, from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,

submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-220) on the resolution (H. Res. 288) directing the Secretary of Transportation to transmit to the House of Representatives not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution all physical and electronic records and documents in his possession related to any use of Federal agency resources in any task or action involving or relating to Members of the Texas Legislature in the period beginning May 11, 2003, and ending May 16, 2003, except information the disclosure of which would harm the national security interests of the United States, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### VETERANS HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2357) to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish standards of access to care for veterans seeking health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2357

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 "Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2003".

#### SEC. 2. APPOINTMENT OF CHIROPRACTORS IN THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

(a) APPOINTMENTS.—Section 7401 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "and chiropractic care" in the matter preceding paragraph (1) after "medical care"; and

(2) by inserting "chiropractors," in paragraph (1) after "podiatrists,".

(b) QUALIFICATIONS OF APPOINTEES.—Section 7402(b) of such title is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraph (10):

"(10) CHIROPRACTOR.—To be eligible to be appointed to a chiropractor position, a person must—

"(A) hold the degree of doctor of chiropractic, or its equivalent, from a college of chiropractic approved by the Secretary; and

"(B) be licensed to practice chiropractic in a State."

(c) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.—Section 7403(a)(2) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(H) Chiropractors."

(d) GRADES AND PAY SCALES.—Section 7404(b)(1) of such title is amended by striking the third center heading in the table and inserting the following:

"CLINICAL PODIATRIST, CHIROPRACTOR,  
AND OPTOMETRIST SCHEDULE".

(e) TEMPORARY AND PART-TIME APPOINTMENTS.—Section 7405(a) of such title is amended—

(1) by adding at the end of paragraph (1) the following new subparagraph:

"(E) Chiropractors."; and

(2) by adding at the end of paragraph (2) the following new subparagraph:

"(D) Chiropractors."

(f) RESIDENCIES AND INTERNSHIPS.—Section 7406(c) of such title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting "and chiropractic" after "medical" the first place it appears; and

(B) by inserting "or chiropractic" after "medical" the second place it appears;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting "or chiropractic" after "medical" the first place it appears; and

(3) in paragraph (3)(A), by inserting "or chiropractic" after "medical".

(g) MALPRACTICE AND NEGLIGENCE PROTECTION.—Section 7316(a) of such title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting "or chiropractic" after "medical" each place it appears; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting "or chiropractic" after "medical" the first place it appears; and

(B) by inserting "chiropractor," after "podiatrist,".

(h) TREATMENT AS SCARCE MEDICAL SPECIALISTS FOR CONTRACTING PURPOSES.—Section 7409(a) of such title is amended by inserting "chiropractors," in the second sentence after "optometrists,".

(i) REIMBURSEMENT OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION EXPENSES.—Section 7411 of such title is amended by striking "or dentist" and inserting "dentist, or chiropractic".

(j) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING EXEMPTION.—Section 7421(b) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(8) Chiropractors."

(k) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect at the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTH CARE OF CERTAIN FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—The text of section 1734 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The Secretary shall furnish hospital and nursing home care and medical services to any individual described in subsection (b) in the same manner, and subject to the same terms and conditions, as apply to the furnishing of such care and services to individuals who are veterans as defined in section 101(2) of this title. Any disability of an individual described in subsection (b) that is a service-connected disability for purposes of this subchapter (as provided for under section 1735(2) of this title) shall be considered to be a service-connected disability for purposes of furnishing care and services under the preceding sentence.

"(b) Subsection (a) applies to any individual who is a Commonwealth Army veteran or new Philippine Scout and who—

"(1) is residing in the United States; and

"(2) is a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence."

(b) LIMITATION.—(1) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date on which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives and publishes in the Federal Register a certification described in paragraph (2).

(2) A certification referred to in paragraph (1) is a certification that sufficient resources are available for the fiscal year during which the certification is submitted to carry out section 1734 of title 38, United States Code, as amended by such amendment, during that fiscal year at each significantly affected health care facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(3) For purposes of paragraph (2), the term "significantly affected health care facility" means a health care facility at which, as determined by the Secretary, it is reasonably foreseeable that the implementation of the provisions of

section 1734 of title 38, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), will result in a significant increase in the use of health care resources due to the number of veterans described in subsection (b) of that section who are considered to be likely to seek hospital or nursing home care or medical services, as authorized by subsection (a) of that section, at that facility.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2357, as amended, the Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2003. H.R. 2357 would provide two important new health services to veterans. First, the bill would clearly establish the authority of the Department of Veterans Affairs to appoint chiropractors within its health care system, allowing veterans to receive this care in VA facilities. Currently, veterans are not receiving this specialty care from VA because the VA has decided that chiropractic care is not necessary and duplicates services already provided by physicians, nurses, and physical therapists.

For nearly 3 years, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs has been working to include chiropractic care as part of the VA's health care system. Through provisions in the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act, the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001, the VA has been required to establish a policy for the role of chiropractic care for veterans and to provide chiropractic care and services for veterans in its health care system. By law, VA has also been required to establish a Chiropractic Advisory Committee within the Department.

Although some progress has been made by the Advisory Committee on chiropractic care, veterans are dissatisfied with the VA's reluctance to fulfill its obligations under law. The gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), our former Health Subcommittee chairman, has spearheaded this important effort for our veterans, and I thank him for his leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, our bill would also authorize VA to provide health care services to Filipino World War II veterans who legally reside in the United States. During World War II, the Commonwealth of the Philippines army was called to serve with the U.S. Armed Forces. Tens of thousands of Filipino soldiers served alongside U.S. soldiers during World War II, exhibiting great courage and determination at the epic battles of Bataan and Corregidor and contributing to the successful outcome of the war.

After the Philippines became an independent Nation, Congress passed the Rescission Act of 1946, reducing or eliminating many of the benefits that Filipino veterans had been eligible for