

and unanimously passed the House in its House version. I am very pleased that this legislation will soon be on the President's desk and enacted into law, and I want to commend the Senator from Hawaii and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) for their diligence on the Postmasters Equity Act and for their support. I urge all Members to support its passage.

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 Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), in consideration of S. 678, the Postmasters Equity Act of 2003.

S. 678 was introduced on March 20, 2003, by Senator DANIEL AKAKA. This measure would amend chapter 10 of title 39 to include postmasters and postmasters' organizations in the process for the development and planning of pay policies and benefits.

S. 678 is cosponsored by 39 Senators, including the chairman and the ranking member of the Senate Government Affairs Committee, Senator SUSAN COLLINS and Senator JOSEPH LIEBERMAN. On July 25, the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee unanimously approved S. 678, the Postmasters Equity Act of 2003.

The bill was amended to substitute the language of the House bill, H.R. 2249, sponsored by me and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH). H.R. 2249 had been reported earlier out of the Committee on Government Reform by voice vote. During the 1996 Congress, President Carter signed into law legislation creating a fact-finding process for resolving disputes over pay and benefits and to make recommendations to the Postal Service. It did not provide for arbitration of the disputes, and the recommendations were not binding on the Postmaster General. However, the law only applied to postal supervisors, not postmasters.

S. 678, like its House counterpart, H.R. 2249, would extend to the postmaster the option of a fact-finding panel to make nonbinding recommendations to the Postal Service. Currently, when pay and benefit discussions between the Postal Service and postmasters fail, postmasters have no recourse and have to accept what is offered by the Postal Service. Passage of S. 678 would bring consistency in the manner by which the two categories of postal managers negotiate with the Postal Service over pay and benefits.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have been a sponsor of this legislation. I urge swift adoption of this bill and commend Senator AKAKA for all of his hard work on behalf of postmasters.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for cosponsoring this bill and for all of the hard work he has put in on this and a lot of other pieces of legislation before the committee.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Senator AKAKA for introducing this important bill and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) for his hard work. I urge all Members to support the passage of Senate bill 678.

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 Indiana (Mr. BURTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 678.

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. BURTON of Indiana. 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.

EXPRESSING PROFOUND SORROW FOR DEATH OF INDIANA GOVERNOR FRANK O'BANNON AND EXTENDING THOUGHTS, PRAYERS, AND CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND LOVED ONES

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 369) expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives for the death of Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon and extending thoughts, prayers, and condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 369

Whereas Frank O'Bannon devoted his entire life to public service and to the people of the State of Indiana;

Whereas Frank O'Bannon dedicated his life to defending the Nation's principles of freedom and democracy, serving in the Air Force from 1952 until 1954;

Whereas Frank O'Bannon served 18 years in the Indiana State Senate and 8 years as Lieutenant Governor of Indiana;

Whereas, on November 5, 1996, Frank O'Bannon was elected the 47th Governor of the State of Indiana, where he served until his death on September 13, 2003;

Whereas Governor O'Bannon was a true friend to Indiana, and a gentle man of integrity, kindness, and good works; and

Whereas Governor O'Bannon will be remembered as a loving husband to his wife Judy, and a devoted father to his 3 children and caring grandfather to his 5 grandchildren: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) has learned with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Frank O'Bannon, Governor of Indiana, on September 13, 2003, and extends its condolences to the O'Bannon family, especially to his wife Judy, his chil-

dren Jonathan, Jennifer, and Polly, and his grandchildren Beau, Chelsea, Asher, Demi, and Elle;

(2) expresses its profound gratitude to Frank O'Bannon for the services that he rendered to the Nation in the Air Force, the Indiana State Legislature, and as Governor of Indiana; and

(3) recognizes with respect Frank O'Bannon's integrity, steadfastness, and loyalty to the State of Indiana and to the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I met Frank O'Bannon, our now-deceased Governor, I met his father back in the late 1960s when I served with his father in the Indiana State Senate. His father was editor and publisher of a newspaper in Corydon, Indiana; and he was one of the finest men I ever served with. He was a real gentleman. Even though we had our differences, Governor O'Bannon's father was a wonderful man.

Mr. Speaker, we know a lot about people by their children. And although I knew Senator O'Bannon, Governor O'Bannon's father, very well, I was not sure about what kind of family man he was. But then I met his son who became Senator after his dad retired, and Senator Frank O'Bannon was also one of the finest men I ever served with in the Indiana State Senate. His brother, Bob, who is a businessman in Indianapolis, is also fine man. We know a lot about people by their children, and Governor O'Bannon was a wonderful man, and I am sure his mother was a wonderful woman as well.

Governor O'Bannon was revered by everyone who knew him, whether it was a Republican or a Democrat. He was a very fine public servant, a man who really cared about his fellow man and his civic responsibilities. He learned that from his father and mother and worked hard in both the Indiana State Senate and as Governor.

Although we had political differences, I always admired him because he was a man of honor. If he gave you his word, you could take it to the bank. He always said what he meant, and he meant what he said. We are going to miss him in Indiana.

I will tell one little anecdote. Senator O'Bannon sat directly in front of me when I was a freshman when he was a State Senator. I was seated on the Democrat side, and he was the minority leader for the Democrats in the State Senate. He was such a nice guy we would kid each other. One day I said, Senator, you are such a nice guy and so intelligent and you read papers, I know you can read, I do not know why you do not become a Republican. And he turned around and looked at me without batting an eye; and he said you

have the same qualities, I do not know why you do not become a Democrat. That was one of the more interesting and funny anecdotes I remember about Governor O'Bannon.

He was a wonderful man. We are going to miss him in Indiana. I wish his wife the very best. I know she is suffering a great deal, as well as the rest of his family right now; but I hope that Judy O'Bannon is doing well, and we wish her the very best. She and her family have our prayers.

□ 1530

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

Mr. Speaker, Governor O'Bannon was in my congressional district when he passed away. Certainly I would want to extend on behalf of all of the people in Chicago and the people of Illinois our sympathies to his family and to the people of Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, Frank O'Bannon, the 47th Governor of Indiana, died last week at the age of 73 from a stroke. After serving 18 years as Lieutenant Governor to Evan Bayh, Frank O'Bannon was elected Governor of Indiana November 5, 1996, and was re-elected on November 7, 2000.

Frank O'Bannon's two inaugurations as Governor made history. After he was elected in 1996 he invited Indiana's fourth grade history students to witness his inauguration, something no Governor had ever done. Despite sub-zero temperatures that day, hundreds of Hoosier schoolchildren for the first time ever watched as their Governor was sworn in.

After his 2000 reelection, Governor O'Bannon repeated his invitation to the fourth grade history students. This time, however, the festivities were moved inside the RCA Dome in Indianapolis. More than 25,000 students and visitors from across Indiana watched as the Governor was sworn in, making it the largest gubernatorial inauguration crowd in Indiana history.

Although Governor Frank O'Bannon was sometimes criticized by other lawmakers for not being more assertive, he followed his own instincts for achieving consensus quietly. Born on January 30, 1930, in Louisville, Kentucky, Frank O'Bannon devoted his entire life to public service and to the people of the State of Indiana.

Education, health care, building communities, promoting public safety and economic development are the hallmarks of Frank O'Bannon's legacy as Governor of Indiana. He taught those fourth grade students a valuable lesson in leadership, integrity and good works.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER).

(Mr. SOUDER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share a few thoughts about our Governor from Indiana for people outside Indiana who are not as familiar with him.

The past few days have been an outpouring of grief and almost a celebration with the O'Bannon family about our Governor that is different than anything I have seen in Indiana politics. It is partly, I think, a transition of an era. Frank O'Bannon represented a different part of politics when it was not quite as, how would you say, aggressive, it was not quite as negative. He was a friend to everyone. Even when we had differences it was a different type of relationship.

He came from the little town of Corydon, which was our State capital. As you would look at it, it would be a picturesque vision of what Indiana was when we started in southern Indiana and moved to the north. And Indianapolis in the north has now the bulk of the population and the bulk of the power, but Corydon still represents kind of old Indiana.

When he ran his campaign, no matter who his opponent was and no matter what kind of campaign they ran, he ran a Hoosier-roots type of a campaign. You would see him and his wife on their porch in Corydon. You would see him talking with his grandkids. You would see him talking and sending a different signal than often is put forth in politics. It was a symbol of comfort much like Governor Bowen used to have, saying in Indiana we may not be flashy, we may not all have blow-dried hairdos, we may not be as slick as other people, but we are going to produce good, honest government that is going to continue to move Indiana forward.

We are in a period of transition. And, interestingly, this man whose family was deeply rooted in early Indiana history and whose father had been a public servant, in addition to his normal public service he realized that Indiana was in this transition period. And while we sometimes disagreed on how best to do it, I think one of the things he will most be remembered for is his commitment to education at a time when Indiana is struggling with funds, like everybody else, and we have limited funds in education, to take those education funds right now and concentrate them on getting kids able to read by age 3.

He understood that if Indiana was going to move forward, whether you had the old Indiana or the new Indiana, whether you were kind of a comforting grandfather figure like he has been in Indiana, or a young slick politician coming up, if we did not have basic education in Indiana we weren't going to be able to compete with the States around us and around the country.

He and his wife have a tremendous legacy of preserving Indiana landmarks of many different things. But I think his effort to make sure that all kids can read will be one of his major leg-

acies and also his legacy of how a public servant should be in relationship to other members of his party, of other parties, and to the people of Indiana. That is why we are seeing this extended outpouring of grief because we are worried that the Nation is changing and we are losing the type of values that Frank O'Bannon brought to government.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the Governor's Congresswoman, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON).

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Chicago and certainly my colleague from Indiana for bringing forth this resolution today in tribute to a young man whose service to his family, to the State of Indiana, and to this Nation is unsurpassed.

The Governor just 3 weeks ago met the President at the airport in Indianapolis when he came out to Indianapolis for disaster relief, and the Governor had just hosted the National Governors' Association there.

Frank O'Bannon was the type of guy who gave of himself, who lived for a cause, not just because.

Frank O'Bannon even in death contributed his organs so that somebody else may have a quality of life. Since his passing, I was telling his wife yesterday, I spent an enormous amount of time with the widow, "Wouldn't it be great if Frank from on high could hear all of the attributes that are being given to him now that he did not hear when he was living?"

Unlike many other Governors in the United States, he came under a great deal of pressure because of the economic crisis that Indiana faced, a problem over which he had no control and had nothing in fact to do with it. But time and time and time again he came under a heap of criticism for Indiana's woes. I think he reminds all of us that even though we may not have control over something, it is unjust, it is like man's inhumanity to man, to heap that kind of pain and frustration on an individual who had done so much in improving the lives of the people in the State of Indiana.

I remember when Frank O'Bannon first decided he wanted to be a Governor. I was a member of the Indiana State Senate along with him. And because EVAN BAYH decided he too wanted to be the Governor at that time, Frank O'Bannon in his own genteel way stepped aside and allowed our now junior Senator to become the Governor of Indiana and Frank yielded to become the Lieutenant Governor in the State of Indiana. I was telling his wife yesterday that fate had undoubtedly orchestrated that, because he was not Governor just for 8 years, he was almost Governor for 16 years. He served as Lieutenant Governor for 8 years and almost completed 8 years as Indiana's Governor.

Frank O'Bannon served over 6.15 million people and he served them well.

Politics, economic situations, religious denominations all paled under Frank O'Bannon's leadership. Today is a very difficult day for me, because I had so much respect for Frank O'Bannon, but then I remember the words of Ecclesiastes that reminds us that there is a time for all things.

Frank O'Bannon, I suppose, could have continued to suffer, but God would have it another way. Danny, your hospital took great care of our Governor. I want to thank you and your hospital for that. They had one of the best neurosurgeons that this country has right there at Chicago hospital. So I want to thank you and yours. And certainly to Judy O'Bannon, who has been a yeoman throughout this ordeal, who has been very stately, like a stateswoman throughout the pain that she and her family endure, my heart, my prayers go out to Judy, to Jennifer, to Polly and to Jonathan. I know in due time that pain will pass but precious memories never fade into eternity.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with my colleagues and with the Nation just a glimpse of what Indiana has been going through in recent days.

Last week our Governor Frank O'Bannon, a gifted and gentle man on loan from God, suffered a massive stroke while hard at work for Indiana. Through the week, as he lay stricken, we thought of him, remembered him, worried about him and prayed for him. Then, on Saturday, we lost him.

My Governor, "Frank" as everyone called him, was a kind and intelligent man of great substance. A gifted man with many choices before him, he made a selfless choice: to spend a lifetime in public, a lifetime in service.

Now in public life, as we know—borrowing a bit from James Taylor—"we see fire, we see rain, and sunny days we thought would never end". Our duty is serve our way through, keeping the people and the responsibility ever in mind, looking again to reach those sunny days.

For My Governor, it was ever so. The sunny days were many—his work in our Senate, as our Lieutenant Governor, and as Governor the last 6½ years, saw great leadership and many sunny days, great prosperity and great progress, turning finally to fire and rain, as economic suffering reached Indiana and the blame was laid at his feet. Through it all, Frank never stopped working for Indiana, knowing, as we all do, that we would reach sunny days again.

As we know, too, public service can be lonely, wearying at its worst. As he soldiered on, this fine man absorbed the dismay, the frustration, the anger. Wherever I was, I spoke to him each week, not so much as our Governor but as a man I had known many years, whose friendship I treasured and whose commitment I admired, to remind him not to be ground down, that his commitment was a wise one, that sunny days would come again. And he returned the favor, with good counsel about the heart of public service.

He is gone now, recalled in a way. Indiana is in good hands, but we shall miss him greatly.

To My Governor, our "Frank", our prayers on the way. And, to Judy, ever his active part-

ner and helpmate, to the kids, Jennifer, Polly and Jonathan, it is my prayer that your precious memories of all that was so fine will help to sustain you through these mysterious days and hours of our farewell.

FRANK

You can do an article about Governor Frank O'Bannon, but you can't do it justice, not in any language I know. But I have to try.

In the prefaces of *The 1600 Killers* and *Slander and Sweet Judgement*, the two volumes of my memoir, I wrote: "One of the principal and principled inspirations for this work was the Honorable Frank O'Bannon, forty-seventh governor of Indiana. He, his wife Judy and his lieutenant governor, war-hero Joe Kernan, brought a refreshing wholesomeness and down-to-earth wisdom to the people of Indiana, of whom I am privileged to be one. The headline on *The Indianapolis Star/News* story that reported Frank's 1996 Election was, 'Nice guy finishes first.' Amen"

The name of our dearly departed governor is O'Bannon, but his face was not "the map of Ireland;" it was the map of Indiana. His voice inflections, the twinkle in his eyes, the generous smile made him the personification of all that is good in what we call Hoosier.

An old cake ad read and said, "Nobody doesn't like Sarah Lee." Nobody didn't like Frank. And nobody doesn't like the superlatively eloquent Judy.

Several years ago, Hoosier Congressman PETE VISCLOSKY was seated inside a banquet hall, awaiting the arrival of the principal speaker, the slightly behind schedule, then-Lt. Governor Frank O'Bannon. Suddenly, someone told PETE that his nearly octogenarian father had slipped and fallen on the ice outside. PETE rushed to his father's side and found Indiana's second highest elected official helping the elderly man to his feet.

We use the word "gentleman" over and over, but how often do we stop to realize what it means? A gentleman is a man who is gentle and the heroine of the play *Love is a Many Splendored Thing*, declares, "There is no greater strength than gentleness." By that definition and declaration, Frank O'Bannon was a person of towering strength. John F. Kennedy said it: "Civility should not be confused with weakness."

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne wrote, "Sit ye never so high upon a stool, yet sit ye but upon your own tail." Frank intuitively knew, felt and lived this. He was no big shot. He did have a stuffed shirt, though, stuffed with a warm, caring and giving heart.

Hoosier journalist William Miller Herschell asked, "Ain't God good to Indiana?" When I think of Frank O'Bannon, I know the answer.

ANDY JACOBS, JR.,

Former Member of Congress.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Eighth District of Indiana (Mr. HOSTETTLER).

(Mr. HOSTETTLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOSTETTLER. I thank my colleague from Indiana for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues from the great State of Indiana in extending our thoughts and prayers to the family of Governor Frank O'Bannon during this difficult time. I have had opportunities to work with Governor O'Bannon over the last several years and have come away with

several impressions. First, Frank was a public servant, committed to working tirelessly on behalf of Hoosiers from Michigan to the Ohio River. Second, when working with the Governor on issues such as the completion of Interstate 69 through Indiana, he proved himself to be a visionary and a leader, willing to address tough issues head-on, to do what is best for the entire State. Finally and most importantly, Mr. Speaker, Governor O'Bannon was in every circumstance a gentleman. In an era of declining civility, Frank stood out for his warmth, his comity and good humor.

I ask my colleagues today to lift the O'Bannon family up in your prayers that they might derive strength and joy from God even as they pass through these most difficult days. Mr. Speaker, I urge immediate passage of this resolution.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY).

(Mr. VISCLOSKY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, it is with genuine sadness and a very heavy heart that I rise today in support of the resolution in honor of Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon. Governor O'Bannon, as was mentioned, tragically passed away this past Saturday. I also want to extend my deepest sympathy, prayers and offer of assistance to Governor O'Bannon's wife Judy and their children and family.

One of the finest opportunities my career in politics has given me is meeting, working with and becoming friends with Frank O'Bannon. Frank was one of the most gentle men, one of the most decent men and one of the kindest individuals I have ever, ever met in my life. He is a man who could have been successful at any pursuit in life. He chose a life of public service because it was a life he could give to others. Except for his love for Judy and their children and their family, nothing was more important to Governor O'Bannon. His commitment to the future in children was foremost as far as his administration. And because Frank O'Bannon always knew who he was, he allowed his quiet demeanor and gentle nature to mask his inherent strength and ability to make very hard and very tough decisions for the good of all of the citizens of Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, a number of my colleagues have mentioned anecdotes and we all deal with individuals on a personal level, and I would add my two. Many years ago when Frank O'Bannon was first campaigning for Governor, I was at St. Mary's Orthodox Church hall in Gary, Indiana, at a political rally. Someone came in and said my father had fallen on the ice and snow outside. I go outside, Dad was perfectly fine, but there was Frank O'Bannon because

he was near my father. There was nothing more important to Frank at that moment in time and if it took all night he was going to make sure he was up, he was fine, he was cleaned off and he got in that hall, no matter what his other demands were.

The other continuing recollection I have is I tried not to impose upon the Governor's good nature or offices very often but whenever I called for assistance, he never said he would do it. He never said yes. He always said, "I'll see what I can do." And invariably the problem was solved, someone was helped or the State of Indiana moved ahead because you knew he was always going to do his best.

Frank O'Bannon was a good, good man. We are all going to miss him not only in our State but in this great country.

□ 1545

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE).

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I have been very moved by the comments of my colleagues today, and I also rise to express, as this resolution suggests, the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives for the death of Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon.

I was greeted by my wife, Karen, as I returned from the grocery store Saturday. She, with tears in her eyes, told me simply that Frank had died. And throughout last week, along with tens of thousands of Hoosiers, our family labored in prayer, not so much on behalf of a Governor as we did on behalf of a friend, because that is what Frank O'Bannon was to tens of thousands of Hoosiers.

I will never forget years ago, long before I entered public life, chatting with Governor Frank O'Bannon about the State of Indiana, and his face virtually lit up as he said, you do get to feel that you know somebody in every little town in this State when you do this job.

I always had the feeling for Governor Frank O'Bannon that Indiana was a small town, if not even a family, and it did not matter what our politics were, that was 8:00 to 5:00 with Frank O'Bannon. After 5 o'clock we were Hoosiers, and we came together and on so many occasions. I remember, with great fondness, his intense interest in me and in my family and in my children. He had this unusual quality, that I have reflected on with my colleagues from Indiana, of making everyone else in the room feel that they were more important than him. Even when he was the highest elected official in our State, he had a quality of humility that will always remain for me a standard in public life.

In closing, I just add, as the gentleman from Indianapolis, Indiana (Ms. CARSON) said, the Good Book gives us

comfort in time of loss, and I think of those verses in Micah, chapter 6 verse 8. It says "In what, O, man, is required of you but this: To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

When I look at the public career of Frank O'Bannon as a man, a State senator, a Lieutenant Governor, a Governor, a husband, a father, a grandfather, he was a man who did justice, who lived and loved kindness, and who walked humbly, in a way that will ever inspire this public servant to do likewise. To Judy and the children, to Governor Kernan and Maggie, our condolences and our prayers.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished Democratic whip.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois, and I thank the other gentleman from Indiana for bringing this resolution so quickly to the floor. I join my Indiana colleagues.

I knew Frank O'Bannon pretty well. I was asked by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT) in 1995 to serve in the capacity of the liaison to the National Governors' Association and to the Democratic Governors' Association, and I, therefore, know firsthand the loss that the Hoosier State has sustained and the loss of this extraordinarily popular Governor, who presided over great change and progress in his State. Our Nation, as I think the last speaker indicated so well, has lost a model public servant and citizen.

A few years ago when I served as the House liaison, I had the pleasure of working with Governor O'Bannon, both on issues that were in front of the Congress and on politics, and I can confirm what so many have written and said about him. He was a wonderful, intelligent, kind, and humble gentleman who, along with Judy, worked tirelessly for all Hoosiers and who cared deeply about his country and his State.

It is noteworthy, I think, that Governor O'Bannon never lost a political election. Democracy is an extraordinary process, and the people's wisdom is what makes it so great because they choose well. They choose different types of people, and we contend politically, but I am always impressed with how well, ultimately, they do choose. But it is telling what his last opponent David McIntosh, a former Member of this body said about him. This is somebody who ran against him, ran a hard campaign, an extraordinarily able young man. He said this: "Everywhere I'd go, people would say to me: 'How are you going to run against someone who is everyone's grandfather?' And it was the truth," David McIntosh said. "He was a congenial guy that everyone liked."

After serving 18 years in the Indiana Senate including 8 as Democratic floor leader and 8 as Lieutenant Governor and more than 6 years as Governor, Frank O'Bannon pulled off a rare feat

in politics: He was both effective and well-liked. However, his gentle nature is not his only legacy. His many accomplishments, as the colleagues from Indiana know better than I do or others, include creating a community college system, adopting of academic standards that are among the best in the Nation, extending health insurance to nearly half a million children, and engineering an overhaul of the State tax system to entice business to Indiana and to relieve property tax owners.

There is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that Frank O'Bannon lived life to the fullest, graduating from Indiana U, where he played basketball, serving in the Air Force, practicing law, and working as a newspaper publisher in his native Corydon. And there is no doubt that we are fortunate for his service. I am pleased to join my colleagues in lamenting for ourselves, for Indiana, and for our country the loss of this extraordinary individual and being joyous in the fact that, as a man of faith, he is better off, and joyous in the fact that we had the opportunity to know him and to work with him and to know that his State and country were better for his life.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CHOCOLA).

(Mr. CHOCOLA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support with my colleagues of this resolution with great sadness and great respect. This certainly is a sad day for all Hoosiers when we learned of the passing of our Governor, Frank O'Bannon. Although I have served in Congress for a short period of time, and my personal experience with Governor O'Bannon has been limited, I have great respect for the man he was and the life he lived.

One did not need to know Frank O'Bannon very well to know what kind of a person he was. He had the rare ability to project his sincerity and his genuine nature to all that he came in contact with.

And those who knew him well, regardless of their political affiliation, were unanimous in their praise and respect for the man and his character. I think we are seeing a great example of that today.

I consider it my loss that I did not have a greater opportunity to work with and learn from Frank O'Bannon, and certainly the entire State of Indiana will miss him and his lifetime of public service. But in the end, we are all fortunate and grateful for the example he gave us and thankful for his legacy of leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak on behalf of all my constituents in the 2nd District of Indiana when I thank Frank O'Bannon for his service to our State, and our thoughts and our prayers are with his wife, Judy, and his entire family.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I have been most impressed by the quality of remarks that have been talked about here this afternoon, most impressed about the sincerity of the remarks that have been made here this afternoon. I believe that it demonstrates the quality that Frank O'Bannon had and that he transcended politics. Both Republicans and Democrats admired him and respected him and loved him. They may have had differences, but never lost the respect.

I have known Frank O'Bannon for over 20 years. He was one of the first people that I ever became acquainted with in politics. His home, where his wife and his children were raised, is in Corydon, Indiana, a town that is in the 9th District, in my district. I have been to his house, stayed all night with him, loved him and admired him and respected him, and we miss him in Indiana. For the last week we have mourned our great Governor, but in the next couple of days we are going to celebrate the life of Frank O'Bannon and the many accomplishments that he had.

Probably the greatest accomplishment in his life was the fact that one could be a nice guy and get elected to the highest office in Indiana. Good guys can finish first, and Frank is a perfect example of that.

I wish many people and Members of Congress could have witnessed the class that the First Lady of Indiana demonstrated to the people of Indiana and to this Nation. She really held her strength and demonstrated that, while she could mourn, she could remain strong for the people that she loved in Indiana.

We are going to miss Frank O'Bannon, but I am convinced of one thing: He has a one-way ticket to heaven, and I hope to join him there someday.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. Therefore, I urge swift passage of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me just end by saying that in the 1997 inauguration speech, Frank O'Bannon made some very poignant remarks that I think are appropriate at this time. He said: "Life is no brief candle for me. It is sort of a splendid torch which I got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as I can before turning it over to future generations." Frank O'Bannon did just that, and we all miss him, and we wish his family the very best, and they are in our prayers.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, today, we pay tribute to Governor Frank O'Bannon—a statesman, loving husband and father and a friend to many.

A loyal servant of Indiana for over 30 years, Frank O'Bannon lived life as a country gen-

tleman, with an unassuming strength to hold to his convictions to lead a State but more important, a deep and endless devotion to family.

The life of Frank O'Bannon is one to look at with inspiration and thanks. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Judy, their three children—Jonathan, Jennifer and Polly and their 5 grandchildren.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 369.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 369, the resolution just agreed to.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 368) honoring the Small Business Administration on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 368

Whereas the Nation's economy is built on and draws its strength from the creativity and entrepreneurship of its people;

Whereas the Nation's 25 million small businesses employ more than half of all private sector employees, pay 44.5 percent of the total United States private payroll, and generate 60 to 80 percent of all net new jobs annually;

Whereas the men and women who own and operate the Nation's small businesses make a vital contribution to the Nation's prosperity through their ongoing work to create new technologies, products, and services;

Whereas small businesses produce 13 to 14 times more patents per employee than large patenting firms, and these patents are twice as likely as large firm patents to be among the 1 percent most cited;

Whereas the Small Business Administration was officially established in 1953 and for the past 50 years has played a vital role in ensuring that the door to the American Dream is truly open to all entrepreneurs;

Whereas the mission and high calling of the Small Business Administration is to champion the interests of the Nation's entrepreneurs for the benefit of all Americans;

Whereas the Small Business Administration is marking its 50th anniversary by celebrating the accomplishments of small-business owners across the country throughout the year; and

Whereas the President has designated the week beginning on Monday, September 15, 2003, as "National Small Business Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Small Business Week, and the events surrounding the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Small Business Administration;

(2) commends the Administrator and the employees of the Small Business Administration for their work on behalf of the Nation's small businesses; and

(3) reaffirms that the Small Business Administration, through its loan, technical assistance, and entrepreneurial development programs, plays an important role in assisting small businesses to ensure a brighter, stronger future for this Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) and the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO).

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

PERMISSION OF MEMBER TO BE ORIGINAL COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 368

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), the ranking minority member of the committee, be added as an original cosponsor of H. Res. 368.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1600

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

Mr. Speaker, as has been the tradition for the past 40 years, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation calling for the celebration of Small Business Week, which I include for the RECORD today. We are now in the middle of Small Business Week for 2003, which is being sponsored by the Small Business Administration.

The purpose of this week's celebration is to honor over 25 million businesses that make up the U.S. small business community. It is very appropriate for us, today, to recognize the importance of America's small businesses and the significant role played by the Small Business Administration in our Nation's economic growth.

This year is particularly important in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the SBA. President Eisenhower and Congress established the SBA in 1953 to provide financial and management assistance to startup and growing small businesses.