

the country gathered in historic Williamsport, Pennsylvania, to compete in America's favorite past time at the 2003 Little League Championships. Today, I stand with my colleagues from Palm Beach County, the gentlemen from Florida (Mr. WEXLER) (Mr. FOLEY) and (Mr. HASTINGS), to honor these boys from my home district who captured the United States championship.

Just as we honor their victory with this resolution, I want to especially compliment them on their spirit and their sportsmanship which became legendary in this series. These are the character traits that deliver victory and most certainly enabled them to bring home the championship to East Boynton Beach.

So let me first start by congratulating the boys from the East Boynton Beach Little League team: Michael, Richard, Cody, Jordan, Patrick, R.J., Matt, Ricky, Benny, Devon, and Andrew, who are also known as this year's United States Little League World Series Champions.

While we all recognize their outstanding achievements, we also recognize that children do not get there on their own. In each of our lives, there are people we remember who have helped shape our character along the way: role models who helped make our choices clearer, role models who make our defeats less painful and our victories even sweeter, role models who teach us through their encouragement and support. As we grow older, we come to recognize the scope and impact of their influence and that influence as it has affected our lives.

The boys from East Boynton Beach are surely no exception to this rule. They have been reared by loving parents who, no doubt, sacrificed much of this past year. To make their sons' dreams come true, they chauffeured them to countless practices and packed the family up to cheer at games all season long. When the boys were on the field, they were coached by the best in the league, led by manager Kenny Emerson, assisted by coaches Joe Irene and Tony Travis. These role models not only taught the team how to play top-grade baseball on the field, but also taught them the best way to conduct themselves when they are off the field.

So for all of these reasons, I am proud to bring to the attention of the United States House of Representatives the phenomenal achievements of these fine young men from Florida's 22nd Congressional District. Their victory brought East Boynton Beach great recognition, as it has indeed all of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida. But it was their teamwork and their sportsmanship that brought us all the greatest of pride. We applaud their effort and are offering this concurrent resolution to honor their spirit, which captured our hearts and brought home the championship. I am sure my colleagues will join me in voting "yes" on this resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, 11 preteen boys from East Boynton Beach came within a game of winning the Little League World Series. They lost the Little League game to Japan, but they had a wonderful time playing the game and spending the summer becoming the first team from southern Florida to win the national championship. A pitcher on the East Boynton Beach team said of the Little League World Series game, "I don't care that we lost. We had a blast."

Little League baseball was created for just that purpose. In 1938, a man named Carl Stotz hit upon the idea for an organized baseball team for the boys of his hometown of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Mr. Stotz gathered several of the neighborhood children and experimented with different types of equipment and different field dimensions during that summer. In 1939, he enlisted the help of others and formed three teams: Lycoming Dairy, Lundy Lumber, and Jumbo Pretzel.

Mr. Stotz came up with the name Little League, and the first Little League game was played June 6, 1939. His idea was to provide a wholesome program of baseball for the boys of Williamsport as a way to teach them the ideals of sportsmanship, fair play, and teamwork.

Carl Stotz would have been proud of the East Boynton Beach team. Sportsmanship, fair play, and teamwork are what made them the 2003 United States Little League Champions, an example not often set by the grown-ups involved in the game.

The East Boynton Beach Little League baseball team played with respect and friendship for their coaches, parents, and opposing teams. And all should be commended.

I join the sponsors of this resolution in commending them for their achievements.

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would advise the gentlewoman we have no additional requests for time.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER).

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution recognizing the accomplishments of the East Boynton Beach Little League team, which have been stated very eloquently, who won the United States Little League championship title this summer.

This Little League team from East Boynton Beach captured the hearts and souls of America this past August through sheer determination, grit, and love for the game of baseball. Out of the 7,000 teams from across the globe participating in the Little League World Series, these young ball players displayed the highest level of sportsmanship and goodwill. I am extremely proud of the way they worked together

as a team, as representatives of their community and Nation, and with the greatest amount of respect for their opponents.

I join my colleagues in Congress in congratulating the East Boynton Beach players: Michael Broad, Richie DeJesus, Cody Emerson, Jordan Irene, Patrick Mullen, R.J. Neal, Matt Overton, Ricky Sabatino, Benny Townsend, Devon Travis and Andrew Weaver. I also want to highlight the extraordinary efforts of manager Kenny Emerson and coaches Joe Irene and Tony Travis, individuals who instilled a keen sense of skill, spirit, and confidence in these young men and taught them how to conduct themselves on and, maybe even more importantly, off the field.

Finally, I also want to congratulate and thank those who are often overlooked who are critical to the accomplishments of these teams. East Boynton Beach's success could not have been achieved without the sacrifice of family members as well as the support of fans in Boynton Beach and throughout Florida. Clearly, the backbone of this team is not only the players and the coaches, but also the parents and family members who sacrificed their time, money, and effort to support this team of champions.

Again, I would like to join the gentlemen from Florida (Mr. SHAW) (Mr. HASTINGS) (Mr. FOLEY) in congratulating the East Boynton Beach Little League team for winning the United States league championship.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON), I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the resolution, 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 Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 273.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING INSPECTORS GENERAL OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 70) recognizing Inspectors General over the last 25 years in their efforts to prevent and detect waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, and to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the Federal Government.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 70

Whereas the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) was signed into law on October 12, 1978, with overwhelming bipartisan support;

Whereas Inspectors General now exist in the 29 largest executive branch agencies and in 28 other designated Federal entities;

Whereas Inspectors General work to serve the American taxpayer by promoting economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General conduct audits and investigations to both prevent and detect waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General make Congress and agency heads aware, through semiannual reports and other communications, of problems and deficiencies in the administration of programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Congress and agency heads utilize the recommendations of Inspectors General in the development and implementation of policies that promote economy and efficiency in the administration of, or prevent and detect waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in, the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Federal employees and other dedicated citizens report information to Inspectors General regarding the possible existence of an activity constituting a violation of law, rules, or regulations, or mismanagement, gross waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health and safety;

Whereas Inspector General audits and investigations result in annual recommendations for more effective spending of billions of taxpayer dollars, thousands of successful criminal prosecutions, hundreds of millions of dollars returned to the United States Treasury through investigative recoveries, and the suspension and debarment of thousands of individuals or entities from doing business with the Government; and

Whereas for 25 years the Inspectors General have worked with Congress to facilitate effective oversight to improve the programs and operations of the Federal Government: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress—

(1) recognizes the many accomplishments of the Inspectors General in preventing and detecting waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in the Federal Government;

(2) commends the Inspectors General and their employees for the dedication and professionalism displayed in the performance of their duties; and

(3) reaffirms the role of Inspectors General in promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the joint resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), introduced House Joint Resolution 70. This resolution commends inspectors general for the important work that they do to improve the operation of the Federal Government.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Enactment of the Inspector General Act. This 1978 law originally established Offices of Inspectors General in 12 Federal Departments and agencies. This act has since been amended so that today, statutory IGs oversee nearly 60 Federal Departments and agencies.

Inspectors general are a valuable resource for Congress and the American people. Through their audits and investigations, they highlight wasteful spending and fraudulent activities and recommend ways to improve the operation of government programs. In fiscal year 2002, IGs made recommendations that saved more than \$70 billion. Investigations performed by IG personnel also resulted in more than 10,000 criminal prosecutions.

Mr. Speaker, 25 years after the enactment of the IG act, IGs remain important guardians of good government. This resolution salutes their efforts, and I strongly support its adoption.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Joint Resolution 70, which recognizes inspectors general for their efforts to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse over the last 25 years and urge Members to vote for this measure.

The Committee on Government Reform has a long history of working with the inspectors general to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal programs. Indeed, the Committee on Government Reform drafted the original statute establishing inspectors general in the executive branch 25 years ago.

The close relationship between the inspectors general and our committee is entirely appropriate. The inspectors general community is one of Congress's principal watchdogs in the executive branch. There is much we can learn from each other as we work to ensure that our government operates in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

IGs have a very difficult job. They are appointed by the President and report to Congress as well as the head of their agency. As independent investigators within the Federal agencies, they are often the last person a manager wants to hear from. Yet in many instances, the toughest jobs are the ones that need the doing most.

During fiscal year 2002, IGs returned over \$4.5 billion to the Federal Government in restitutions and recoveries, and their audits identified another \$72 billion in funds that could be used

more effectively. They also had more than 10,000 successful criminal prosecutions. Similar accomplishments are made year after year. The IGs have more than proven their usefulness to Congress and to the American public.

It has been 25 years since the passage of the original IG act. That act established IGs in six Cabinet-level Departments. A good measure of the success of the IG concept is the fact that today, there are inspectors general in all Departments and also in most major independent agencies, for a total of 59 in all. Both Congress and the executive agencies themselves have come to rely heavily on the IGs to uncover fraud, waste, and abuse in the Federal Government.

This resolution states in part, "Inspectors General work to serve the American taxpayer by promoting economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government."

I firmly believe that to be true, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution commemorating their 25th anniversary.

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate and welcome the gentleman from Florida in his new capacity as an ex-officio member of the Committee on Government Reform.

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, House Joint Resolution 70, recognizes the accomplishments of the Inspectors General on the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Inspector General Act. Twenty-five years ago this month, the Government Reform Committee—then known as the Government Operations Committee—worked in a bipartisan fashion to enact legislation that established Inspectors General in six Cabinet level departments and another six government agencies. The IG Act was adopted in response to a need to reduce fraud and waste and to enhance accountability in the federal government. Under the IG Act, audit and investigative units within an agency were consolidated under a single office with protections designed to ensure independence and objectivity. The IG Act has since been expanded so that today we have IGs in 29 major department and agencies and in 28 smaller federal entities.

Over the last quarter century, IGs have been a vital asset in the war against waste, fraud, and mismanagement in the programs and operations of the federal government. The IGs and their more than 11,000 hardworking auditors, investigators, inspectors, and support staff, produce impressive results each year. In fiscal year 2002, IG audits resulted in savings of tens of billions of taxpayer dollars and returns of hundreds of millions of dollars to the Treasury. In addition, IG investigations resulted in thousands of successful criminal prosecutions. With a combined fiscal year 2002 budget of \$1.5 billion dollars, the IGs clearly provide significant returns for the taxpayer's investment.

The Committee on government Reform and the entire Congress have come to rely heavily on the critical work of the Inspectors General. In the twenty-five years since the passage of

the inspector General Act, much has changed in the way the Federal Government manages its programs and operations. A series of new management laws—including the Chief Financial Officers Act, the Government Performance and Results Act, and the Federal Information Security Management Act—are dramatically changing the management and accountability of the Federal Government, and the Inspectors General are playing a critical role in the implementation of these laws.

American taxpayers deserve no less from their government than the utmost accountability for their hard-earned money. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and salute the Inspectors General for their extremely important work on behalf of the American taxpayers.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 70.

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

The title of the joint resolution was amended so as to read: "Joint resolution commending the Inspectors General for their efforts to prevent and detect waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, and to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the Federal Government during the past 25 years."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EDDIE MAE STEWARD POST OFFICE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1883) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1601-1 Main Street in Jacksonville, Florida, as the "Eddie Mae Steward Post Office."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1883

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1601-1 Main Street in Jacksonville, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Eddie Mae Steward Post Office".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Eddie Mae Steward Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1883.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1883 was introduced by our esteemed colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN), which designates this postal facility in Jacksonville, Florida, as the Eddie Mae Steward Post Office.

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All Members of the Florida State delegation have cosponsored the legislation as is required by the rules of our committee.

Eddie Mae Steward lived nearly her entire life in Duval County, Florida. She became an institution in that area. After graduating from Douglas Anderson High School and Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, she began a life of public activism. Ms. Steward became the first female president of the local NAACP chapter in Jacksonville and rose to the level of Florida State president of the NAACP. Naming this post office after her in Jacksonville would be a wonderful tribute to her life of philanthropy.

Mr. Speaker, Eddie Mae Steward sadly passed away in March of 2001 at the age of 61. The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) introduced identical legislation to 1883 last year, and it passed the House, but not the Senate, before the end of the 107th Congress. With today's passage by the House, we would hope that H.R. 1883 can be presented to the President for his signature before the end of this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation.

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

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN).

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled to see this bill on the floor of the House today to dedicate a post office in Jacksonville to Ms. Eddie Mae Steward. Eddie Mae Steward left her mark on her community in many ways.

Eddie Mae Steward single-handedly launched the effort that led to the court-ordered desegregation of Duval County's public schools, she was the first female president of the Jacksonville branch of the NAACP, and served as the State NAACP president from 1973 to 1974.

She also served as the secretary of the Duval County Democratic Executive Committee. A graduate of Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, she was truly a dedicated civil rights activist.

Ms. Steward was the first to take on the fight to improve the infrastructure

of public schools for children in Jacksonville. One school in particular, Boylan Haven, a private school for African American girls, was described to be unfit by any standard. Ms. Steward took on the local school board, and after a three-week battle and intense pressure from Ms. Steward and local civil rights activists, the school board decided to send the students to other area schools. Today, Eddie Mae Steward remains a tribute to those willing to undertake great risks to bring about social justice.

Much like those before her who struggled against the injustice of status quo, she was referred to as a "troublemaker." However, it was fundamental fairness, strong principles, and the strength of her conviction that led her to become a visionary and courageous leader.

Ms. Steward leaves six children. And I am honored to recognize Eddie Mae Steward with this post office designation. I urge support for this measure.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would advise the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that we have no additional speakers. I am prepared to yield back when she is.

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I rise in support of H.R. 1883 which names a postal facility in Jacksonville, Florida, after Eddie Mae Steward. This bill was sponsored by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and has the support and cosponsorship of the entire Florida State delegation. The measure was unanimously reported out of committee on September 12, 2003.

Eddie Mae Steward, a native Floridian and lifelong resident of the Jacksonville community, was well known as a community leader and civil rights activist. She began her career as a civil rights advocate when she filed the suit for desegregation for the Duval County School System. She continued her efforts on behalf of her community by leading a series of successful fights to improve run-down public schools in Jacksonville.

In 1972, Eddie Mae Steward became the first female president of the Jacksonville branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a position she held for 6 years. She also served as the Florida State NAACP president from 1973 to 1974, as well as secretary of the Duval County Democratic Executive Committee. Sadly, she passed away on March 5, 2000.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleagues for seeking to honor the late Eddie Mae Steward by naming a postal facility near her family home in Jacksonville, Florida. I urge the swift passage of H.R. 1883.

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.