

Court and to providing public education on the history of the Constitution and the judiciary.

Specifically, the surcharges will be used to enable the Society to support historical research and education programs about the Court and the Constitution and related topics to support fellowship programs, internships, and documents of the Court, and to collect and preserve antiques and artifacts and other historical items related to the Court and the Constitution. John Marshall, a most deserving recognition for a most deserving American.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, but I would like to do something. The sponsor of the legislation could not be here tonight, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), and was very interested in being able to speak, and I will submit for the RECORD those remarks.

Mr. OXLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2768, the "John Marshall Commemorative Coin Act," introduced by the gentleman from Alabama, Mr. BACHUS, and urge its immediate passage.

Mr. Speaker, no school child of my age, or probably even of today, does not know of the famous Marbury vs. Madison decision, written by Chief Justice John Marshall, that established the principle of judicial review and made the Supreme Court, and the Federal judiciary, a co-equal branch of government.

I think, though, that even law students probably do not know that as the country's first Chief Justice, John Marshall wrote more than 500 opinions, truly making the court the great institution it is today during his 34 years of service in that post.

Just as importantly, I am certain that few know of the great efforts by the Supreme Court Historical Society, which preserves court memorabilia, provides docents for the court building and offers conservation for some truly valuable items held by the society—here I am thinking particularly of a striking portrait of John Marshall himself.

Surcharge income from the sale of the coins authorized in this legislation will help preserve those items and preserve the true history of the court, a history for which John Marshall's own hand scrawled the first bold strokes.

I would like to congratulate Mr. BACHUS for his legislation and for all the hard work to get the co-sponsorship of more than 500 Members of this body, and as well to thank Chairman THOMAS for his help in expediting consideration of the bill. With that, I urge immediate passage of this legislation.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, the resolution we are considering today, H.R. 2768, provides for the minting of a commemorative coin to honor the life and legacy of Chief Justice John Marshall, an important figure in United States history. He was a soldier during the Revolutionary War, a member of Congress, and Secretary of State before serving as chief justice for 34 years, the longest period of any justice in our Nation's history. He authored more than 500 opinions, which helped shape the fundamental principles of the Constitution, most notably the principle of judicial review. His leadership helped set the course for our court to become the powerful and prestigious institution that it is today.

Most Chicagoans recognize the name John Marshall as that of the John Marshall Law School, located in the heart of the city's legal and financial district. This institution has a long and continuous tradition of diversity, innovation and opportunity. Students receive an education that combines an understanding of the theory, the philosophy and the practice of law. Alumni from John Marshall Law School are active participants in local and national politics.

I initially became aware of this bill through alumni of John Marshall Law School. I have since become a strong supporter because not only does it honor Marshall's legacy, but it also has the potential to generate millions of dollars for the Supreme Court Historical Society. I believe the Society is an important tool for all Americans. It helps keep us educated and informed of our Nation's highest court and its activities.

As I spoke to other offices about this legislation, I was pleased to be able to secure an additional 40 cosponsors for this bill, helping to move it forward. However, I am disappointed that it took so long to get it past the House Financial Services Committee, which reported it out on April 27, 2004. I would have liked such a worthy, bipartisan issue to have been brought on the floor for voting much sooner. Nonetheless, I am pleased to be standing here in front of you today and I urge you to support this honorable and worthy legislation.

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a sponsor of H.R. 2768, the John Marshall Commemorative Coin Bill. The Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee has recommended that a coin commemorating the 250th anniversary of Chief Justice John Marshall be minted in 2005.

John Marshall's service to United States—not only as Chief Justice, but also as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, as a Member of Congress, and as Secretary of State—truly makes him one of the most unique and important figures in our Nation's history. A commemorative coin in his honor would be a fitting way to mark the 250th anniversary of his birth.

One occasionally hears the expression that an institution is the lengthened shadow of an individual. One would be remiss in suggesting that an institution such as the Supreme Court, an institution that has endured for over 200 years, could be the lengthened shadow of any one individual; but surely if there is one individual who could possibly qualify for such a distinction, it would be John Marshall.

John Marshall served as Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835, much of that time spent in this very building, holding the longest tenure of any Chief Justice in the Nation's history. He authored more than 500 opinions, including virtually all of the most important cases that the Court decided during his tenure. Under his leadership, the Supreme Court gave shape to the fundamental principles of the Constitution.

Neither Marshall nor the Court has previously been honored with a commemorative coin. One in his honor would be a fitting way to mark the 250th anniversary of his birth. Furthermore, to those concerned with the expense incurred from the creation of this coin, surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of the coins will be paid by the Secretary of Treasury to the Supreme Court Historical Society to support historical research and edu-

cational programs about the Supreme Court and the Constitution of the United States; to support fellowship programs, internships, and docents at the Supreme Court; and to collect and preserve antiques, artifacts, and other historical items related to the Supreme Court and the Constitution of the United States. I urge my colleagues to strongly support this legislation.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, so I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I also yield back the balance of my time and encourage all of the Members to vote aye in support of this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2768, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FIVE YEAR REAUTHORIZATION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill—H.R. 4012—to amend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 to permanently authorize the public school and private school tuition assistance programs established under the Act, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4012

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

SECTION 1. 5-YEAR REAUTHORIZATION OF TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM.—Section 3(i) of the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 (sec. 38—2702(i), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "each of the five succeeding fiscal years" and inserting "each of the 10 succeeding fiscal years".

(b) PRIVATE SCHOOL PROGRAM.—Section 5(f) of such Act (sec. 38—2704(f), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "each of the five succeeding fiscal years" and inserting "each of the 10 succeeding fiscal years".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4012, legislation to reauthorize the District of Columbia College Access Act for 5 additional years.

The College Access Program has been a key component of the District's revitalization efforts in recent years. It is critical that Congress continue to support its partnership with the District in providing access to higher education resources.

Madam Speaker, Congress chose to establish the D.C. College Access Program in 1999 for two primary reasons. First, the program addresses the fact that the District of Columbia does not have a State university system for its high school graduates. The program essentially leveled the playing field for high school graduates in the Nation's Capital by enabling them to attend colleges and universities around the country at in-State tuition rates, which makes college education affordable for students coming out of the District of Columbia, something that really was not available to them prior to this.

The program's second purpose was to deter tax-paying families in the District from moving to surrounding States in order to take advantage of in-State higher education options available to residents in other States, thus depriving the District of much-needed stability and tax revenue.

I cannot tell my colleagues how many mothers and fathers have approached me to say thank you for not having to leave the District so our child could go to college, but thanks to this program, we can stay.

At a Committee on Government Reform hearing on the program last March, it was clear that the program has been more than a mere anecdotal success over the last 5 years. D.C. Mayor Tony Williams testified that since the creation of the program the number of high school graduates in the District continuing on to college has increased 28 percent. The national average over the same time period was 5 percent.

It was not too long ago we had high schools in the District sending more kids out to Lorton Prison than to college. College was not an affordable option for many of these kids in the District. What we see happening now is, as it becomes more affordable, we see kids getting in the spirit and we see a significant increase of District kids going on to higher education. With that, crime decreases, the economy is improving, the District is achieving financial stability.

The impact of the College Access Program is undeniable. According to a survey of high school graduates in the District, 75 percent of the students who have received assistance through the program have indicated that the existence of these grants makes the difference in their decision to attend col-

lege and was a key factor in deciding which college to attend. H.R. 4012 represents a shot at a better education and, in turn, a better life for countless D.C. students.

The District is not a State, and D.C. residents do not have access to the network of in-State universities like residents of other States. As I said before, this legislation also provides an incentive to families to stay in the District. This program operates hand-in-hand with the D.C. College Access Program, which is the private sector's College Access Program, providing college counseling to D.C. high school students and last dollar financial assistance to college-bound D.C. high school graduates. This is a double punch provided by the public and the private sectors and it has made a tremendous impact on the educational opportunities available to D.C. high school students.

It is equally clear that the students are becoming more aware and choosing to take advantage of these opportunities.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4012 and to continue to support a level playing field for high school graduates in the District of Columbia.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999, which funds the D.C. Tuition Assistance Grant, or TAG program, was passed with bipartisan sponsors in the House and Senate, led in this House by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS). It included a number of cosponsors, as many, if not more, from the other side of the aisle as from this side.

The champions of the bill in the Senate were equally bipartisan. I am particularly grateful to the current House and Senate sponsors of H.R. 4012 who were on the original bill for their continuing leadership efforts in sustaining TAG and to President Bush who came to office several years after the bill was in effect, saw the evidence of its success, and has continued to fund it in his budget at authorized levels.

I want to specifically thank my good friend, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), who has offered indispensable leadership on this bill and on a number of other very important D.C. initiatives over the years.

The Act gives D.C. residents the options for college attendance routinely enjoyed by other Americans through their State college systems. This is the one jurisdiction in the United States that does not have a university system. D.C. has only one public university, the University of the District of Columbia, or UDC, an open-admission institution.

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And as part of DC TAG, Congress allowed UDC to be funneled on an annual basis as a Historically Black College or University for the first time in our history.

The bill allows DC residents to attend any public college or university anywhere in the United States at in-state tuition rates up to \$10,000 annually and to receive \$2,500 to attend any private college or HBCU in the city or region. Already over 6,000 DC students have attended more than 150 colleges nationwide because of supplementary funds provided by the act.

The best indication of the success of the act is that in the 5 years since it was passed, college attendance in the district has increased by 28 percent, compared with only 5 percent nationally. DC TAG recipients range from residents for whom college was more a dream than a possibility, to residents who might otherwise have moved out of the district and along with them more of the district's already depleted tax base.

The cost of tuition is a significant reason many residents left and others refused to settle here rather than in Maryland or Virginia, each of which has more than 30 different colleges and universities to fit the specific needs and interests of residents.

The evidence of the success of the program and return on the dollar to residents, to the city, and to the Federal Government is not in dispute. Close monitoring by the GAO and by our office has shown that TAG has been well run. TAG is universally popular among DC residents and businesses because of the act's simultaneous and immediate benefits to both District residents and to the city itself.

This program is an unqualified success story. It continues to exceed all expectations. It deserves the 5-year extension the committee recommends today, and I strongly urge passage.

Mr. SCHROCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4012, a bill to reauthorize the District of Columbia College Access Act for 5 years.

This legislation allows high school graduates from D.C. to pay in-state tuition rates at state colleges and universities throughout Maryland and Virginia. As a Congressman from the Commonwealth of Virginia, I welcome these students.

Over the past year, I have become increasingly aware of the hardships the children in our Nation's capital face. Their public school system is in shambles. Without this legislation, a DC student who manages to succeed in the failed school system despite the odds, and is accepted to college, has very limited choices on where he or she can go and pay lower in-state rates.

Since the creation of the program 5 years ago, the number of high school graduates in the District continuing on to college has risen by an astonishing 28 percent. These are the kind of results we like to see.

This legislation simply levels the playing field for these students, who do not have the

benefit to choose from several in-state colleges like their counterparts throughout the rest of the nation.

I believe that the city of Washington, DC should be a model to the rest of the nation. Ensuring that young people in DC have access to a good education is a great place to start.

I hope that my colleagues will overwhelmingly support this legislation, and show the students in the District of Columbia that we are committed to ensure they have every opportunity to succeed in life.

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4012, which helps level the playing field for the students of D.C. by permanently expanding opportunities for affordable higher education at colleges and universities across the nation.

Too many children in our Nation's Capital are not getting the higher education they need and deserve, and this program gives many the opportunity to go to college.

D.C. residents do not have access to a network of in-state universities like residents of States. The D.C. College Access Program provides D.C. high school graduates access to colleges and universities throughout the country at in-State tuition rates.

The program has been a tremendous success since it was implemented in 1999. The number of D.C. high school graduates continuing on to college increased from 1,750 in 1998 to 2,230 in 2002. That's a 28 percent increase since the program was created.

It also provides an incentive to families to stay in the District. Before the program existed, families would often move to Virginia or Maryland to take advantage of in-State tuition rates for their children. This was a drain on the District's economy, exacerbating the District's dependence on the federal government.

By encouraging families to stay in D.C., we are helping to stabilize the District's tax base and reduce the local jurisdiction's financial dependence on the Federal Government.

The D.C. College Access Program is clearly having a positive impact on the educational opportunities available to D.C. high school students, and it is clear that students are becoming more aware of and choosing to take advantage of these opportunities.

Because of the program's tremendous success, and the support it gives to the youth in our Nation's Capital, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HARRIS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4012, as amended.

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

The title is amended so as to read: "A bill to amend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 to reauthorize for 5 additional years the public school and private school tuition assistance programs established under the Act."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

O.C. WELCH'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, Americans remain frustrated and fed up with the liberal lopsided media. Worse than their decisive liberalness, Americans are tired of the media's pessimism: we cannot have democracy in the Middle East. We have to have the permission of the U.N. We will never get out of there without France and Germany.

One man in my district has taken matters into his own hands. At his own expense, O. C. Welch has taken out the following ad which he calls "The Rest of the Story." He lists all the good things that have happened in Iraq, from building schools to getting small businesses up and running, to getting hospitals open again, to bringing electricity back. He says, "There are many, many people in Iraq that want us there, and want us there bad. They say that they will never see the freedom we talk about, but they hope their children will. Our troops have performed brilliantly and have done a great job both during combat and reconstruction."

That is O. C. Welch's contribution to the cause. I think it is a good one. I know Mr. Welch. He is a self-made man. He started out selling used cars at the old Plantation Nightclub lot. He moved to Claxton, Georgia. Now he is in Beaufort. He is a family man, he is a generous giver to the Catholic church, but above all O. C. Welch is a great American and an optimist.

[From the Savannah Morning News, July 5, 2004]

THE REST OF THE STORY

THIS IS A LIST OF SOME OF THE POSITIVE THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED IN IRAQ RECENTLY

Over 400,000 kids have up-to-date immunizations.

School attendance is up 80% from levels before the war.

Girls are allowed to attend school.

Over 1,500 schools have been renovated and rid of the weapons stored there so education can occur.

The port of Uhm Qasar was renovated so grain can be off-loaded from ships faster.

The country had its first two billion barrel export of oil in August.

Over 4.5 million people have clean drinking water for the first time ever in Iraq.

The country now receives two times the electrical power it did before the war.

100% of the hospitals are open and fully-staffed, compared to 35% before the war.

Elections are taking place in every major city, and city councils are in place.

Sewer and water lines are installed in every major city.

Over 60,000 police are patrolling the streets.

Over 100,000 Iraqi civil defense police are securing the country.

Over 80,000 Iraqi soldiers are patrolling the streets side-by-side with U.S. soldiers.

Over 400,000 people have telephones for the first time ever.

Students are taught field sanitation and hand-washing techniques to prevent the spread of germs.

An interim constitution has been signed.

Textbooks that don't mention Saddam are in the schools for the first time in 30 years.

There are many, many people in Iraq that want us there, and want us there bad. They say that they will never see the freedom we talk about, but they hope their children will. Our troops have performed brilliantly and have done a great job both during combat and reconstruction.

God bless all of them and the job they do.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HENSARLING addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EMANUEL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)