

Prior to his death in 2001, he served as senior advisor to Goldman Sachs in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague for seeking to honor the memory and legacy of the late Senator Mike Mansfield, and I urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of S. 2214, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2214.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LIEUTENANT JOHN F. FINN POST OFFICE

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2693) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1475 Western Avenue, Suite 45, in Albany, New York, as the "Lieutenant John F. Finn Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2693

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

SECTION 1. LIEUTENANT JOHN F. FINN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1475 Western Avenue, Suite 45, in Albany, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Lieutenant John F. Finn Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Lieutenant John F. Finn Post Office.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. 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 S. 2693.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation designates the postal facility located at 1475 Western Avenue in Albany, New York, as the Lieutenant John F. Finn Post Office.

Lieutenant John Finn, a 12-year veteran of the Albany Police Department, was shot three times while chasing a robbery suspect on December 23, 2003.

Amazingly, he endured in spite of his wounds for nearly 7 weeks, before sadly passing away on February 12 of this year.

Last month, on October 6, the House passed H.R. 5053, an identical bill that memorialized Lieutenant Finn's service and bravery to his grateful Nation. With passage of the Senate bill here today, the House can ensure that the Lieutenant John F. Finn Post Office will soon be established in Albany.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) for advancing H.R. 5053, and Senator SCHUMER of New York for shepherding today's bill, S. 2693, through both Chambers.

Lieutenant Finn and his family greatly deserve this honor, and I urge passage of this legislation.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY), the sponsor of this legislation in the House of Representatives.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I simply want to thank Senator SCHUMER, Senator CLINTON, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SWEENEY), and all the members of the New York delegation, Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings, and all of those who worked so hard to bring this legislation to the floor today.

John Finn was a police officer who was killed in the line of duty. He literally laid down his life for his friends. Mr. Speaker, we consider this bill today in memory of all of his service through the years to the Albany Police Department, and also for his wife, Maura, his children, Clara and Molly, and all of his fellow police officers and friends.

I ask all of my colleagues to approve this legislation as a small tribute to a true American hero, Lieutenant Finn.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time to comment on S. 2693, which designates the United States Post Office at 1475 Western Avenue in Albany, New York as the "Lieutenant John F. Finn Post Office."

This bill was introduced by our former colleague, my good friend from New York, Senator CHUCK SCHUMER.

I was pleased to introduce the House companion to this legislation, HR 5053, which passed the House unanimously on October 6th of this year.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from New York, Mr. SWEENEY, for his steadfast support of this legislation and his leadership on issues of importance to the law enforcement community.

And I also thank Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings for his steadfast support for the entire Finn family.

Mr. Speaker, John Francis Finn was born in Port Jefferson on Long Island. He was the son of Bill and Mary Finn, and he was a great brother to Bill, Michael, Mary and Rose. He

graduated from Smithtown High School, also on Long Island, and the University of Albany.

He joined the Albany Police Department on January 31, 1991. He had a 13-year career with the Albany Police Department with many diverse assignments. He completed them all with exemplary commitment, dedication, and compassion.

He was named a detective in the juvenile unit in 1993, promoted to sergeant in 1996, and promoted to lieutenant in 2001.

Mr. Speaker, on December 23, 2003, Lt. Finn responded to an armed robbery at a convenience store. Although he was wearing a protective vest, the suspect, armed with a semiautomatic weapon, struck Lt. Finn three times in the lower abdomen and leg.

Over the next few weeks, John underwent numerous surgeries and received exceptional care at the Albany Medical Center.

He passed away 51 days later, on February 12th of this year, becoming the ninth member of the Albany Police Department to be killed in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, over 5,000 officers and mourners from around the northeastern United States attended the memorial service in February at the Pepsi Arena in Albany. The service recalled John's distinguished career and life of service and sacrifice. He had received two lifesaving awards from the Albany Police Department.

In 2000, the Kiwanis Club named him Officer of the Year, and the Albany County Youth Recognition Awards have been renamed in honor of Lt. Finn.

Governor Pataki named Lt. Finn Police Officer of the Year in 2003 and presented that award to Lt. Finn's wife, Maura McNulty-Finn, and to his two daughters, Clara and Molly.

Maura was the love of his life, and Clara and Molly were his pride and joy. He brought his daughters to work with him when he volunteered, as he frequently did.

He was also instrumental in creating the Children and Family Services Unit in the Albany Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, at John's memorial service, I quoted scripture in saying, "No greater love can one man have than that he lay down his life for his friends." That is what John Finn did.

At this particular time, when we have many service personnel serving overseas, we are mindful of their sacrifice. We remember their service on a daily basis, as well we should.

We should always remember that had it not been for all the men and women who wore the uniform of the United States military, the rest of us would not have the privilege of going around bragging, as I often do, about how we live in the freest and most open democracy on the Earth. Freedom is not free. We paid a tremendous price for it.

I think we sometimes neglect to remember the sacrifices made by those protecting the homeland, who put themselves at risk every single day, just like John Finn did on December 23, 2003, when he gave his life for his friends.

So I am honored to be here today, Mr. Speaker, to recall John's life of service and sacrifice, to pay this small tribute to him, and to do what I know he would really like—to thank all police officers across the Nation who put their lives on the line for us every single day.

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in the consideration of S. 2693, legislation designating the postal facility in Albany, New York, after Lieutenant John F. Finn.

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This measure, which was sponsored by Senator CHARLES SCHUMER, passed the Senate unanimously on October 10, 2004. S. 2693 is identical to H.R. 5053 which passed the House by a voice vote on October 6, 2004.

A 12-year veteran of the Albany, New York, Police Department, Lieutenant John F. Finn was shot while pursuing a robbery suspect. Sadly, Lieutenant Finn passed away last year from his wounds.

Mr. Speaker, we appreciate the enormous sacrifice paid by Lieutenant Finn for protecting his community. Therefore, I join with all of those who would seek to honor his life, his work and his memory and urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I again urge support for passage of Senate 2693. We are blessed by the courageous service of individuals such as Lieutenant Finn who went into harm's way for the safety and security of all of us fellow citizens.

Mr. Speaker, 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2693.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF CREATION OF LIFESAVING STATIONS ON THE GREAT LAKES

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 750) recognizing the 130th anniversary of the creation of lifesaving stations on the Great Lakes, which became part of the United States Life-Saving Service, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 750

Whereas in 1871 Sumner Increase Kimball was appointed as the Chief of the Revenue Marine Division of the Department of the Treasury;

Whereas in overhauling the Revenue Marine Division and decentralizing the system of lifesaving stations, Mr. Kimball recommended the establishment of lifesaving stations on the Great Lakes;

Whereas in 1874 Congress authorized the organization of the Life-Saving Service into 12 districts, including 3 on the Great Lakes;

Whereas the 8th district consisted of Lakes Erie and Ontario, the 9th district consisted

of Lakes Huron and Superior, and the 10th district consisted of Lake Michigan;

Whereas in 1878 these lifesaving stations were organized with others around the Nation as a separate agency of the Department of the Treasury known as the United States Life-Saving Service;

Whereas in 1854 at the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, lifesaving capabilities were first introduced to the Great Lakes with 9 lifeboats placed on Lake Ontario, 14 lifeboats placed on Lake Erie, 23 lifeboats placed on Lake Michigan, and 1 lifeboat placed on Lake Superior;

Whereas the forgotten heroes who served at lifesaving stations contended with giant squalls, wrecked vessels, and low pay;

Whereas these men performed amazing rescues, but by far the largest amount of work for the crews revolved around drilling with the rescue equipment, patrol and lookout duty, and general station upkeep;

Whereas the United States Life-Saving Service enabled the shipping industry to rapidly grow on the Great Lakes;

Whereas when the United States Life-Saving Service ended in 1915, 63 Great Lakes stations were in operation, including one on the Mississippi River in Louisville, Kentucky;

Whereas during the years of its operation, the Great Lakes Life-Saving Service contended with 9,763 disasters, saving 55,639 people and \$110,038,860 in property;

Whereas over the course of the United States Life-Saving Service, 20 brave employees gave their lives while performing their duties;

Whereas the organization that Mr. Kimball formed provided the basis for the new search and rescue organization of the Coast Guard; and

Whereas the constant attention to practice with rescue equipment and inspections employed by the United States Life-Saving Service is still in use today: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 130th anniversary of the creation of lifesaving stations on the Great Lakes, which became part of the United States Life-Saving Service;

(2) commends the personnel of the United States Life-Saving Service whose efforts saved lives and property on the Great Lakes; and

(3) acknowledges Sumner Increase Kimball for his foresight in the field of marine safety and commitment to maritime safety on the Great Lakes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) 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, H. Res. 750, which was introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER), recognizes the 130th anniversary of the creation of life-saving stations on the Great Lakes. It commends the personnel of the United States Life-Saving Service for their efforts to save lives and property on the Great Lakes and acknowledges the leadership of Sumner Increase Kimball in protecting maritime safety.

The United States Life-Saving Service was established in 1874. The Life-Saving Service operated as an inde-

pendent agency within the Department of the Treasury before these operations were transferred to the newly established United States Coast Guard in 1915. The efforts by the brave heroes of the Life-Saving Service formed the basis for the Coast Guard's search and rescue functions that continue to this very day.

As part of the service, numerous lifesaving and lifeboat stations were built on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts and along the shores of the Great Lakes. Over a period of 40 years, the men of the Life-Saving Service saved the lives of more than 55,000 people, and they saved more than \$110 million in property in the Great Lakes region alone. These rescues were often made in the face of dangerous storms and under treacherous conditions. Twenty brave men gave their lives while performing their duties as employees of the Life-Saving Service, and we honor their service and their sacrifice with this resolution here today.

I certainly commend my colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER), for introducing this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the anniversary of the creation of life-saving stations on the Great Lakes.

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

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

Those of us who live on or along the Great Lakes or within the Great Lakes basin know what a great resource this extraordinary collection of individual bodies of fresh water is. It is 20 percent of the fresh water on the face of the earth. We think of it as a great fresh water resource, but it is also a highway of commerce, and we recognize today that in this highway of commerce there are dangers for those who ply the waterways.

The story of today's legislation begins in 1871, when a young lawyer from Maine named Sumner Kimball was appointed chief of the Treasury Department's Revenue Marine Division.

Not many people know, or if they knew recall, that the Coast Guard we know today started out as a revenue cutter service. It was the main source of revenue for the fledgling U.S. government. So the Revenue Marine Division leader began a review of the Department's life-saving network. He found equipment old, rusty, in need of replacement and that the Department's lifesaver employees were too old for life-saving missions, few were competent, and that their selection depended more on politics than qualifications in handling boats.

It was indeed a very dark time for life-saving, especially on the treacherous waters of the Great Lakes, whether it is Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie or Ontario.