

shall be known and designated as the "Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. United States Courthouse".

SENATOR PAUL SIMON FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2022.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2022) to designate the Federal building located at 250 West Cherry Street in Carbondale, IL, as the "Senator Paul Simon Federal Building."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, on December 9, 2003, we lost our colleague, U.S. Senator Paul Simon, a great public servant and a great friend.

At the age of 19, Paul Simon became the nation's youngest editor-publisher when he accepted a Lion's Club challenge to save the Troy Tribune in Troy, IL. From that start, he built a chain of 13 newspapers in southern and central Illinois. He also used his post in the newspaper world to expose criminal activities and in 1951, at age 22, he was called as a key witness to testify before the U.S. Senate's Crime Investigating Committee.

Paul Simon served the state of Illinois and the United States for decades. He is the only individual to have served in both the Illinois House of Representatives and the Illinois Senate, and the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. He served in the state legislature for 14 years, and won the Independent Voters of Illinois' "Best Legislator Award" every session. He also served as Lieutenant Governor for Illinois from 1968 to 1972. In addition, he served in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953.

Paul Simon highly valued education and the youth of our nation. In addition to his work in Congress to strengthen public education in America, he started the public affairs reporting program at Sangamon State University, now the University of Illinois at Springfield. He later became the founder and director of the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL, and taught there for more than 6 years. In addition, Paul Simon wrote 22 books and earned over 55 honorary degrees.

From journalism to government to education, Paul Simon set the standard for honesty and caring in public life. He was an unapologetic champion of the less fortunate. He was genuine in his politics, life and values.

Now those of us who loved and respected him will do our best to carry

on his tradition. We will find many ways, great and small, to honor him.

Today, the Senate will pass companion legislation to a bill Congressman JERRY COSTELLO has introduced in the House. This legislation would designate the federal building at 250 West Cherry Street in Carbondale, Illinois as the "Senator Paul Simon Federal Building." I am happy to have Senator FITZGERALD as a cosponsor of this legislation. I thank Senators INHOFE and JEFFORDS for their timely consideration of this legislation in the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

Paul Simon moved to Carbondale in 1974, where he was elected to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. He continued to call the Carbondale area his home until his death. Naming this building in Carbondale after him will help present and future generations remember and honor Paul Simon, a great man who lived in and worked for the people of Carbondale, Illinois and our Nation with the greatest integrity.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2022) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2022

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF FEDERAL BUILDING.

The Federal building located at 250 West Cherry Street in Carbondale, Illinois shall be known and designated as the "Senator Paul Simon Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCE.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Senator Paul Simon Federal Building.

RONALD REAGAN FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2043.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the bill by title.

A bill (S. 2043) to designate a Federal building in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Ronald Reagan Federal Building."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2043) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2043

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

SECTION 1. RONALD REAGAN FEDERAL BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal building located at 228 Walnut Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald Reagan Federal Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Ronald Reagan Federal Building.

HONORING THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NC, FOR ITS 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 307, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 307) honoring the county of Cumberland, North Carolina, its municipalities and community partners as they celebrate the 250th year of the existence of Cumberland County.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

AMENDMENT NO. 2857

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand that Senator EDWARDS has an amendment at the desk. I ask unanimous consent that it be considered agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD as if read, without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2857) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike all after the resolved clause and insert the following:

That the Senate commemorates the 250th Anniversary Celebration of the county of Cumberland, North Carolina, its municipalities, and other community partners.

The resolution (S. Res. 307), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 307

Whereas for thousands of years before the European settlers arrived, Cumberland County's streams and forests were home to native peoples who lived in the area, hunted, farmed, and buried their dead;

Whereas Cumberland County, located at the head of navigation on the Cape Fear River, quickly became a strong area of trade between the port city of Wilmington and the lower Cape Fear River to the southeast and the Carolina back country to the west;

Whereas the upper Cape Fear Valley in present Cumberland County experienced an early migration of Highland Scots beginning in 1739, many of whom settled in the area

known as "The Bluff" alongside the Cape Fear River 4 miles south of the Lower Little River;

Whereas in 1754, the area known as Cumberland County was formed from lands carved from Bladen County and was named in honor of William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, third son of George II, King of England, an area which reflected a mixture of ethnic and national backgrounds;

Whereas each municipality was individually chartered: Falcon in 1913; Fayetteville in 1762; Godwin in 1905; Hope Mills in 1891; Linden in 1913; Spring Lake in 1951; Stedman in 1913; and Wade in 1913;

Whereas on June 20, 1775, 13 months before the Declaration of Independence, a group of Cumberland County's active patriots signed "The Association" later called the "Liberty Point Resolves", a document that vowed to "Go forth and be ready to sacrifice our lives and fortunes to secure her freedom and safety"; a marker at the point lists the signers of "The Association";

Whereas the period of the American Revolution was a time of divided loyalties in Cumberland County, and a considerable portion of the population, especially Highland Scots, were staunchly loyal to the British Crown, among them was the famous Scottish heroine Flora McDonald;

Whereas African-American people, both slaves and free citizens, were represented in the early population of Cumberland County, and during the American Revolution several of the county's free African-Americans fought for the patriot cause; among the notables was the midwife Aunt Hannah Mallet (1755-1857) who died at the age of 102; she delivered hundreds of babies in her lifetime, and she typified the courage and vital role of the early 19th-century African-American community;

Whereas in 1783, the towns of Campbellton and Cross Creek merged to become Fayetteville, the first town in the United States named in honor of the Revolutionary War hero, Marquis de Lafayette;

Whereas in November 1789, the North Carolina General Assembly voted to adopt and ratify the United States Constitution at the Market House in Fayetteville, then known as the State House;

Whereas in 1789, the University of North Carolina, the first State university chartered in the United States, was chartered by the North Carolina General Assembly in Fayetteville, it being the first State university;

Whereas in 1793, the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company was organized in Cumberland County; it has the distinction of being the oldest military unit in the South in continuous existence;

Whereas in 1816, the Fayetteville Observer was founded as a weekly newspaper; it is now published daily and is North Carolina's oldest newspaper still in publication;

Whereas in 1825, the Marquis de Lafayette visited the city named for him and stayed in the McRae family home that once stood on the site of the Historic Courthouse on Gillespie Street in Fayetteville;

Whereas in 1831, the Great Fire destroyed the State House (the Market House) and many other buildings and caused more damage than the 1871 Chicago fire or the 1906 San Francisco earthquake;

Whereas in 1865, General William T. Sherman brought the Union Army to Cumberland County, destroying the Confederate arsenal and effectively bringing the county back into the Union;

Whereas in 1867, 7 visionary African-American citizens of Cumberland County paid about \$136 for 2 lots on Gillespie Street and formed the self-perpetuating Board of Trustees of the Howard School for the education of African-American youth; this school later

became Fayetteville State University (FSU), which now offers 41 undergraduate programs, 22 graduate programs, and 1 doctoral program; FSU has 18 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) and 2 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championships;

Whereas in 1914, Babe Ruth, the New York Yankee great, hit his first homerun as a professional at the old ballpark on Gillespie Street in Cumberland County, and in doing so, the 19-year-old "babe" so amazed the crowd, that George Herman Ruth was forever known by the nickname, "Babe", bestowed upon him while playing in Cumberland County;

Whereas in 1918, Camp Bragg was established from lands ceded from Cumberland County; it is now known as Fort Bragg, home of the 18th Airborne Corps, the 82d Airborne Division, and the United States Army Special Operations Command;

Whereas Fort Bragg was named for North Carolina native Lt. General Braxton Bragg; Fort Bragg soldiers and their families continue to be an integral part of the history and heritage of Cumberland County;

Whereas in 1919, Pope Army Airfield was established and remained part of the Army Air Corps until 1947 when the United States Air Force was established; it was home to the 43d Airlift Wing and the 18th Air Support Operations Group; Pope airmen and their families continue to be an integral part of the history and heritage of Cumberland County;

Whereas on November 1, 1956, Methodist College was chartered as a senior coeducational liberal arts college; it has grown to more than 2,100 students who hail from 48 States and 30 countries, graduated 8,145 students, and awarded associate's, bachelor's, or master's degrees in 57 majors and concentrations; Methodist College NCAA Division III athletic teams have earned 24 national championship titles;

Whereas in 1961, Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) was founded as the Fayetteville Area Industrial Education Center, with a faculty and staff of 9 people serving 50 students, and has since evolved into a comprehensive institution serving approximately 40,000 students annually, offering more than 121 programs;

Whereas Cumberland County's 6th courthouse, circa 1924, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is being established and dedicated, pursuant to the county's 250th anniversary, as a gallery of early prominent members of the local bar and elected county officials; and

Whereas Cumberland County and the municipalities of Falcon, Fayetteville, Godwin, Hope Mills, Linden, Spring Lake, Stedman, and Wade, along with civic groups, private businesses and military partners, are joining together to celebrate 250 years of history, culture, and diversity; the celebration will take place March 26-28, 2004: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commemorates the 250th Anniversary Celebration of the county of Cumberland, North Carolina, its municipalities, and other community partners.

NATIONAL HOUSING ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3724 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3724) to amend section 220 of the National Housing Act to make a technical correction to restore allowable increases in the maximum mortgage limits for FHA-insured mortgages for multifamily housing projects to cover increased costs of installing a solar energy system or residential energy conservation measures.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3724) was read the third time and passed.

SENATE BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this week the Senate completed action on S. Con. Res. 95, the fiscal year 2005 budget resolution, under the tremendous leadership of Chairman NICKLES. As we look over the last 4 days, we have had a very busy course with debating and disposing of 64 amendments to the budget resolution. There were 25 rollcall votes in relation to the amendments, including passage.

We had a long day of voting yesterday until the early hours of this morning with 19 votes, and Senator NICKLES guided the budget resolution to passage early this morning by a vote of 51 to 45.

In addition to that business, we were able to clear executive nominations. The Senate confirmed 17 nominations. Two of the nominations confirmed were district judges from Arizona and Mississippi. I am pleased we were able to clear these judicial nominations, and I look forward to continuing this process for the remaining nominations that are on the calendar.

Indeed, there are approximately 22 judges on the calendar, of which I believe 15 or so should move expeditiously. I will continue to work with the Democratic leader in scheduling these when we return from the recess. I understand the Democratic leader mentioned additional nominations, and I will be consulting with him on those as well. He mentioned them earlier today and last night, and we will be consulting on those nominations.

Late last night, as I mentioned earlier, the Senate confirmed the nomination of Mark McClellan to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Yesterday, the Senate also spoke with one voice with regard to a tragedy, the deadly attack yesterday against the people of Spain. Our condolences were expressed. We had a moment of silence yesterday to honor the people of Spain. In addition, we sponsored a resolution that condemned this