

where Indian housing has had a chance to even be heard of or had a field hearing.

I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY).

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Arizona for yielding me the time and also my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their hard work to bring this legislation to the floor. It is important, it is bipartisan. We had the hearing in which were present the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI), the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON). It was the first hearing that we could find in the history of the House actually held on the tribal ground.

When we also looked in the subcommittee at the issues for people to be able to get a house, can you imagine if you had to wait 1 or 2 years to get your title? I think the interest rates had probably changed by that time.

I applaud the work that you have done, Congressman RENZI, on that issue. It is so important because of the conditions for native Americans in the housing, and, again, very proud of the work that you have done, Congressman RENZI, and the bipartisan effort by our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to help people who really need the assistance.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, first I would yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for a unanimous consent request.

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in very, very strong support of this important legislation for the Indian American community.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman mentioning our colleague from Utah (Mr. MATHESON), who has been very active in this, and also the staffs from our committee have worked very well together. I think it is the first time that such attention has been devoted at both the Member and staff level. I am very appreciative of our ability to do that together.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH).

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts, and I want to thank him for his advocacy for Native American housing. I rise in strong support of H.R. 797, the Native American Housing Enhancement Act of 2005, sponsored by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI). I want to thank him for the quality of spirit which led him to propose this.

I would like to say that I have had the opportunity to visit with many tribal communities over the last few years. I understand the need for this legislation. I also want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) for his advocacy on this issue. He and I have

worked together on this housing issue, and I am glad to be here with him.

This bill requires federally recognized, self-governing Indian tribes to comply with the Indian Civil Rights Act, title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, if they received financial assistance from the Agriculture Department for farm housing.

Under current law the Department can provide loans to farm owners to improve housing conditions for themselves or their workers. The Indian Civil Rights Act prohibits tribes from making laws that restrict freedom of religion, freedom of speech or freedom of the press. It also sets out the requirements pertaining to fair due process for people who are arrested.

The measure also exempts tribes currently in compliance with the Indian Civil Rights Act and tribes acting under other federally affordable housing programs in compliance with certain sections relating to fair housing and other civil rights laws which overlap with provisions in the Indian Civil Rights Act.

Finally, the bill provides consistency across tribal housing programs by treating tribes applying for housing programs within the USDA the same as tribes applying for housing programs within HUD. It allows tribes to comply with title II of the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 rather than title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 when securing Federal funds for USDA housing programs.

This bill will encourage home ownership and enhance housing opportunities for Native Americans around the country. It gives tribes more flexibility when developing housing improvement projects. Native American housing needs considerable improvement. Approximately 90,000 Indian families are homeless or underhoused. Nearly 33 percent of Native American homes are overcrowded, while 33 percent lack adequate solid waste management systems, and 8 percent lack a safe indoor water supply. This is a good bill that will supply tangible benefits.

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

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Massachusetts mentioned the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON). Without the gentleman from Utah who actually attended the hearing, we could not have gotten this done.

The Navajo Reservation is 18 million acres, larger than the State of West Virginia. It spans the State of Arizona, Utah and New Mexico. I also want to thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), everyone pulling together on this.

The new housing land map that just came out shows that that portion of America is the largest poverty-ridden land mass in the State. I know these gentlemen have a history, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the

gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), of working hard on poverty issues. I thank you so much for stepping up, particularly in this time, when finally it is becoming aware that the remaining poverty in this country, one of the largest land masses of poverty in the Nation, is up there in that Four Corners area.

Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 797.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LITTLE ROCK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DESEGREGATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 358) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of the Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Little Rock Central High School Desegregation 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) September 2007, marks the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

(2) In 1957, Little Rock Central High was the site of the first major national test for the implementation of the historic decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Brown, et al. v. Board of Education of Topeka, et al.*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

(3) The courage of the "Little Rock Nine" (Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, Melba Pattillo, Jefferson Thomas, Carlotta Walls, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray, Thelma Mothershed, and Minnie Jean Brown) who stood in the face of violence, was influential to the Civil Rights movement and changed American history by providing an example on which to build greater equality.

(4) The desegregation of Little Rock Central High by the 9 African American students was recognized by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as such a significant event in the struggle for civil rights that in May 1958, he attended the graduation of the first African American from Little Rock Central High School.

(5) A commemorative coin will bring national and international attention to the lasting legacy of this important event.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;
 (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) **LEGAL TENDER.**—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the desegregation of the Little Rock Central High School and its contribution to civil rights in America.

(b) **DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.**—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

(1) a designation of the value of the coin;
 (2) an inscription of the year “2007”; and
 (3) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(c) **SELECTION.**—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee established under section 5135 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) **QUALITY OF COINS.**—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) **COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 2007, except that the Secretary may initiate sales of such coins, without issuance, before such date.

(c) **TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.**—No coins shall be minted under this Act after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) **SALE PRICE.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of the face value of the coins, the surcharge required under section 7(a) for the coins, and the cost of designing and issuing such coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, and marketing).

(b) **BULK SALES.**—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) **PREPAID ORDERS AT A DISCOUNT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) **DISCOUNT.**—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) **SURCHARGE REQUIRED.**—All sales shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) **DISTRIBUTION.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, and subsection (d), all surcharges which are received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Secretary of the Interior for the protection, preservation, and interpretation of resources and stories associated with Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, including the following:

(1) Site improvements at Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site.

(2) Development of interpretive and education programs and historic preservation projects.

(3) Establishment of cooperative agreements to preserve or restore the historic character of the Park Street and Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive corridors adjacent to the site.

(c) **LIMITATION.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such

issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

(d) **CREDITABLE FUNDS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of the law and recognizing the unique partnership nature of the Department of Interior and the Little Rock School District at the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site and the significant contributions made by the Little Rock School District to preserve and maintain the historic character of the high school, any non-Federal funds expended by the school district (regardless of the source of the funds) for improvements at the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, to the extent such funds were used for the purposes described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (b), shall be deemed to meet the requirement of funds from private sources of section 5134(f)(1)(A)(ii) of title 31, United States Code, with respect to the Secretary of the Interior.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to include extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I rise in support of H.R. 358, the Little Rock Central High School Desegregation 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act, which was introduced by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER). This legislation recognizes a uniquely important moment in the history of this Nation and the civil rights movement.

Passage of this legislation will allow the Secretary of the Treasury to issue coins commemorating the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. The legislation before the House is similar to the language passed by this Chamber in late June, with the important addition of language that slightly alters the mechanism for the distribution of surcharges that would be generated by the sale of these coins.

However, this bill preserves the important reforms made a decade ago in the Commemorative Coin Reform Act that specifies that non-Federal funds must be raised to match the surcharge money received. It further recognizes the unique partnership between the Department of Interior and the Little Rock School District at the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site and the significant financial contributions made by the district to preserve and maintain the historic character of the high school.

Technical language was added by the Senate, with the full agreement of the chairman and ranking member of the House committee of jurisdiction and of the author of the reform language, and in no way either signifies a deviation from the intent or letter of the reform language or establishes a precedent or practice different than that laid forth in the reform language that organizations which are named recipients of the surcharges on the sale of commemorative coins must show the strength of their organization and the widespread public support of the honored organization or project by raising nongovernmental funds in an amount equal to or exceeding the surcharges received.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 358, the Little Rock Commemorative Coin Act, introduced by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER). This bill authorizes the Treasury to mint a dollar coin during the year 2007 in honor of the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of the Little Rock Central High School in 1957.

Those events, which have gone down in history, were the first major tests of the Supreme Court’s landmark 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* that segregation in schools was unconstitutional.

None of us who were alive in 1957 will ever forget seeing those nine African American children walk bravely into Central High School surrounded by Federal troops and a raging mob. Their courage in the face of hatred and their resolute determination to overcome bigotry serves as a shining light to all of us. I don’t believe any one of us are aware of what a historic event it was and what a history changing event it has become. Imagine the strength that it must have taken.

Only days before one of the students was almost lynched when she attempted to enter Central on the first day of school, and the Arkansas National Guard kept the other African American students out. The events of the next few days are the stuff of legends.

NAACP lawyer Thurgood Marshall and a future member of the Supreme Court obtained a Federal ruling preventing Governor Orval Faubus from using the National Guard to keep the nine children out of Central High. Although Faubus announced on TV that he would comply with the court order he added that the nine should stay away, and I quote from his own words, stay away for your own safety, end quote. Encouraged by his comments, a mob surrounded the school.

Finally, at the request of Congressman Brooks Hays and Mayor Woodrow

Mann, President Eisenhower dispatched 1,000 troops of the 101st Airborne Division to Little Rock to protect the nine school children and federalized the Arkansas National Guard so that Faubus could not order them to intervene.

Incidentally, Brooks Hays lost his next election because of the strong feeling of the community. It was an act of bravery on his part.

On September 25, 1957, the Little Rock Nine, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, Melba Patillo, Jefferson Thomas, Carlotta Walls, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray, Thelma Mothershed and Minnijean Brown, entered Central High School and went to class.

A year later, in 1958, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., attended the graduation of Ernest Green, the first African American student ever to graduate from Central High. Mr. Green is now a partner in Lehman Brothers. In fact, all of the Little Rock Nine went on to professional achievements in and strong contributing lives to their communities.

This bill has over 300 bipartisan cosponsors and has been passed by the House by voice vote in June. We consider today the bill, as amended by the Senate, which contains a provision requested by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) to fix a problem that we learned of after House passage.

The amendment provides that the Little Rock School District can satisfy the statutory requirement of matching private funds through a local bond issue. In light of the unique circumstances of the Little Rock historical site, I would like to deeply thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) for their help in solving this problem and moving this legislation forward.

On the 40th anniversary of the Little Rock Nine, President Clinton gave a Congressional Gold Medal. There was a celebration here in the Library of Congress, and in this Congress I had the opportunity of meeting many of them and congratulating them for their historic life-changing courage that helped so many others through their courage and acts.

□ 1530

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and particularly want to thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) for pulling together the support, the vast amount of support on a bipartisan basis to recognize the pain and suffering the Little Rock Nine have given to move this country forward.

Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER), the author of this important resolution.

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) for their support and work on this bill. I also want to thank Ranking Member FRANK and Chairman OXLEY, who were both personally involved in seeing this bill through from the beginning to the end.

I had occasion yesterday to call the Central High School National Historic site. The park headquarters is now in an old gas station that was there in 1957. It has been wonderfully restored. There is a new visitor center that is coming over the next couple of years that should be ready for the 50th anniversary also.

But the person that answered the phone, I heard this young woman's voice and I knew right away who it was. It was Spirit Trickey, who is a park ranger that works at the site. Her mother was Minnie Jean Brown Trickey, one of the Little Rock Nine. And you talk about having a sense of the change. I have heard Spirit talk before in a speech with tears in her eyes what it has meant for her and her generation, the sacrifices that her mother and the other members of the Little Rock Nine, what their sacrifices meant to her.

So we come here today with two purposes. One is to have these coins issued to remember and honor the Little Rock Nine and the sacrifices of them and their families, but also the very practical one, to help raise dollars to tell the story at the site.

And as Mr. RENZI pointed out, the Little Rock Central High School is a very fine functioning school district. It is not an abandoned historic site. It is run by the Little Rock School District. And so we had this practical problem that the gentleman iterated about how do you do this match when the dollars are raised through tax dollars.

And so I concur with the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI). The intent of this legislation is not to change the underlying law. It is to say because of the unique situation that this site can meet its match for this commemorative coin dollar by matching the dollars raised through local and State millage taxes, not Federal dollars, but through local millage elections, which they have done and will continue to do.

So I want to thank everyone that participated in this, and again thank Mr. RENZI and Mrs. MALONEY for the passage of this bill.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from New York for yielding time. I also

want to commend the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) for introducing this legislation. I never miss an opportunity to comment on anything that was taking place in Arkansas at that time because at that time I was a young contemporary of the Little Rock Nine. As they went into high school, and some were seniors, I was a freshman in college a few miles away down at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Of course at that time it was Arkansas AM&N College. And I remember vividly Daisy Bates, the outstanding head of the NAACP, who actually grew up down in the little part of Arkansas in rural Arkansas where I came from.

Wiley Branton was the outstanding attorney. They were our heroes. Of course, as the gentlewoman from New York has indicated, all of the Little Rock Nine have gone on to become outstanding citizens. I have had the good fortune to know some of them or members of their family. I did student teaching at the school where Mrs. Patillo taught, who was Melba Patillo's mother, and so I knew her at that time. Minnie Jean Brown and I spent a weekend together last year down at Southern Illinois University, where she was a speaker at the university where she graduated. And all of us have seen Ernie Green throughout the country, as he has become a distinguished civic and business leader. Of course Ernie was the Undersecretary of Labor during the Carter Administration.

So I simply come to urge support. Again, I commend Mr. SNYDER, an outstanding Representative who represents all of the people in that great city and in that great area. And I urge its passage.

Mrs. MALONEY. I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE), who incidentally, was born in New York State.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), the esteemed and honorable and great leader, not only for her distinguished support of this legislation but for the work that we have been doing regarding Sojourner Truth. I thank the gentlewoman so very much for her leadership, along with a number of friends here on the floor. We are not debating that bill right now, but I do want to mention the wonderful members of the House Administration Committee, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD).

But we are here to salute the legislation that has been offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER), H.R. 358; and I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) for contributing to the leadership for this bill now coming to the floor of the House.

This is a story in history that so many of us grew up looking at and our lives and our future depended on. The outright leadership and heroism of the nine young people, all under the age of

21, who accepted the challenge of breaking the bars and the concrete ceiling of segregation in Little Rock, Arkansas, go a very long way to opening the doors of opportunity for those of us who followed. Though it was a secondary school and called upon the State of Arkansas to recognize the importance of educating all children, you can be assured it was a continuing journey. After the *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* decision, this was just another milestone, if you will, to providing young people across America who were discriminated against for no other reason than for the color of their skin to have the doors of educational opportunity open to them.

The vision of Mr. SNYDER to put forward this coin in order to ensure that funding continues to protect this site goes a long way to allowing us to enjoy it and be, if you will, informed about it. Let me salute the Little Rock 9, as they are adults, and let me salute Mr. Ernie Green, who served in the United States Cabinet of President William Jefferson Clinton, for his ongoing civic leadership, along with his many, many other students who were part of the Little Rock 9.

If we are a people who fail to remember our history, Mr. Speaker, we are doomed to repeat the past. This is a forward-thinking legislative initiative. I salute Mr. SNYDER for his vision, and it is going to be exciting for the many school children around America to go and understand how tough it is to be able to fight against all odds, but how important it is to be able to accept the challenge and then win.

With that I ask my colleagues to join in the salute and support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the proposed legislation, the "Little Rock Central High School Desegregation 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act."

In September 1957, nearly half a century ago, nine African-American students entered Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. The students were forced to enter the school under the protection of the National Guard, which had been "federalized" by President Dwight David Eisenhower. So contentious was the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, which ruled that segregation in schools was unconstitutional, that Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus, had vowed to do everything in his power to prevent integration of Little Rock schools.

The nine students, now referred to as the "Little Rock Nine," were Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, Melba Patillo, Jefferson Thomas, Carlotta Walls, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray, Thelma Mothershed, and Minnijean Brown. The integration of these nine brave students, along with other heroes of the time like Rosa Parks, paved the way for the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. The event was perceived to be so important in forwarding the movement that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., attended the graduation of the Little Rock Nine from Little Rock Central High School in 1958.

Part of the collected revenue of the sale of this coin—a \$10 surcharge per coin—will be used for the protection and preservation of re-

sources and stories associated with the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site. I believe this effort is especially important. Segregation and discrimination was a dark period of our country's history, and we must retell the stories of our history so we may learn from the mistakes of our past.

Let us honor and celebrate this important historical event of half a century ago, but let us also remember there are still steps to be taken for racial equality. Let this coin remind us of the battles for freedom and equality of yesteryear, and the battles still being fought here and across the world today.

I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this resolution.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not have any further speakers. I congratulate Mr. SNYDER for his leadership on this legislation and Mr. RENZI, and their leadership on many other issues.

I yield back the balance of my time, and I urge the unanimous support of this important bill.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield my self such time as I may consume.

In summation, I do not deserve any credit for this. The credit really deserves to go to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and the delegation from Arkansas who really pulled together the House in a bipartisan fashion. I want to thank the gentleman for pulling together a community, too, down in Arkansas and allowing them to rally around the unique history of their land.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and concur in Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 358.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING HELEN SEWELL ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 633) honoring Helen Sewell on the occasion of her retirement from the House of Representatives and expressing the gratitude of the House for her many years of service.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 633

Whereas Helen Sewell, the proprietor of the concession stand in the Republican Cloak Room of the House of Representatives, through her long and devoted service to the House and its Members, has become a House institution in the minds and hearts of House Members;

Whereas Helen Sewell has worked at the counter in the Cloak Room since she was a teenager in the 1930's;

Whereas Helen Sewell's service to the House of Representatives is a continuation

of a family tradition, as her father began working in the Cloak Room 87 years ago;

Whereas Helen Sewell, as a result of her almost seven decades of service, has been present for some of the defining events in the Nation's history and the House's history, including the attack by Puerto Rican nationalists on March 1, 1954;

Whereas Helen Sewell has established personal relationships with many of the 20th century's most important Americans, including Presidents Ford, Nixon, and George H.W. Bush;

Whereas Helen Sewell's dedication to her work, and her careful attention to Members of the House, has provided both nourishment and friendship to Members of the House since the days of the Great Depression;

Whereas Helen Sewell has demonstrated extraordinary strength and endurance by working long and difficult hours past her 80th year;

Whereas Helen Sewell received the 1983 John W. McCormick Award of Excellence for her service to the Congress;

Whereas all who have served as Members in the United States House of Representatives, and who have had occasion to meet Helen Sewell, believe that her service to the House is a matter of historical importance and should be commemorated; and

Whereas Helen Sewell will retire officially from the House of Representatives on December 31, 2005; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors Helen Sewell on the occasion of her retirement and expresses its gratitude for her many years of service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

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

I am not going to be lengthy in my comments because I know our ranking member is going to say something, and then I am going to yield a lot of time to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), who has asked for this resolution, and rightfully so to ask for it.

When I came to the House around 11 years ago, I guess, one of the first persons I ever met was Helen Sewell. And I soon found out she is probably one of the most important people, in fact, in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, a lot of the public would not be aware unless they had the chance to be here on the floor, but in back of the Chamber on one side is the Democrat Cloakroom and on the other side is the Republican Cloakroom. And of course I have been over in the Democrat Cloakroom. They have got good sandwiches over there, too, which you can buy. And in our Cloakroom on the Republican side, Helen runs a little counter and we call it Helen's Cafe. She makes sandwiches and of course the Members buy those sandwiches or soup, and she has been doing that for such a long time. She is just a fine woman who always has a pleasant smile, always has a good word constantly to say when she was here.

And as many people in the country know, if they watch C-SPAN of course,