

To honor General Zaragoza's memory and heroism, citizens throughout Texas and Mexico celebrate May 5 every year as the international holiday of Cinco de Mayo. The city of Goliad and her citizens also played a significant role in the war for Texas independence. The massacre at Goliad of Colonel James Fannin and 342 of his troops who had surrendered to General Santa Ana made "Remember Goliad" as important a rallying cry for Texans in their struggle for independence as "Remember the Alamo."

As a member of the Zaragoza Society for over 45 years and as chairman for at least a decade, Judge Emilio Vargas has worked to bring national recognition to Goliad's historic significance in Mexican history, and Texas and U.S. history. He has participated in numerous cultural exchanges with Mexico and has been awarded the Premio Ohtli Award by the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his outstanding work in fostering better international relations between the United States and Mexico.

In closing, I often have heard Judge Emilio Vargas say no mission is too difficult and no sacrifice too great. Judge Vargas has truly lived by these words as he has dedicated his life to the people of Goliad. I can think of no better way to honor this distinguished service to his community than by naming the Goliad Post Office in his honor. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I simply want to commend and congratulate the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) for his outstanding recognition and sensitivity and in raising awareness relative to the contributions of local residents of his congressional district. People who would otherwise never be heard of or heard from, he takes the time to highlight their accomplishments and their achievements. I commend the gentleman for it, join in full support of this legislation, and urge its swift passage.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I join my South Texas colleague, RUBÉN HINOJOSA, in asking the House to pass H.R. 1072 to name the Post Office in Goliad, Texas, after Judge Emilio Vargas.

A child of our times, Judge Vargas, a first-generation American, was born in Goliad and attended segregated schools because he was Mexican. He overcame the disadvantages inherent in segregation by graduating from Bee College and serving in the U.S. Air Force.

After his service, he came home to spend his life laboring to improve the lives of South Texans. During the 1960s, Judge Garza was a civil rights pioneer. He fought the evil of the poll tax that flew in the face of democracy and he worked to persuade more Hispanics to participate in government.

He knew that education was the magic bullet for improving a population. He devoted much of his efforts to service on the Goliad Independent School District Board of Trustees.

His inspiration—and his work on local education issues—resulted in many young people from Goliad going to prestigious colleges and universities, including the U.S. military academies.

Judge Vargas served with the Texas Department of Human Services helping those who had no money and no hope. His work with the Job Corps program helped train new workers, teaching people to help themselves. Also devoted to the rule of law, he has served as the Justice of the Peace for Goliad County and for 9 years was a Reserve Deputy for the Goliad County Sheriff's Department.

Goliad is rich in the history of both Mexico and the United States. Goliad was the birthplace of Mexican General Zaragoza who defeated the French Army, for which we celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Goliad also played a significant role in the War for Texas Independence.

For his life's work in championing the better angles of our democracy and our community, it is a just reward for the Goliad Post Office to carry the name of this unique American Patriot.

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1072, a bill to designate the postal facility in Goliad, Texas, as the "Judge Emilio Vargas Post Office Building." This bill was introduced by my good friend and colleague, Congressman RUBEN HINOJOSA.

Born in Goliad, Texas, Judge Vargas has dedicated his life to the people of Goliad, and I find it most fitting to honor his service by naming the Goliad Post Office after him.

As a first-generation American, Judge Vargas attended segregated schools because of his Mexican heritage. After attending Bee College, he volunteered and joined the Air Force as an airman. Upon leaving the Air Force, Judge Vargas worked to improve the lives of the people in the community. He was active during the civil rights movement during the 1960s and he continues to fight to increase Hispanic participation in government.

Judge Vargas served 14 years on the Goliad Independent School District Board of Trustees. While he was there, the Goliad School Board was voted one of the 10 best school boards in Texas. Judge Vargas understands the importance of developing an educated population, and because of his commitment, numerous students have gone on to prestigious colleges and universities, including the U.S. military academies.

For 28 years, Judge Vargas served as a caseworker with the Texas Department of Human Services, helping the indigent and vulnerable in a six-county region. During his tenure, he worked with the Job Corps program helping to train new workers, and with the Surplus Commodity Programs to feed hungry families.

During the past 10 years, Judge Vargas has served as the Justice of the Peace for Goliad County and for 9 years was a Reserve Deputy for the Goliad County Sheriff's Department.

Goliad is the birthplace of Mexican General Zaragoza whose defeat of the French Army is celebrated as Cinco de Mayo. In addition, Goliad has played a significant role in the War for Texas Independence. Judge Vargas has been a member of the Zaragoza Society for over 45 years, and the chairman for at least a decade. Through this work, Judge Vargas brought national recognition to Goliad's historic significance both in Mexican and Texas history.

I believe it is most fitting to honor Judge Vargas' service to the people of Goliad by naming the Goliad Post Office after him, and urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MARCHANT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1072.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL INDOOR COMFORT WEEK

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 130) recognizing the contributions of environmental systems and the technicians who install and maintain them, the quality of life of all Americans and supporting the goals and ideals of National Indoor Comfort Week, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 130

Whereas for over 100 years, our Nation has been improved by the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration systems that keep our buildings warm in the winter and cool in the summer;

Whereas the contractors that install heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration systems are comprised of small businesses located in all 50 states;

Whereas according to the Office of Advocacy at the Small Business Administration, small businesses [represents] represent 99.7 percent of all employers and employ half of all private sector employees;

Whereas the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration industry is a growing field that continues to create jobs and grow small businesses;

Whereas indoor environmental systems have saved millions of lives and improved the health of our citizens;

Whereas because of environmental systems, food is preserved, modern medicine is possible, and children breathe easier;

Whereas the men and women who design, manufacture, install, and maintain heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration systems play a crucial role in our economy;

Whereas professional certified technicians save the Nation millions of dollars each year through the design and installation of more efficient equipment that provides essential comfort while reducing energy usage; and

Whereas the Air Conditioning Contractors of America have proposed designating the week of April 17–23, 2005, as National Indoor Comfort Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the contributions that environmental systems have made to the quality of life of all Americans;

(2) commends the technicians who install and maintain environmental systems;

(3) recognizes that these small business contractors have benefited from the reduced regulatory burden provided as a result of

passage of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 and the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA);

(4) commends small business air conditioning contractors for participating in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration panels required by SBREFA to better educate regulators on the effect of Federal rules on small businesses;

(5) recognizes that small business air conditioning contractors have actively supported the Section 7(a) loan guarantee program administered by the Small Business Administration; and

(6) supports the goals and ideals of National Indoor Comfort Week, as proposed by the Air Conditioning Contractors of America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MANZULLO. 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 this resolution.

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

There was no objection.

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

This resolution recognizes the contributions of indoor environmental systems, commonly known as heating and air conditioning, and the technicians who install and maintain these systems. On a day like today where the temperature is expected to go above 80 degrees, I am particularly grateful for air conditioning that makes it easier to do our jobs each day. Heating and air conditioning provide a high quality of life for all Americans. This resolution simply supports the goals and ideals of National Indoor Comfort Week, which is taking place this week and sponsored by the Air Conditioning Contractors Association.

The Air Conditioning Contractors of America are comprised mainly of small businesses. In fact, over 98 percent of HVAC contractors are small businesses. This is an industry that many of us take for granted, until we call upon them for service. They are responsible for ensuring that in the winter our heating systems work and in the summer our air conditioner hums along without interruption.

And it is because of air conditioning that many parts of our great Nation, particularly in the South and West, have grown into booming areas, creating new jobs and enhancing our economy.

There are very few people left in our country who can remember what it was like without refrigeration. Now refrigeration takes away most of the concerns we used to have about how our food is preserved. Refrigeration also protects vital medicines from contami-

nation and helps us conquer diseases that have plagued mankind for generations.

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Children and seniors have cleaner, safer air to breathe. The filtration systems in many HVAC units in our homes, office buildings and factories help purify the air that we breathe, helping to lower the effect of airborne diseases.

For all these reasons and more, I urge all of my colleagues to support passage of this resolution and salute the small business men and women who work in the HVAC industry.

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

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

We are here today to consider legislation honoring the contributions of the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration industries, a large segment of our small business constituency. Although we often fail to think about the relevance to our everyday lives, the impact of these industries and firms can be seen in every household across the Nation. This resolution honors the men and women that strive to improve the lives of Americans by providing quality services on a daily basis.

This industry has helped to drive the economy by creating thousands of good-paying jobs every year. In 2002, heating, air conditioning and refrigeration mechanics and installers held nearly 250,000 jobs, and approximately 15 percent of these workers were classified as self-employed.

The heating and cooling industry has also set the standard for creating innovative, environmentally safe products that help to preserve and strengthen our environment for future generations to enjoy. New technologies are constantly developed to ensure efficient energy use so that we can keep indoor environments safe and comfortable while protecting our outdoor environments. Without the modern conveniences and environmental advances the industry has developed, Americans would not have the means to enjoy the quality of life as we know it today. Clearly, given the unique contributions of the small businesses in this industry, it is only fitting that we find ways to recognize the exceptional work of these service men and women.

In recognizing what they have brought to the table, we must also strive to equip the indoor cooling industries with the resources they need to succeed, including access to capital, reduction of regulatory burden, affordable health care, business development and technical assistance. Entrepreneurs in service industries across the board deserve our full support in ensuring that these programs and initiatives are utilized to their fullest potential.

I would like to take a moment to recognize Tim Slattery and Allyson Ivans

of the House Small Business Committee minority staff and Piper Largent of the majority staff for their work on this legislation. I would also like to commend the Air Conditioning Contractors of America. This organization has been instrumental over the years in demonstrating how vital their industry is to communities across the country.

I am pleased to offer my support in designating the week of April 17-23, 2005, as National Indoor Comfort Week. The heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration industries are deserving of our attention. I cannot overstate the important role that the small businesses in these industries have played in improving our health, safety and overall quality of life.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 130, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES OF CONGRESS IN AFTERMATH OF RECENT SCHOOL SHOOTING IN RED LAKE, MINNESOTA

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 126) expressing the condolences and deepest sympathies of the Congress in the aftermath of the recent school shooting at Red Lake High School in Red Lake, Minnesota.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk read the entire resolution into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 126

Whereas, on March 21, 2005, a troubled teenager opened fire at the Red Lake High School in Red Lake, Minnesota, killing five students, one teacher, and one security guard, after previously killing his grandfather and his grandfather's companion in their own home, before killing himself: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the tragic violence which occurred at Red Lake High School in Red Lake, Minnesota;

(2) honors the heroism and memory of Derrick Brun, whose courageous actions and self-sacrifice no doubt saved the lives of others;

(3) honors the heroism, courage, and memory of Daryl Lussier, Michelle Sigana, Neva