

86. He is a credit to the tremendous work performed by the entire Postal Service. That is why we are so pleased to see the House is considering an appropriate honor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG) for his work, and I ask that this postal naming be approved on behalf of Paul Kasten.

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

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 my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 2977, legislation designating a postal facility in Brockway, Montana, after Paul Kasten. This measure was introduced by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG) on July 17, 2005.

A rural letter carrier, Mr. Kasten retired this spring at the young age of 86, after delivering mail for over 50 years. He began his career delivering mail on horseback, covering miles and miles of roads in Montana.

Mr. Speaker, it always gives me such pleasure when we recognize the contributions of postal workers by dedicating a facility in their honor, and I could think of no better way to honor the more than 50 years of service given by Mr. Kasten than to name a postal facility in his honor.

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

Mr. ISSA. 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 California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2977.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2894) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 102 South Walters Avenue in Hodgenville, Kentucky, as the "Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2894

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

SECTION 1. ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 102

South Walters Avenue in Hodgenville, Kentucky, shall be known and designated as the "Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building".

(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 "Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

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

Mr. Speaker, it would be nearly impossible to pay sufficient homage to President Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth President of the United States. President Lincoln was a man whose convictions enabled the emancipation of thousands from slavery and led to the preservation of the Union, which allowed our United States to develop into a strong and free Nation that it is today.

In our efforts to commend these and other contributions, it should be recognized that Lincoln's greatness extended far beyond the reaches of his Presidency. Today, however, through the consideration of this legislation, H.R. 2894, we focus on the humble origins that produced for us this great President. Considered by many to be our greatest President, we are designating Abraham Lincoln's Birthplace Post Office Building, for it was in Kentucky that he was born on February 12, 1809, in a log cabin near Hardin County, Kentucky. During his childhood, Lincoln's determined spirited led him to covet education and to develop an insatiable appetite for reading and learning.

Undoubtedly as a result, Lincoln's incredible oratorical capacity strengthened his political influence throughout his life. He effectively appealed to the Nation in such unforgettable speeches as the Gettysburg Address, the Second Inaugural Address, and the famous "House Divided" speech. He truly used his verbal skills to his fullest advantage.

As I am sure the distinguished sponsor of H.R. 2894 would assert, Lincoln's characteristic determination embodied the hard-nosed and ambitious attitude with which Kentuckians as he are often associated. His labors to free the slaves and preserve the Union positively impacted our Nation to an extent that cannot be overstated.

Again, we have often looked at President Lincoln as our greatest President. We have often honored him. But I think it is particularly important to recognize that H.R. 2894 speaks not to the State from which he heralded at the time of his election, not about the end of his life, but Kentucky, the place of the origin and the roots of his life.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleague in consideration of H.R. 2894, and I want to commend the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. LEWIS) for introducing this legislation.

Although Abraham Lincoln was indeed born in Kentucky, he did, in fact, ultimately move to Illinois. And those of us who live in Illinois, we often regard him as perhaps our greatest citizen, one who emerged from very humble beginnings, was somewhat of a non-traditionalist, but ultimately became President of the United States.

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And then after becoming President of the United States had the courage to take some very decisive action when there was opposition swirling all around him. So I commend the gentleman from Kentucky for naming a postal facility in Hodgenville.

I was always a great Abraham Lincoln fan. As a matter of fact, when I was a small boy, my mother used to tell me stories about Abraham Lincoln, and she would read to us from books about Abraham Lincoln as a way of expressing to us that it was not always a matter of where you came from but of tentimes it could be a matter of where you were going.

So, again, I commend the gentleman for recognizing and honoring the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln with the naming of a postal facility in his honor.

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. LEWIS), the author of the bill, and just note that I feel I am on the path between Kentucky and Illinois here, with my own birthplace being Ohio.

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2894, a resolution to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 102 South Walters Avenue in Hodgenville, Kentucky, as the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building.

Hodgenville, Kentucky, is the birthplace and childhood home of our 16th President, one of the most influential figures in American history. Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809, in a one-room log cabin at the Sinking Spring Farm in what is now LaRue County, Kentucky. His family lived at Sinking Spring Farm for 2½ years before moving 10 miles away to Knob Creek Farm.

Of his birth and childhood, Lincoln wrote: "I was born on February 12, 1809, in then Hardin County, Kentucky, at a point within the now county of LaRue, a mile or mile and a half from where Hodgen's Mill now is. It was a wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods. There I grew up."

S. 775

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

SECTION 1. BOONE PICKENS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 W. 7th Street in Holdenville, Oklahoma, shall be known and designated as the “Boone Pickens 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 “Boone Pickens Post Office”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of S. 775, a bill to name the postal facility at 123 W. 7th Street in Holdenville, Oklahoma, as the Boone Pickens Post Office.

Well-known businessman Boone Pickens has personified the American Dream through his hard work and determination. Early in his professional life and career, Pickens grew frustrated working at a large impersonal company. Instead of enduring the daily struggle through the organizational red tape, he decided to start his own business in 1956 at age 28. This nascent company ultimately evolved into one of the leading oil and gas exploration firms in the Nation, the Mesa Petroleum Company.

But more important, the House is considering this honor for Boone Pickens not because of his business success but for his philanthropy. Over the years, Pickens has generously invested in his alma mater, Oklahoma State University, supported a wide range of medical research initiatives, and several other scientific and social causes.

Boone Pickens has contributed his time, energy, and resources to make America a better place to live and work; and for these reasons, I support S. 775 today, and I ask my colleagues to support the bill.

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

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 my colleague in consideration of S. 775, legislation designating a postal facility in Holdenville, Oklahoma, after Boone Pickens.

This measure, which was introduced by Senator JAMES INHOFE on April 13, 2005, was unanimously passed by the Senate on July 29, 2005.

T. Boone Pickens is known worldwide as the founder of Mesa Petroleum, the Nation's largest independent producer of domestic oil and gas. T. Boone is well respected in Texas for his willing-

ness to spend time and money to improve the lives of those around him. In 1986, he started a nonprofit organization called the United Shareholders Association to fund a newspaper informing shareholders of corporate abuses, and he has served as the chairman of the board of West Texas A&M University business school.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to urge all my colleagues to support the effort to name the post office in Holdenville, Oklahoma, where Boone Pickens was born in 1928; and I congratulate our distinguished Senator and my friend, Senator JIMMY INHOFE, on recognizing the importance of T. Boone Pickens in both business and philanthropy.

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 California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 775.

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.

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CONGRESSWOMAN SHIRLEY A. CHISHOLM POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 571) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1915 Fulton Street in Brooklyn, New York, as the “Congresswoman Shirley A. Chisholm Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 571

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

SECTION 1. CONGRESSWOMAN SHIRLEY A. CHISHOLM POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1915 Fulton Street in Brooklyn, New York, shall be known and designated as the “Congresswoman Shirley A. Chisholm Post Office Building”.

(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 Congresswoman Shirley A. Chisholm Post Office Building.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

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

Senate 571, sponsored in the other body by the distinguished Senator from New York, Senator CHARLES SCHUMER,

Thousands of historians, students, and tourists visit the Lincoln birthplace and museum at Sinking Spring and nearby boyhood home each year. Both sites are managed by the National Park Service and maintain historic recreations of the original log cabins. The Hodgenville community is currently hard at work planning for the bicentennial celebration of Lincoln's birth in 2009.

Lincoln's roots on the Kentucky frontier molded character traits, modesty, hard work, spiritual, and an intellectual fortitude and a sense of justice that made him a portrait of human greatness as a legislator, lawyer, father, and steward of his country through the most devastating experience in its national history.

Lincoln's achievements as President saved the Union and freed the slaves, and his martyrdom in death as the war was drawing to a close made him one of the most revered and historically significant figures in American history.

Carved in stone above the portals of the birthplace memorial are the eloquent and poignant words from his second inaugural address in which he urged “malice toward none” and “charity for all” in the peace to come.

Abraham Lincoln's early life in central Kentucky is a source of great pride to me personally and many of my constituents. The birthplace and childhood home provide a great historic treasure in our community. In honor of President Lincoln's connection to Hodgenville and the upcoming bicentennial celebration of his birth, I urge my colleagues to join me honoring Hodgenville and Lincoln's memory by designating the current postal facility as the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KOLBE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2894.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

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BOONE PICKENS POST OFFICE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 775) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 W. 7th Street in Holdenville, Oklahoma, as the “Boone Pickens Post Office”.

The Clerk read as follows: