

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 4786, legislation naming a postal facility in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, after H. Gordon Payrow.

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This measure, which was introduced by Representative CHARLES DENT on February 16, 2006, and unanimously reported by our committee on March 9, 2006, enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire Pennsylvania delegation.

H. Gordon Payrow, Jr. served three terms as mayor of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, from 1962–1974. A dedicated public servant, Mayor Payrow was committed to improving the infrastructure of the city and beautifying the community. He was also instrumental in the construction and development of the Bethlehem City Center Plaza. After leaving office, Mr. Payrow continued his involvement in local issues and community service projects. He passed away in April 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is altogether fitting and proper that we honor his life and his work by naming the postal facility after him, and I urge swift passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think I am going to have any additional requests, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I too have no further speakers at this time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4786.

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.

DR. JOSE CELSO BARBOSA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3440) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Avenida RL Rodriguez in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, as the “Dr. Jose Celso Barbosa Post Office Building.”

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3440

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

SECTION 1. DR. JOSÉ CELSO BARBOSA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Avenida RL Rodriguez in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, shall be known and designated as the “Dr. José Celso Barbosa 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 “Dr. José Celso Barbosa Post Office Building”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DENT. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3440, offered by the distinguished gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. FORTUÑO). This bill would designate the post office in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, as the Dr. Jose Celso Barbosa Post Office Building.

Dr. Barbosa received both his primary and secondary education in Puerto Rico. After graduating from the seminary, Barbosa tutored private students in order to save money to attend college. In 1875, he moved to New York to attend prep school, where he learned the English language in only 1 year. In 1876, he was admitted to the University of Michigan Medical School where he graduated valedictorian of his class in 1880.

On returning to Puerto Rico to set up his practice, he learned the Spanish Government would not recognize Barbosa's degree because it was not from one of the prestigious European universities. It took the American consul to intervene for Mr. Barbosa's degree to be recognized, and he became the first person on the entire island with an American medical degree. Barbosa practiced medicine across Puerto Rico and introduced the idea of employers paying a fee for the future health care needs of their employees, a very early health insurance system.

As well as being a respected physician, Barbosa was also an esteemed political activist. He formed the prostatehood Puerto Rican Republican Party on July 4, 1899, as an aftermath of the Spanish-American War in which Puerto Rico became a territory of the United States. In 1900, Barbosa became a member of the executive cabinet up until 1917 and a member of the Senate from 1917–1921.

In 1907, he established the newspaper *El Tiempo*, the first bilingual newspaper on the island. His daughter, Pilar Barbosa would one day become a renowned historian and a political activist who would carry on her father's work. Jose Celso Barbosa died in San Juan in December of 1921.

I urge all Members to come together to honor the perseverance and courage of Dr. Barbosa by passing H.R. 3440.

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 Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 3440, legislation naming a postal facility in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, after Jose Celso Barbosa. This measure was introduced by Representative LUIS FORTUÑO on July 26, 2005, and unanimously reported by our committee on September 15, 2005.

Jose Celso Barbosa was born in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, in 1857. Dr. Barbosa was the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the University of Michigan, where he received his medical degree and graduated as valedictorian in 1880.

Upon returning to Puerto Rico, Dr. Barbosa worked in his private medical practice, became a professor of medicine in Puerto Rico, and entered political life as a firm defender of negotiating increased autonomy for Puerto Rico from Spain.

In 1899, after Puerto Rico was ceded to the United States after the Spanish-American War, Dr. Barbosa formed the Republican Party of Puerto Rico, which advocated for Puerto Rican statehood. He was the founder of the newspaper *El Tiempo*, and active in Puerto Rican politics, serving in the executive cabinet and, later, the Senate. He died in San Juan in 1921.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge swift passage of this legislation.

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

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3440, 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. DENT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3440.

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.

GENE VANCE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4805) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 105 North Quincy Street in Clinton, Illinois, as the “Gene Vance Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4805

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

SECTION 1. GENE VANCE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 105 North Quincy Street in Clinton, Illinois,

shall be known and designated as the "Gene Vance 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 "Gene Vance Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DENT. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 4805, offered by the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JOHNSON). The bill would designate the post office in Clinton, Illinois, as the Gene Vance Post Office Building.

After winning an All-State selection in 1940, Clinton High School star Gene Vance committed to the University of Illinois to start his incredible basketball career. His days as a fighting Illini are what he has become known for. As a member of the famed "Whiz Kids" of the Illinois basketball team, Andy Phillip, Jack Smily, Ken Menke, Art Mathison, and Vance formed one of the Nation's premier teams in the early 1940s. Their fast-break style and ability to run the floor assured them 25 of 27 wins in the Big Ten Conference from 1941–1943, rightly earning them two Big Ten titles.

After the 1943 season, Vance and the rest of the "Whiz Kids" were called to military duty for World War II. Following the final regular season game, the entire team entered the war effort. After the war, they picked up right where they left off in 1947 and led the Illini to a second place finish.

After graduation, Vance was drafted by the Chicago Stags of the Basketball Association of America, which eventually became known as the National Basketball Association, or the NBA, as we know it today.

After his basketball career had ended, Vance turned to coaching. He returned to his home State to lead the LaSalle-Peru Cavaliers to a regional championship. He later became the athletic director at the University of Illinois and was recently voted 1 of the 20 greatest Illini basketball players of the past century.

I urge all Members to join me in saluting this dedicated and honorable man by passing H.R. 4805.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. As a member of the House Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 4805, legislation naming a postal facility in Clinton, Illinois, after Gene Vance.

This measure, which was introduced by Representative TIMOTHY JOHNSON of Illinois on February 28, 2006, and unanimously reported by our committee on March 9, 2006, enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire Illinois delegation.

Gene Vance was a member of the 1942–43 University of Illinois basketball team known as the "Whiz Kids." The "Whiz Kids" included Gene Vance, Jack Smily, Ken Menke, Andy Phillip, and Art Mathisen. The team earned the chance to compete for the NCAA Championship after being 17–1 during the season. But the Army drafted three of the "Whiz Kids" for service in World War II, and in a show of unity the team decided if all the "Whiz Kids" could not compete together, they would not compete at all.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is altogether fitting and proper that we would name this postal facility after Mr. Vance and urge passage of this legislation.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4805, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4805.

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 THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF "NATIONAL MPS DAY"

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 85) supporting the goals and ideals of "National MPS Day".

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 85

Whereas mucopolysaccharidoses and mucopolipidoses (commonly known as "MPS disorders") are genetically determined lysosomal storage disorders that result in the inability of the body to produce certain enzymes needed to break down complex carbohydrates;

Whereas in individuals with MPS disorders, complex carbohydrates are stored in virtually every cell in the body and progressively cause damage to the cells, affecting multiple systems, including the bones, heart and other internal organs, respiratory system, and central nervous system;

Whereas the cellular damage caused by MPS disorders results in mental retardation, short stature, corneal damage, joint stiffness, loss of mobility, speech and hearing impairment, heart disease, hyperactivity, chronic respiratory problems, and, most importantly, drastically shortened life span;

Whereas the nature of MPS disorders is usually not apparent at birth, and, without treatment, life expectancy is usually very short;

Whereas the multisystemic damage that is caused by MPS disorders makes the disorders ideal models for many other degenerative genetic disorders;

Whereas recent research developments have resulted in limited treatments for some MPS disorders, and promising advancements are underway in pursuit of treatments for additional MPS disorders;

Whereas treatments and research advancements for MPS disorders are limited by lack of awareness about the disorders, even within the medical community;

Whereas the development of early detection and intervention techniques, effective treatments, and a potential cure for MPS disorders can be accomplished by research, data collection, and information distribution;

Whereas increased public and professional awareness and continued public funding will assist in the development of new techniques, treatments, and cures for MPS disorders, which will greatly enhance the quality of life for individuals with MPS disorders;

Whereas the National MPS Society, Inc., a group ultimately dedicated to finding a cure for MPS disorders, has designated February 25 of each year as "National MPS Day"; and

Whereas the designation of "National MPS Day" provides an opportunity to increase public and professional awareness about mucopolysaccharidoses and mucopolipidoses, and to encourage research for early diagnosis, effective treatments, and a potential cure for MPS disorders: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports the goals and ideals of "National MPS Day".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DENT. 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 the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise today in support of House Resolution 85, introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

This resolution would support the goals and ideals of "National MPS Day." MPS and related diseases are rare genetic diseases that cause cells to form improperly, wreaking havoc among all the body's systems. Enzymes which normally break apart damaged cells fail to produce, resulting in progressive damage throughout the body, affecting the heart, bones, joints, respiratory system and the central nervous system. It can cause stunted growth, stiff joints, speech and hearing impairment, breathing problems, mental retardation, and a dramatically shortened life span.