

Travel is an integral part of the human experience, and I am pleased that we are honoring the travel and tourism industry by putting forth this resolution celebrating National Tourism Week.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 729, resolution sponsored by my friend and colleague MARK FOLEY, the Co-Chair of the Travel and Tourism Caucus along with members of the Caucus including myself, in support of National Tourism Week.

It is worth repeating, Mr. Speaker, as the resolution points out, Travel and Tourism as the 3rd largest retail sales industry in the Nation, has a major impact on the economy of the United States. One out of every 7 people employed in the United States civilian labor force is directly or indirectly employed in the travel and tourism industry. International travel to the United States is the largest service export, generating a trade surplus for 16 consecutive years, increasing 144 percent between 2003 and 2004 to over \$4 billion. And, in 2005 alone, travel and tourism-related expenditures reached \$1 trillion, including \$596 billion in direct sales and \$445 billion in indirect sales, and supported 8 million jobs.

As someone who represents an area where tourism is our number one industry, I am proud to report that despite increases in the price of oil, the tourism industry in the Virgin Islands have been doing exceptionally well over the last couple of years.

According to the Virgin Islands Bureau of Economic Research, the industry was one of the strongest performers and main contributor to the economic performance during 2004 with increases in both air and cruise ship passengers. Total visitors in the Territory in fiscal year 2004 reached a record 2.6 million, up 12 percent over 2003.

The BER projects, barring any significant shocks, that visitor arrival will peak at 2.7 million by the end of fiscal year 2005 and 2.8 million in fiscal year 2006.

Mr. Speaker, the Travel and Tourism industry generates trillions of dollars in economic activity in the U.S. and as such it deserves all of our support. I urge my colleagues to support passage of H. Res. 729.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my support for House Resolution 729, a bill that I and Mr. FARR introduced recognizing the 23rd Annual National Tourism Week.

First established by Congress in 1983, this annual event gives us an opportunity to recognize the significant importance the Travel and Tourism Industry has on our economy.

The travel and tourism industry is the lifeblood of many states around the country—including Florida, California, New York and Nevada, to name a few. Every Congressional District is impacted—that is every district with a restaurant, hotel, museum, national park, stadium, theater, campgrounds and beaches.

Domestic travel and tourism-related spending has reached \$1 trillion a year. There are over 8 million people in the food service, hospitality and travel-related industries that rely on America's vibrant and thriving travel industry.

As America's third-largest retail sales industry, nearly \$100 billion dollars was generated in tax revenue for our local, state and federal governments in 2004.

In addition, international travel to the United States is now the largest service export with a generated trade surplus for 16 consecutive years.

For example, in my district there are visitors from all over the world who are drawn to our beautiful beaches, recreational lakes, habitat wildlife preserves and golf courses. In 2005, Florida collected over \$3 billion in tourism and recreational sales, a reflection of \$62 billion that went into the state's economy during the year.

So as some of us begin our summer travel, let us remember the tremendous impact the travel and tourism industry makes on all of our lives.

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 agree to the resolution, H. Res. 729.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MATTHEW LYON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5245) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Marble Street in Fair Haven, Vermont, as the "Matthew Lyon Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5245

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

SECTION 1. MATTHEW LYON POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Marble Street in Fair Haven, Vermont, shall be known and designated as the "Matthew Lyon 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 "Matthew Lyon 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.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, born in County Wicklow, Ireland, Matthew Lyon was a printer, farmer, soldier and politician who came to America as an indentured servant at the age of 14 in 1764. During

the Revolution, Matthew Lyon fought with Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys to capture Fort Ticonderoga. He later resigned from the Army in 1778, and became a member of the Vermont House of Representatives from 1779 to 1783.

During this time he built and operated various kinds of mills, including one to manufacture paper. He also established a printing office in 1793 and published the Farmers' Library. In addition, he created the Fair Haven Gazette, a weekly newspaper, and served as publisher and editor while using the paper to express his political opinions in the early years of our Republic.

Lyon was elected as a Republican to the Fifth and Sixth Congresses, but was not a candidate for renomination in 1800. He then went on to relocate to the State of Kentucky in 1801, and settled in Caldwell County, now Lyon County, and became a member of the House of Representatives of Kentucky in 1802.

He was then elected to the Eighth Congress and to three successive Congresses until he was unsuccessful in seeking reelection in 1810. He is certainly one of our Founding Fathers, and it is long overdue for him to be recognized with this post office.

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

□ 2230

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

As a member of the Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 5245, legislation naming the postal facility at 1 Marble Street in Fair Haven, Vermont, after Matthew Lyon. This bill, which was sponsored by Representative BERNARD SANDERS of Vermont, was unanimously reported by our committee on May 4, 2006.

Matthew Lyon was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, and in 1764, at the age of 14, emigrated to the United States as an indentured servant. It was not long before he was a free man and fighting alongside Ethan Allen and others in the famous battle of Ticonderoga. Lyon went on to settle in Vermont, founding the village of Fair Haven and later representing Vermont in Congress for two terms.

Lyon was a fierce Jeffersonian Republican and a staunch opponent of the Sedition Act. Lyon's public opposition to the Sedition Act led him to be the first person arrested under the guise of the act. A dubious honor to some, perhaps, was a badge of honor to this protector of free speech and liberty. Lyon would serve a 4-month prison sentence and become a champion of the movement opposed to the Sedition Act.

After serving two terms as the Representative for Vermont and one term in the Kentucky State legislature, Lyon was elected to Congress again, this time as a Representative for the State of Kentucky, becoming one of

only three people elected to Congress from two States.

Mr. Speaker, this is certainly a great deal of historic as well as patriotic value, and I would urge swift passage of H.R. 5245 which seeks to honor the life of a true American pioneer, Matthew Lyon.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5245, a bill I introduced to rename the Fair Haven, Vermont, post office in honor of Matthew Lyon, an American patriot and staunch defender of First Amendment rights.

I would like to thank Chairman DAVIS and Ranking Member WAXMAN for their help in moving this bill through the Government Reform Committee. I would also like to thank Jeffrey Schulz, the Fair Haven Town Manager, and the Fair Haven Select Board for supporting this legislation.

Matthew Lyon was born in Dublin, Ireland, on July 14, 1749, and immigrated to colonial America in 1765 as an indentured servant. In 1774 he purchased land in the area of the Hampshire Grants now known as Wallingford, Vermont, and soon after joined Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys militia where he led his own unit in defending their land from competing claimants as well from British attacks from the north. In Vermont, he was involved in encouraging the formation of citizen committees across the state to discuss national and state issues, meet with their elected officials, and ensure that their government was being operated in the best interest of all citizens.

In 1783, Matthew Lyon founded the town of Fair Haven. He served in the Vermont State Legislature for 14 years before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to serve as Vermont's Congressional representative from 1797–1801. Interestingly, he also represented the State of Kentucky in the U.S. House from 1803–1811.

Matthew Lyon, however, is perhaps best known for being the first person to stand trial and be convicted under the 1798 Sedition Act—sweeping legislation passed during a period when America was engaged in hostilities with France. As we're all aware, the purpose of the legislation was to curtail dissent from citizens and members of the press who opposed President John Adams' foreign policy toward France. The legislation was unquestionably a direct attack on rights explicitly protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

For violating provisions of the Sedition Act, Matthew Lyon was convicted and sentenced to four months in jail, required to pay the cost of his prosecution and a fine of \$1,000. His only crime was writing a letter to the editor critical of President John Adams' foreign policy toward France and submitting another person's similar writings to a local newspaper that published them. Although he was jailed, he continued to exercise his Constitutional rights by expressing his views and actively opposing the Sedition Act's anti-free speech provisions. He was even re-elected to Congress from prison in December of 1798.

Eventually, the Sedition Act was allowed to sunset according to its terms and President Thomas Jefferson pardoned those still serving in prison under the Act and remitted their fines. Decades later, Congress passed a law that reimbursed Matthew Lyon's heirs and representatives for the fines he was forced to pay under the Sedition Act.

This remarkable story is not only one that makes the citizens of my state proud but also represents an event of national historical significance. Too often today, we forget the struggles that many who came before us undertook to preserve freedom of speech, the press, and the right to assemble. This post office will serve as a reminder to Vermonters, the nation, and all those who visit Fair Haven, of the heroic efforts made in the past to protect the rights of all to speak freely, no matter what political viewpoint or ideas they may have.

At a time when we find ourselves struggling to balance the security of our nation with the liberties we cherish, I can think of no better time to honor one of our nation's champions of the First Amendment's right of free speech. Naming the Fair Haven Post Office in honor of Matthew Lyon would be a fitting tribute to him and his fight for liberty, and would serve as a reminder of Fair Haven's connection to this great American patriot.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill; to honor Matthew Lyon, a patriotic American who through his actions more than 200 years ago, reminds us of the importance of freedom of speech in our country.

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption and yield back.

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. 5245.

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.

CONGRATULATING ALBERT PUJOLS ON BEING NAMED THE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER FOR THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE 2005 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SEASON

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 626) congratulating Albert Pujols on being named the Most Valuable Player for the National League for the 2005 Major League Baseball season.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 626

Whereas Albert Pujols of the St. Louis Cardinals was named the Most Valuable Player for the National League for the 2005 Major League Baseball season;

Whereas in 2005 Albert Pujols led the Cardinals with a batting average of .330, 41 home runs, 117 runs batted in, and 16 stolen bases;

Whereas Albert Pujols is the only player in the history of Major League Baseball to have a batting average higher than .300, hit 30 or more home runs, drive in 100 or more runs, and score 100 or more runs in each of his first five seasons in the major leagues;

Whereas Albert Pujols has already won the 2001 Rookie of the Year Award for the National League, the 2003 National League batting championship, and the Most Valuable Player Award for the 2004 National League Championship Series;

Whereas Albert Pujols exemplifies true sportsmanship and class; and

Whereas Albert Pujols is active in numerous St. Louis area charities and causes, most notably through his establishment of, and involvement in, the Pujols Family Foundation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Albert Pujols on being named the Most Valuable Player for the National League for the 2005 Major League Baseball season.

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.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. 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 materials on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the national pastime, obviously, is baseball and to honor the most valuable player of the 2005 season seems to be only appropriate. Certainly, there can be no more appropriate thing as we go into the heart of baseball season than to consider a resolution recognizing this amazingly great accomplishment and an amazing season in 2005. And so I urge my colleagues to adopt this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, St. Louis Cardinal first baseman Jose Alberto Pujols is widely regarded as one of major league baseball's best offensive players because he hits consistently for average and power. On August 5, 2005, Pujols became the first player in major league history to hit 30 or more home runs in each of his first five seasons. On August 31, 2005, he became the first major league player since Ted Williams to have 100 runs batted in during each of his first five seasons.

Originally from the Dominican Republic, it was in the United States that Pujols developed his love for baseball and demonstrated his ability for the game. He batted over .500 during his first season of high school baseball. At Maple Woods Community College in the Kansas City area, Pujols showed off his talent by hitting a grand slam and recording an unassisted triple play during his first game and by batting .461 during his first season.

The St. Louis Cardinals drafted Pujols in the 13th round of the 1999 draft. He initially turned down a \$10,000 bonus and opted to play in the Jayhawk League in Kansas. By the end of the summer, the Cardinals had increased their bonus offer to \$60,000. Pujols signed with the Cardinals and was assigned to the minor leagues. By