

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1096, as amended.

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. RENZI. 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 question will be postponed.

#### STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE STUDY ACT OF 2005

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1728) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the French Colonial Heritage Area in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1728

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ste. Genevieve County National Historic Site Study Act of 2005".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AREA.—The term "Area" means Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri, which includes the Bequette-Ribault, St. Gemme-Amoureux, and Wilhawk homes, and the related and supporting historical assets located in Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

#### SEC. 3. STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the State of Missouri—

(1) complete a study on the suitability and feasibility of designating the Area as a unit of the National Park System, which shall include the potential impact that designation of the area as a unit of the National Park System is likely to have on land within the proposed area or bordering the proposed area that is privately owned at the time that the study is conducted; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report describing the findings of the study.

(b) CONTENTS.—The study under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-1 et seq.).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) 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 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 Arizona?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1728, introduced by Congressman RUSS CARNAHAN of Missouri and amended by the Resources Committee, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the feasibility of designating the French Colonial Heritage Area in eastern Missouri as a unit of the National Park System. This area contains some of the only existing examples of the French colonial period settlement in North America dating to circa 1785.

I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

(Mr. RAHALL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I do commend the gentleman from Missouri, Representative CARNAHAN, for valuing the historic and cultural resources which make his district unique and for seeking ways to interpret and share those resources more broadly.

I spoke with him personally on the phone last night. He is in his district at the current time attending very important activities, but this legislation is just as important to him. Otherwise, he would be here speaking on this personally.

If the study we are authorizing today should support such a move, we look forward to working with Representative CARNAHAN on legislation to make this area a unit of the National Park System.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1728.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1728, the Ste. Genevieve County National Historic Site Study Act of 2005.

This bill will authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of designating areas within Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System.

This study is important to the area, as it will help preserve the great history in the region.

Ste. Genevieve's historical significance derives from French colonial settlement in Missouri.

It was an outpost of the French empire and demonstrates France's efforts to colonize the central region of North America.

Today, Ste. Genevieve remains steeped in French tradition, both culturally and architecturally.

The historic region in Ste. Genevieve has a rich collection of resources, including a signifi-

cant number of 18th century French colonial structures.

Included in the proposed site study are two of the only five remaining vertical log houses known to survive in North America.

Built around 1800, each stands together on their original sites, standing as a reflection of our history, which needs to be preserved for our future.

In addition to these two homes, historic downtown Ste. Genevieve, as well as a common field used by French settlers, known as Le Grand Champ, are further examples of the history and tradition that exists in Ste. Genevieve County.

This bill is important because the study will not only ensure the preservation of local colonial history, but it will result in economic development from increased tourism and entrepreneurship.

I'd like to thank Chairman POMBO and Ranking Member RAHALL for their work on this bill. I would also like to thank my colleague and co-sponsor, Congresswoman EMERSON for her support.

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

Mr. RENZI. 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 Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1728, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating portions of Ste. Genevieve County in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CREATION OF THE NASCAR-HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES CONSORTIUM

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 677) recognizing the creation of the NASCAR-Historically Black Colleges and Universities Consortium.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 677

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that, while there are 1.3 million automotive technicians currently employed, industry figures confirm that an additional 50,000 technicians are needed to fill open positions each year;

Whereas the National Automotive Dealers Association reports that 57 percent of their dealers' operating profit is generated by their parts and service departments; that dealers consider it difficult to find a qualified technician; and that 42 percent of all dealer technicians have been engaged in that line of work less than one year;

Whereas the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, Inc. ("NASCAR"),

the NASCAR Universal Technical Institute, and a collaboration of Historically Black Colleges and Universities ("HBCUs") have agreed to create a strategic alliance focused on increasing the number and quality of job opportunities for African-American students in key racing and other related automotive business activities including automotive engineering and technology, automotive safety, sports marketing, and other automotive industry areas;

Whereas NASCAR and its partner HBCUs are establishing a formal structure to increase the number and quality of job opportunities for African-American students with NASCAR in key racing and other related automotive business activities through the NASCAR Universal Training Institute and the NASCAR Diversity Internship Program;

Whereas NASCAR has agreed to efforts to enhance the identification of employment opportunities with NASCAR such as Internships, full time jobs, including entry level management positions, part-time jobs for college students, and post-graduate job placement for students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees at partner HBCUs;

Whereas NASCAR and its partner HBCUs have developed a program to increase awareness, access to, and participation by African-American students in the NASCAR Universal Training Institute and NASCAR Diversity Internship Program by partner HBCUs for the racing and other related automotive industries; and

Whereas NASCAR and the partner HBCUs will seek opportunities to establish and enhance the funding of targeted job development activities by partner HBCUs, and to generate support for the HBCUs in their efforts to enhance curriculum development in sports marketing, finance, human resource management and other automotive industry areas: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, Inc., the NASCAR Universal Technical Institute, and a collaboration of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and their creation of a strategic alliance to increase the number and quality of job opportunities for African-American students in key racing and other related automotive business activities;

(2) commends NASCAR, the NASCAR Universal Technical Institute, the NASCAR Technical Training Institute, and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, for their efforts to increase the number and quality of job opportunities for African-American students in key racing and other related automotive business activities; and

(3) encourages the Departments of Education and Labor and other appropriate agencies of the Federal government to support this effort.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KELLER. 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 H. Res. 677.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 677, a measure to recognize the creation of the NASCAR-Historically Black Colleges and Universities Consortium. I thank the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) for offering this legislation and for his support of this important partnership.

It is fitting that we are considering this resolution on the final day of Black History Month, 4 weeks during which our Nation has celebrated the countless contributions of African Americans to our Nation's history.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities, or HBCUs, have played an important role in enriching the lives of not just African Americans, but our entire country. In fact, President Bush once noted, "Our Historically Black Colleges and Universities opened the door to knowledge when other doors were barred. And today they offer exciting opportunities to young people to contribute to their country."

While compromising only 3 percent of our Nation's 2- and 4-year institutions, HBCUs are responsible for producing 28 percent of all bachelor's degrees, 15 percent of all master's degrees, and 17 percent of all first professional degrees earned by African Americans. And through its new partnership with the popular sport of NASCAR, the impact of HBCUs is sure to grow.

The new NASCAR-HBCU Consortium will promote diversity throughout NASCAR, including its marketing, service, and engineering departments. This is particularly meaningful as our Nation seeks to increase the number of students studying math and science in college. According to the Department of Education's most recent figures, only about 9 percent of students receiving a bachelor's degree in math or science are African Americans, so the creation of this consortium could not have come at a better time.

The United States must produce more students interested in math and science in order for our Nation to excel in an increasingly global economy. HBCUs are sure to be at the forefront of this effort.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud NASCAR for recognizing the contributions HBCUs have made to American education and culture and, more importantly, the contributions they will make in the future. I am proud that the House has taken the lead in promoting the efforts of this consortium, which will ensure new and exciting career opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students attending HBCUs. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

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 rise in support of H. Res. 677, which recognizes the creation of the recently formed partnership be-

tween NASCAR and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This partnership is aimed at increasing the number and quality of job opportunities for African American students in the NASCAR workforce, as well as other related fields, including automotive engineering and technology, automotive safety, sports marketing and other automotive industry areas.

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This year, 2006, marks NASCAR's 57th year of racing. Sadly, during its 57 years, NASCAR has had just five black drivers to ever compete in a Cup Series race.

In 1963, Wendell Scott finished 10th or better in the points standings three times, and came away with the victory. However, Scott did not receive his trophy until a month after the fact.

Second place finisher Buck Baker, who was white, was awarded the trophy in fear of fan uproar. Today, nearly 45 years later, the number of black NASCAR fans have increased, but minority drivers and automotive technicians are still nearly nonexistent.

According to an ESPN poll, approximately 6.6 million NASCAR fans are black, yet no black driver has competed at the Cup Series level since Willie T. Ribbs ran three races 20 years ago.

The on-track program is not NASCAR's only effort at diversifying the predominately white sport. NASCAR offers awards, diversity scholarships to minority undergraduate and graduate students attending HBCUs.

The scholarship program is in its sixth year, and the NASCAR diversity internship program is in its seventh year. The internship program is a 10-week paid summer internship that introduces minority students to NASCAR and various career opportunities throughout the industry.

Many of the summer interns have graduated and are currently pursuing engineering and sports management careers. As the automotive industry grows and becomes more technologically demanding in the coming decades, this partnership between NASCAR and Historically Black Colleges and Universities will become increasingly vital.

Mr. Speaker, I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to do so.

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

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the author of this important resolution, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS).

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 677, a resolution recognizing the importance of the NASCAR-HBCU Consortium. On February 8, 2006, the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, NASCAR, announced a new collaboration with Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the Universal Technical Institute.

The effort, known as the NASCAR-HBCU Consortium, focuses on increasing the number of job opportunities for African American students in racing, technology, automotive safety and sports marketing. I am especially pleased that over 40 Members of Congress have joined my colleague, Representative WATT, and me in introducing this resolution.

Being from Alabama, I have firsthand knowledge of many of the partners in this consortium. As a race fan, I have spent many days at the Talladega Super Speedway, a facility that I am proud to represent here in Congress. In addition, I have the honor of representing three of the leading HBCUs in the Nation: Talladega College, Alabama State University, and Tuskegee University. Their excellence and commitment to education are known across our Nation.

In Alabama, we have been blessed by a thriving and growing automotive industry. Both Honda and Hyundai have built large plants in my congressional district, and they employ thousands of Alabamians with good jobs at good wages.

Mr. Speaker, it is critical that all our young folks have the skills to compete for these jobs. This new partnership should help more of tomorrow's workers take advantage of these new opportunities.

I also call on the United States Departments of Education and Labor to support this consortium as well. And finally I would like to thank Speaker HASTERT for his participation at the announcement of this consortium.

Also I wish to thank Majority Leader BOEHNER and Chairman MCKEON for expediting this resolution for consideration. With that, I respectfully ask the House for its support of this resolution.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she might consume to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for his leadership in managing this legislation as it comes to the floor, and let me give my appreciation to Mr. ROGERS and Mr. WATT for really pinpointing an area that has such vast popularity and recognition and finding in it an opportunity for education and jobs.

This partnership between NASCAR, the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, as well as the HBCUs, is close to a partnership longing to be established.

This relationship that deals with a sport that has come to be one of the most popular in the United States of America, one that probably has the greatest Sunday afternoon or Saturday afternoon audience of any of our sports, and maybe our sports combined, now can stand as a symbol of opportunity and civil rights.

It is a symbol now of a combination of the needs of the NASCAR sports industry, and Historically Black Colleges. How important it is that we dis-

cuss and debate this on the last day of commemorating African American History Month.

Let me point out what is most exciting about this effort. One, HBCUs are known to be one of the greatest resources for talented African American students and others. In addition, Historically Black Colleges are found mostly in the South, where it is known that the NASCAR effort is most popular, but also the heart of that effort.

Of course, it combines education, skills and job opportunity. So this partnership is all that we would ask it to be. We now look to the Department of Education to really engage itself in whatever efforts are necessary to promote, encourage and facilitate this partnership. Let us provide the necessary resources, governmental if at all, necessary to ensure that the partnership continues.

Finally, let me say, let me encourage the young people who might be listening to this debate that the opportunity now stands for you to put your internship, full-time jobs, including entry-level management positions, part-time jobs and postgraduate job placement for students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees at partner HBCUs.

The skills would be, of course, the technical aspects of this business, and that is relating to the automotive business activities, including automotive engineering and technology, automotive safety, sports marketing and other automotive industry areas.

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude, I want to congratulate my colleagues and also say that this is, of course, planting the seeds. I have been discussing with my universities in Texas the idea of looking at sports management to cover the NFL, the NBA, and American baseball. These are important economic engines, and it is certainly a very important step that this resolution, H. Res. 677, is going forward, partnering HBCUs with NASCAR.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I do not have any more speakers, and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure now to yield such time as he may consume to the cosponsor of this resolution and the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Representative MEL WATT.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, Mr. DAVIS, for yielding the time.

I am honored to be an original cosponsor with my friend, Congressman ROGERS from Alabama, of this legislation. Some people probably are wondering why this kind of interesting coalition has come together.

Well, for me, it is about having the Lowes Motor Speedway in Charlotte, North Carolina, not inside my congressional district, it is actually in an adjoining congressional district represented by one of my other North Carolina colleagues. But we know the value of NASCAR and motor sports in

North Carolina and in the area from which I come.

The second thing that converges here is the recognition that I have five Historically Black Colleges and Universities in my district, and two of them have already become a part of this partnership and will benefit from NASCAR's diversity initiative: North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina, and Winston-Salem State University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Representative DAVIS has indicated the history of NASCAR when it comes to drivers, and that is important, but I want to emphasize that this is not only about having drivers in the cars. NASCAR is a massive conglomerate of entities, and a lot of people view NASCAR or motor sports as just the guys that are out there running around the track or the guys in the pits. There are marketing opportunities, there are accounting opportunities; this is a major corporate undertaking here. There are engineering opportunities.

I was so very impressed when I went to one of the shops there to know that this is not just somebody putting a car out there, it is massaging the tolerances and doing what is necessary to get those cars, engineering-wise, to perform at their maximum performance level. So we think this has tremendous potential for job opportunities for an increase of diversity.

Now, is this unique? It may be somewhat unique for NASCAR, but it is certainly not unique for the Congressional Black Caucus. The Congressional Black Caucus, which I am honored to chair, has been in the forefront of pushing job opportunities in every area of our lives: in the sports arena, in the business arena, in the financial services arena, you just name it, go down the list. So, for us, this is not a unique program, it is a natural progression and an expansion of what we set out to do.

And then, finally, I would just say that, as most things, this is at its bottom line about money.

If we can take the fan base of NASCAR and superimpose on it all of the African American potential that is out there, so that there is an equal amount of customer and fan base in the African American community as there is in other communities, you will see the same thing happen in NASCAR that you saw happen when Tiger Woods became the superstar that he is in golf.

You will see the same thing happen in NASCAR that has happened in football and basketball and baseball and other sports. They have recognized that there is a customer base out there that, if they take advantage of it, can be cultivated if people who look like the customers are involved in it.

So we dare not delude ourselves that this is all about just goodwill. This is about money at its base. And it is about the American way, the capital way of doing things.

We support that. We are not adverse to it. We are not opposing it. We are

supporters of that. We think this is a way to do it.

I want to congratulate my good friend, Mr. ROGERS. And when we introduced this resolution, a stream of my colleagues came immediately to support the resolution.

I thank Speaker HASTERT for joining us at the press conference where this was rolled out. And I thank the leadership on both sides of the aisle for expediting this resolution to the floor of the House.

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It does not cost us any money. All we are doing is congratulating, encouraging private enterprise to be more diverse in their customer base, in their employment base, in their opportunities that are extended to all Americans. That is what this is all about. It deserves our unqualified support, and I encourage my colleagues to support it without even thinking about it a second time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CONAWAY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 677.

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.

#### CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEXAS WESTERN'S 1966 NCAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 668) celebrating the 40th anniversary of Texas Western's 1966 NCAA Basketball Championship and recognizing the groundbreaking impact of the title game victory on diversity in sports and civil rights in America, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 668

Whereas Don Haskins was a high school basketball star at Enid High School in Enid, Oklahoma, a college standout at Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State) under his mentor, Coach Hank Iba, and a successful Texas high school basketball coach, amassing a 157-41 win-loss record coaching Benjamin, Hedley, and Dumas High Schools;

Whereas in 1961 Don Haskins became the coach of the men's basketball team at Texas Western College, which was later renamed the University of Texas at El Paso;

Whereas early in the 1965-1966 basketball season Don Haskins told Texas Western president Joseph Ray, "The way our boys line up now, my six best boys are black. If I leave two or three of them out because they're black, they'll know it. [And] the white boys will know it.";

Whereas the 1966 Texas Western team of Bobby Joe Hill (Detroit, Michigan), Orsten Artis (Gary, Indiana), Togo Railey (El Paso, Texas), Willie Worsley (New York, New York), David Palacio (El Paso, Texas), Dick Myers (Peabody, Kansas), Harry Flournoy (Gary, Indiana), Louis Baudoin (Albuquerque, New Mexico), Nevil Shed (New York, New York), Jerry Armstrong (Eagleville, Missouri), Willie Cager (New York, New York), and David "Big Daddy" Lattin (Houston, Texas) finished the basketball season 28-1;

Whereas on March 19, 1966, Coach Don Haskins' all-black starting line-up, the first such line-up to ever appear in a major championship contest, defeated the heavily-favored University of Kentucky to win the NCAA Basketball Championship, an event defined by many as the "Brown v. Board of Education of athletics";

Whereas the Miners' victory accelerated the pace of racial integration in college athletics and contributed to the expansion of the civil rights movement into the realm of sports;

Whereas when recounting his historic impact on diversity in college sports, Don Haskins said, "I just played my best guys, like any coach would do.";

Whereas over the course of his career Don Haskins also coached the Miners to 32 winning seasons, seven Western Athletic Conference championships, four Western Athletic Conference tournament titles, and 21 post-season appearances, creating a proud tradition of college basketball success and community spirit in El Paso that persists to this day and winning entry into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1997; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives celebrates the 40th anniversary of Texas Western's 1966 NCAA Basketball Championship and recognizes the groundbreaking impact of the title game victory on diversity in sports and civil rights in America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 668.

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

There was no objection.

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

It gives me great pleasure to rise in support of House Resolution 668, which celebrates the 40th anniversary of Texas Western's 1966 NCAA basketball championship and recognize the groundbreaking impact of the title game victory on diversity in sports and civil rights in America.

Texas Western's victory occurred 40 years ago, 1966, during the midst of the civil rights movement to end discrimination against blacks. The 1954 Brown v. Board of Education decision and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed institutional racial segregation. In Vietnam, blacks were fighting and dying

alongside their fellow white soldiers. Blacks were not, however, playing basketball at many schools in the South, where de facto segregation still reigned.

For Don Haskins, coach of the Texas Western Miners men's basketball team, a person's race did not matter. To him ability on the basketball court mattered more than the color of the player's skin. To Coach Haskins, the only thing that really mattered was winning.

This was the philosophy Coach Haskins used on the night of March 19, 1966. That night the Texas Western Miners made history by defeating the number-one-ranked, all-white University of Kentucky Wildcats for the NCAA basketball championship, a game of historical significance because no other college team at the time had ever started five black players in a major championship contest. In fact, when Texas Western defeated Kentucky 72-65, a game still celebrated as one of the biggest college basketball upsets in NCAA history, there were no black basketball players in the Southeastern or Atlantic Coast Conferences.

This remarkable triumph helped shift the national perception of black athletes and helped bring about the widespread desegregation of college sports. In turn, the desegregation of college sports helped to spread greater equality throughout American society.

Mr. Speaker, the man behind Texas Western's success is Don Haskins. His 38-year reign at Texas Western, now the University of Texas El Paso, allowed him to become one of the winningest coaches in NCAA history. He amassed a 719-354 record, 32 winning seasons, seven Western Athletic Conference Championships, four Western Athletic Tournament titles, and 21 post-season appearances. In 1997, Coach Haskins was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. He retired from coaching in 1999.

Coach Don Haskins is truly a living legend in college sports. He believed that as a coach he should recruit the best raw talent he could find no matter the player's race, background, or life story. If not for the colorblind dream of Coach Haskins to win basketball games with his team's most talented players, history may not have been made on the night of March 19, 1966.

I want to thank my colleague from Texas (Mr. REYES) for introducing this legislation and bringing forth a lesser known, yet significant, piece of history in college athletics. I am happy to join my colleagues in celebrating the 40th anniversary of Texas Western's 1966 NCAA basketball championship. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise in support of H. Res. 668, a resolution to celebrate the 40th anniversary of