

Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Mr. Johnson was the last Congressional Medal of Honor winner living in the Upper Peninsula. As I stated earlier, he was a friend of mine. I first introduced this legislation in 2000, it is now 2007. It is time for the family and friends to have the honor of Oscar Johnson having his name attached to the VA Medical Facility in Iron Mountain, Michigan.

I would also like to thank the entire Michigan U.S. House delegation for co-sponsoring this legislation, and our two Senators, STABENOW and LEVIN, for their support of this legislation. And I thank the previous speakers.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2602.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to unanimously support H.R. 2602.

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 Illinois (Mr. HARE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2602.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RAYMOND G. MURPHY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 229) to redesignate a Federal building in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the "Raymond G. Murphy Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 229

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

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION.

The Federal building known and designated as the "Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center" located at 1501 San Pedro Drive, SE, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, shall be known and redesignated as the "Raymond G. Murphy Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Raymond G. Murphy De-

partment of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HARE) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

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

Mr. Speaker, on December 9, 1861, Iowa Senator James W. Grimes introduced S. 82 in the United States Senate, a bill designed to "promote the efficiency of the Navy" by authorizing the production and distribution of "medals of honor". On December 21 the bill was passed, authorizing 200 such medals be produced "which shall be bestowed upon such petty officers, seamen, landsmen and Marines as shall distinguish themselves by their gallantly in action and other seamanlike qualities during the present war." President Lincoln signed the bill, and the Medal of Honor was born.

The first Medal of Honor was the Navy Medal of Honor. Raymond Murphy was a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps when he risked his life and went above and beyond the call of duty as a platoon commander in action against the enemy.

Although painfully wounded by fragments from an enemy mortar shell while leading his evacuation platoon, Second Lieutenant Murphy refused medical aid and continued to lead his men up a hill through hostile mortar and small-arms fire, while shouting words of encouragement to his men.

Under the increasing intense enemy fire, he immediately located casualties as they fell and made several trips up and down the fire-swept hill to direct evacuation teams to the wounded, personally carrying many of the stricken Marines to safety. When reinforcements were needed by the assaulting elements, Second Lieutenant Murphy employed part of his unit as support and, during the ensuing battle, personally killed two of the enemy with his pistol.

With all the wounded evacuated and the assaulting units beginning to disengage, he remained behind with a carbine to cover the movement of friendly forces off the hill, and although suffering intense pain from a previous wound, seized an automatic rifle to provide more firepower when the enemy reappeared in the trenches.

After reaching the base of the hill, he organized a search party and again ascended the slope for a final check on missing Marines, locating and carrying the bodies of a machine gun crew back down the hill.

Wounded a second time while conducting the entire force to the line of departure through a continuing barrage of enemy small-arms, artillery and mortar fire, he once again refused medical attention until assured that every one of his men, including all the casualties, had preceded him to the main lines.

Second Lieutenant Murphy's actions epitomize the Marine Corps motto, Semper Fidelis, "always faithful," and demonstrate his loyalty and commitment to marine comrades-in-arms.

After the war, Mr. Murphy continued his service to his veteran comrades in New Mexico, serving as Director of Veteran Services at the VA center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Renaming the VA Medical Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico is a fitting tribute to a tireless advocate of veterans.

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

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are considering S. 229 on the House floor today. This Senate bill would name the VA Medical Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico the Raymond G. "Jerry" Murphy Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Jerry Murphy was awarded the Medal of Honor and the Silver Star for heroism during the Korean War. Its companion bill in the House, H.R. 474, introduced by Representative WILSON, has the support of the entire New Mexico delegation as well as Governor Richardson from that State.

During his service in the United States Marine Corps, Second Lieutenant Murphy was cited for his "conspicuous gallantry at the risk of his life and above and beyond the call of duty as a platoon commander. He was twice wounded, but he repeatedly refused medical attention and continued to lead his men in an assault against a cleverly concealed and well-entrenched enemy force.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would submit for the RECORD the text of Lieutenant Murphy's Medal of Honor citation.

MURPHY, RAYMOND G.

Rank and organization: Second Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein.). Place and date: Korea, 3 February 1953. Entered service at: Pueblo, Colo. Born: 14 January 1930, Pueblo, Colo. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a platoon commander of Company A, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Although painfully wounded by fragments from an enemy mortar shell while leading his evacuation platoon in support of assault units attacking a cleverly concealed and well-entrenched hostile force occupying commanding ground, 2d Lt. Murphy steadfastly refused medical aid and continued to lead his men up a hill through a withering barrage of hostile mortar and small-arms fire, skillfully maneuvering his force from one position to the next and shouting words of encouragement. Undeterred by the increasing intense enemy fire, he immediately located casualties as they fell and made several trips up and down the fire-swept hill to direct evacuation teams to the wounded, personally carrying many of the stricken marines to safety. When reinforcements were needed by the assaulting elements, 2d Lt. Murphy employed part of his unit as support and, during the ensuing battle, personally killed 2 of the enemy with his pistol. With all the wounded evacuated and the assaulting units beginning

to disengage, he remained behind with a carbine to cover the movement of friendly forces off the hill and, though suffering intense pain from his previous wounds, seized an automatic rifle to provide more firepower when the enemy reappeared in the trenches. After reaching the base of the hill, he organized a search party and again ascended the slope for a final check on missing marines, locating and carrying the bodies of a machine gun crew back down the hill. Wounded a second time while conducting the entire force to the line of departure through a continuing barrage of enemy small-arms, artillery, and mortar fire, he again refused medical assistance until assured that every one of his men, including all casualties, had preceded him to the main lines. His resolute and inspiring leadership, exceptional fortitude, and great personal valor reflect the highest credit upon 2d Lt. Murphy and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

Mr. Speaker, after the Korean War, Jerry Murphy spent most of his adult life in service to New Mexico's veterans. He was Director of the Veterans Services Division of the Albuquerque, New Mexico, VA Regional Office from 1974 to 1997.

Jerry Murphy was a paragon of service because after his retirement he served as a volunteer at the VA Hospital, pushing veterans in their wheelchairs to their appointments. Many of those veterans did not know who was helping them, but that's the kind of man that Jerry was. This brave marine and true comrade left this Earth on April 6, 2007. Of course he was buried wearing his VA Hospital volunteer smock.

Mr. Speaker, no one could be more deserving of having a VA Hospital named after him than Jerry Murphy, who served his country with conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity well beyond the call of duty.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 229.

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

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL).

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation to rename the VA Medical Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico after Raymond "Jerry" Murphy. I believe this naming will go far to honor a veteran who gave so much of his personal life and professional career to this Nation.

After serving as a Marine Corps captain in Korea and earning the Congressional Medal of Honor, Mr. Murphy spent over 20 years as the VA Director of Veterans Services at the very VA medical center this legislation would rename after him. He was a tireless advocate for veterans and helped thousands of veterans and their families over the decades.

While the entire delegation has risen in strong support of this legislation, it should be noted that both New Mexico's veterans' service organizations and John Garcia, the Secretary of Veterans Services in New Mexico and a veteran

himself, initiated this renaming, bringing the service of Mr. Murphy to our attention and suggesting the legislation.

Both Senator DOMENICI and Representative WILSON are to be commended for introducing this legislation, and Senator DOMENICI for getting it out of the Senate and getting it over here to the House so that we could act upon it.

Additionally, I would like to thank Chairman FILNER for his leadership on this legislation and his leadership on all veterans issues.

Unfortunately, Mr. Murphy fell ill with cancer and passed away before this honor could be bestowed upon him. However, this naming will ensure that future generations of New Mexicans will learn of the selfless work of Mr. Murphy, and hopefully many more will emulate him in devoting their lives to public service.

Mr. Murphy personified duty, and I'm pleased that this legislation will be passing the House today.

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlelady from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON) as much time as she may consume.

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, in January of this year, I introduced the companion to the Senate measure that we're considering today, and I wanted to thank both my colleagues from New Mexico, Mr. PEARCE and Mr. UDALL, for their support of that legislation.

I'm very happy today that the House is taking up the Senate version of this bill, which is supported both by Senator BINGAMAN and by Senator DOMENICI. I am also very pleased that the governor of New Mexico, Governor Richardson, and a wide variety of veterans' organizations in New Mexico, have supported this legislation.

Jerry Murphy passed away on April of this year, on Good Friday. He was a hero in Korea, as my colleagues have pointed out, but it's the way he chose to spend the rest of his life that makes him so special to New Mexico's veterans. He was a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserves. He volunteered to go into the Marine Corps when it looked as though he was going to be drafted and sent to Korea in the Army and he thought the Marine Corps might suit him better. In 1952, he commanded an infantry platoon in the Fifth Marines in Seoul, Korea, and was a recipient of the Silver Star.

In February of 1953, he positioned his unit about the Imjin River facing the Chinese Communist troops. Their job was to continually push the Chinese lines to keep them from getting too dug in. He was commanding the reserve platoon, and as the battle went on and he sensed that the operation was not being executed as planned because there were no wounded coming back to the lines, he decided he had to go for-

ward and find out what was going on. When he took his platoon forward, he found that all the officers and the non-commissioned officers of the two assault platoons were dead or wounded, and there was mass confusion among the troops.

He very quickly took command, and in the midst of machine gun fire, he ordered his men to find their comrades and evacuate the area. He made several trips in the midst of heavy gunfire to rescue casualties. At one point, he was helping to lift a stretcher and he was hit in the back by the fragments of an enemy grenade. He refused medical attention and continued to lead his men to rescue their wounded comrades.

As he continued to command his reserves, he came face to face with two Chinese soldiers, and he killed them both. The Chinese entered the trenches as the last American wounded troops were being evacuated. Jerry Murphy picked up an automatic rifle and held off the Chinese Communist forces until all of the marines were safe.

He then went and counted all his marines. He noticed he had a handful still missing, and he went back to the top of the hill with a search team. He located the bodies of a machine gun crew and took them down the hill.

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At this point, he was wounded a second time. He again refused medical treatment until all his men had preceded him into the main line. He eventually received treatment and returned to America.

In October, 1953, when he was in graduate school, Jerry Murphy was awarded the Medal of Honor. It was presented to him by President Eisenhower on October 27, 1953.

For more than 20 years after Jerry Murphy left the service, he dedicated his life to serving New Mexico veterans. He served at the VA hospital as Director for Veterans Services. For 23 years, he provided lots of support to all kinds of veterans in New Mexico. The neat thing is that even after he retired from the VA, he continued to volunteer at the VA hospital.

One of the VA hospital employees once told me that Jerry Murphy was a volunteer; he had his turquoise smock on, and he would push veterans to and from their appointments at the VA hospital. The veterans had no idea who it was that was pushing them around in their wheelchairs. He was always a humble servant. That is the kind of man he was: A quiet, humble servant, soft-spoken, a modest man who was concerned with his fellow soldiers. His humility really never ended. You know, if you think about this guy, he was a Marine, a Medal of Honor winner, and he chose to be put to rest wearing his VA volunteer smock. He will be missed by his family and his wife, Mary Ann.

I want to commend Senators DOMENICI and BINGAMAN for sponsoring this legislation and ushering it through the

Senate; my colleagues, Mr. PEARCE and Mr. UDALL, for cosponsoring the House version of the bill; Secretary John Garcia of New Mexico for first suggesting to all of us that it might be appropriate to name the VA medical center after Jerry; the chairman and ranking member of the Veterans Affairs Committee, Mr. BUYER and Mr. FILNER, for their leadership and willingness to bring this legislation forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill.

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE).

Mr. PEARCE. I thank the gentleman from Florida for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the committee for his work on this important bill; Senator DOMENICI, Senator BINGAMAN, Secretary Garcia, Governor Richardson, Congressman UDALL, and Congresswoman WILSON for their lead in recognizing Jerry Murphy's life of service.

We have heard about his exploits. We have heard about the valor that he displayed under fire. Many of us too often believe that heroism can only be exhibited in those extreme circumstances. But I would say that it takes more courage to live a life of service than he chose to live after his heroic exploits where he was awarded the Nation's highest award for valor where he received the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, the Korean Service Medal, the Bronze Stars. This was a true hero. Yet, he wasn't faced with multi-million dollar book signing deals, no movie contracts; just a quiet life serving other veterans who are often overlooked.

The Korean War is often referred to in New Mexico by veterans of that conflict as "the Forgotten War," because so many of the veterans of that time have simply been overlooked. Yet, Jerry Murphy chose to live a life where he remembered each and every one of them. So, it is entirely appropriate today that we would name a facility in New Mexico for the guy who worked at the facility, always remembering those forgotten veterans. That is the kind of life that takes real valor and real heroism to live day after day after day.

For his quiet life of service, we are simply saying, Thank you for a job well done, Mr. Murphy. God bless you and keep you.

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, at each opportunity granted us to consider a bill honoring the service of a Medal of Honor recipient, I stand in awe of the dedication to country and comrades these people displayed through their lives, whether those lives extended beyond their act of bravery or were ended in that act.

Of the four Medal of Honor recipients to whom we have paid tribute today,

one made the ultimate sacrifice for his comrades and his Nation. Three survived the battle to return home where they continued to serve their Nation through service in the military and through service to the Federal Government. Many who lived and worked with them had no knowledge that these men had received America's highest award for valor in combat. Their lives of quiet humility only accentuated their moments of resounding achievement.

The great example of those lives and those moments will, with passage of these bills, Mr. Speaker, be enshrined in the namings that we are now considering.

We must remember that we are voting not simply to name four buildings; we are consecrating the gift of four lives lived well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 229.

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

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I have had the opportunity I think twice now to be able to manage bills on the floor of the House. I want to say that today is a very proud day for me. These are four great, great men; heroes they are, one and all. I am honored, and I thank the committee for allowing me the opportunity to do this.

As my colleague said, this isn't just naming buildings after somebody. This is really a lasting memory of people who have given everything they have ever had. Everything we are as a Nation we owe to these four great people.

I urge my colleagues to unanimously support Senate bill 229.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HARE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 229.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

DECEPTIVE PRACTICES AND VOTER INTIMIDATION PREVENTION ACT OF 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1281) to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain decep-

tive practices in Federal elections, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1281

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 "Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DECEPTIVE PRACTICES IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§618. Deceptive practices in Federal elections

“(a) Whoever, before or during a Federal election knowingly communicates election-related information about that election, knowing that information to be false, with the intent to prevent another person from exercising the right to vote in that election, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

“(b) As used in this section—

“(1) the term 'Federal election' means any general, primary, run-off, or special election for the office of President, Vice President, presidential elector, Member of the Senate, Member of the House of Representatives, or Delegate or Commissioner from a territory or possession; and

“(2) the term 'election related information' means information regarding—

“(A) the time, place, or manner of conducting the election;

“(B) the qualifications for or restrictions on voter eligibility for the election, including—

“(i) any criminal penalties associated with voting in the election; or

“(ii) information regarding a voter's registration status or eligibility;

“(C) with respect to a closed primary election, the political party affiliation of any candidate for office, if the communication of the information also contains false information described in subparagraph (A) or (B); or

“(D) the explicit endorsement by any person or organization of a candidate running for any office voted on in the election.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“618. Deceptive practices in Federal elections.”

SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF PENALTY FOR VOTER INTIMIDATION.

Section 594 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “one year” and inserting “5 years”.

SEC. 4. SENTENCING GUIDELINES.

(a) REVIEW AND AMENDMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States Sentencing Commission, pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, and in accordance with this section, shall review and, if appropriate, amend the Federal sentencing guidelines and policy statements applicable to persons convicted of any offense under sections of title 18, United States Code, that are added or modified by this Act.

(b) AUTHORIZATION.—The United States Sentencing Commission may, for the purposes of the amendments made pursuant to this section, amend the Federal sentencing guidelines in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 21(a) of the Sentencing Act of 1987 (28 U.S.C. 994 note) as though the