

Mr. Speaker, I love Lane like a brother, and I'm proud to support this bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located in Rock Island, Illinois, as the "Lane Evans Post Office Building."

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a former colleague, a great American patriot, and a great friend, of Honorable Lane Evans from the State of Illinois, and to voice my support for H.R. 521, designating the Post Office in Rock Island, Illinois, as the "Lane Evans Post Office Building."

Lane served his constituents with great distinction in the House for 24 years. During his tenure in this great and honorable body, Lane was a champion of our Nation's veterans. As a veteran myself, having served 20 years in the United States Army, including two tours-of-duty in Vietnam, I feel fortunate that veterans across the Nation had such a strong and stalwart advocate in the United States House of Representatives. His fight to secure assured funding for veterans' health care and better services for our Nation's veterans will always be remembered fondly.

Lane also serves as an inspiration for many in our Nation struggling with a debilitating illness. When Lane was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, he did not shy away from it. He continued his service to his constituents in this great House. Many can look at Lane as an example that life does not have to end when confronted with great uncertainty. One can persevere, and can continue fighting for what one believes in.

I, along with other veterans across our great Nation will never forget the tireless efforts of Lane Evans—a great American patriot, and a tireless advocate for the beliefs he held so dear.

I, along with many in this House, wish Lane nothing but the best for the future.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 521, the Lane Evans Post Office Bill. By naming this Post Office after our distinguished former colleague, we pay tribute to Lane Evans and recognize his long, distinguished career of public service.

Prior to being elected to the House of Representatives in 1983, Lane Evans served in the Marine Corps at the time of the Vietnam War. His experience in the military and his firsthand knowledge of veterans' issues led Lane to become a leading advocate for veterans during his time in Congress. On issues such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, homelessness among veterans, and the aftereffects of exposure to Agent Orange, Lane Evans consistently took the lead in crafting real policy solutions. Lane's leadership on veterans' issues was formally recognized in 1995, when he was named Ranking Member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

In addition, Lane always dutifully served his constituents and the state of Illinois. He was a strong advocate for working Americans and was one of the first to see the need for renewable forms of energy such as ethanol.

With Lane Evans' decision to not seek reelection last year, Congress, Illinois, and the nation lost a great public servant. Now, by naming a Post Office after our former colleague, we can say thanks to Lane, and lift up his impressive legacy of service as an example for others to follow.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to show my support for H.R. 521, a bill that would name a post office in

Rock Island, Illinois for former Congressman Lane Evans. This is a fitting honor for a man with such a long and distinguished career.

It was my pleasure to serve with Lane Evans on the House Armed Services Committee. He showed unwavering support for our troops and their families both in his service to that committee and the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, where he was the Ranking Member. As a Marine and veteran of the Vietnam War, Lane understands the sacrifices made by those in uniform and their families and worked tirelessly in Congress to ensure that those sacrifices would be honored.

I want to thank Lane Evans for his many years of service. We will miss him sorely.

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

Ms. NORTON. 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 521.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those voting have responded 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 question will be postponed.

GERALD R. FORD, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 49) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 North Frontage Road West in Vail, Colorado, as the "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 49

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

SECTION 1. GERALD R. FORD, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 North Frontage Road West in Vail, Colorado, shall be known and designated as the "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. 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 "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 49, legislation naming a postal facility in Vail, Colorado, after the late Gerald R. Ford, Jr.

President Ford helped ease a Nation during tense times. But even before he was President, he was widely known in this Chamber as a man of great integrity and openness. Although never elected to the office of President or Vice President, President Ford was appointed to mend a bruised American psyche and maneuver our country through the only Presidential resignation ever, to help end the Vietnam War, and to help ease rising inflation.

He succeeded, and for that extraordinary service to his country his legacy should be remembered by all in our country and throughout the world.

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

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of another down payment on thanking President Gerald Ford for his legacy, a legacy that really began, flourished and was all about this body. We are recognizing Gerald Ford as the 38th President of the United States because he did spend 2½ years as our President. But, uniquely, the man born in 1913 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, was, in fact, a man of the House.

During his entire tenure in the House, he did not enjoy time in the majority. Yet his goal was to be Speaker of the House. He had no higher calling, never sought one, but accepted the one that was cast upon him.

At the time that he was selected to be Vice President of the United States, we were already mired in the Vietnam War and disgrace had been brought upon the Vice Presidency. It was Gerald Ford who came in impeccably honest, undeniably a man of the people and a man who was only for the people.

That is how he was selected, that is why he was selected, it is why the Senate and the House thought he was the only man for the job. Who would have known that just a short time, 10 months later in fact, he would find himself cast into an even larger role, another role that he did not ask for.

Yet that was who Gerald Ford was, a man who came out of athletics and out of university to serve in the United States Navy in 1942 because it was the right thing to do. He had represented a district that would have returned him to the House to this very day if, in fact, he were still alive.

Instead, he answered a call, a call that each of us in the House has answered by coming to this body. That was the call of service to the United States.

As I support this naming of this post office in the place he loved, in the place he skied, in the place that he called home for his immediate period after leaving the White House, I do so as the second man of the House that we are recognizing here today, first Congressman Lane Evans and then Congressman/President Gerald Ford.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 49, legislation to name the postal facility in Vail, CO, after our Nation's 39th President, Gerald R. Ford, Jr.

I believe this bill is fitting as another means of honoring the legacy of President Ford, in large part because of his special connection to Colorado and the Vail Valley. I am pleased by the support it has received; all members of the Colorado delegation have co-sponsored the legislation.

In 1968 then-Congressman Ford and wife, Betty, first came to Colorado with their children to celebrate Christmas and to ski in the mountains at Vail. Like many other visitors, President Ford was inspired by the beauty of the area and found a connection to the land and to the surrounding community.

The Fords later owned a home and continued to vacation in Vail. When he became President, his vacations in Colorado helped introduce the world to the Town of Vail, and in fact, the family home was dubbed "the Western White House."

Vail residents knew President Ford and his family as neighbors and friends and are proud of their long association with them. President Ford served on the board of directors of the Vail Valley Foundation. Vail also serves as the home of the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens and the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater. President Ford was beloved in Vail, where he was known to be a good neighbor, an avid golfer and a lover of the outdoors.

President Ford will rightly be remembered for his personal warmth, his decency, his interest in bridging the many divisions in America during the 1970s. My father, Mo Udall, served in the Congress with Gerald Ford, and while they were often on different sides in political matters—so much so that my father hoped to run against President Ford in the famous election of 1976—they were united by a common view that politics should unite people. They both were firm believers that in public life one could disagree without being disagreeable.

This is a credo I continue to believe in, and I commend the memory of both good men to this House, an institution they loved.

Coloradans, especially those in the Vail Valley, have come to think of him as the first President from Colorado because he was a great ambassador for the State, who established long ties to the people of Colorado.

As a dedicated public servant, President Ford served honorably in his years in Congress and in the White House. Most important, when America needed someone to reassure their trust in government after Watergate, he filled that leadership role with authenticity.

I believe President Ford's special relationship and legacy in Colorado should be appropriately recognized by naming the postal facilities in Vail, CO, in his honor.

I urge all members support the legislation today.

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

Ms. NORTON. 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 49.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those voting have responded 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 question will be postponed.

□ 1445

GALE W. MCGEE POST OFFICE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 335) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 152 North 5th Street in Laramie, Wyoming, as the "Gale W. McGee Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 335

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

SECTION 1. GALE W. MCGEE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 152 North 5th Street in Laramie, Wyoming, shall be known and designated as the "Gale W. McGee 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 "Gale W. McGee Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BAIRD). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

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

I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 335, a bill naming a postal facility in Laramie, Wyoming, after former Senator Gale W. McGee.

As a three-term Democrat from Wyoming, Senator McGee played an important role in improving the Post Office and securing deserved benefits for Federal workers. He was an expert on foreign policy and helped push our country into its current role as a world power. During his senatorial tenure that stretched from 1958 to 1976, Senator McGee served on the Interstate and Foreign Commerce, Appropriations, Foreign Relations, and Post Office and Civil Service Committees. He went on to be appointed by President Carter as U.S. Ambassador for the Organization of American States, where

he was a strong advocate for the 1978 Panama Canal Treaty. He later started a consulting firm that helped Caribbean and Latin American countries facilitate economic growth.

Prior to his political career, Senator McGee taught high school history and eventually became a professor at the University of Notre Dame. His dedication to service should be remembered by the Congress of the United States.

I urge swift passage of this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to echo the praise of Senator Gale McGee. The gentlewoman from Wyoming has unfortunately been detained and will not be able to speak on the floor, but she authored this bill because, in fact, he did have a long career of service to this body in the sense of the Congress, and it is appropriate to name this post office after the Senator.

Certainly it is clear that the Congress often names post offices and other bodies after their own Members. But I think today on all three of these bills we picked appropriate candidates, candidates who, in fact, exemplify what this body on both sides of the Dome are about, a body of dedication and service by people who come here to work in a bipartisan way, who come here to make America better, who bring the values of their home State here but who recognize the value of the entire country is what we seek when we come here to meet together to deliberate and to vote.

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, today we are considering H.R. 335, a bill I authored to designate a facility of the United States Postal Service located in Laramie, Wyoming, as the "Gale W. McGee Post Office." Gale W. McGee first came to my home State of Wyoming in 1946, to serve as an American History professor at the University of Wyoming. Gale and his wife Lorraine had three of their four children during his time in Laramie. His classes were said to be so popular that the students would "hang from the rafters" to be able to attend. He was a respected member of the community.

That respect was never more evident than 12 years later, in 1958. It was then that Gale McGee began a new chapter in his service to Wyoming, by being elected to the U.S. Senate in his first-ever attempt at public office. His accomplishments didn't stop there. During his entire 18-year tenure in the Senate, McGee served on the Appropriations Committee. In fact, he was the first Freshman in Senate history to be granted this coveted assignment. He also served as Chairman of the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee—a fitting position considering the designation I am asking you to support today. As Committee Chairman, he was widely credited with preventing a nationwide rail strike in 1973, and for spearheading the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. After his Senate career was over, McGee later served as U.S. Ambassador to the Organization of American States from 1977 to 1981.