

to the victims and families of the heartbreaking acts of violence in Colorado Springs and Arvada, Colorado, with this resolution, H. Res. 886. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H. Res. 886.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate those who lost their lives in tragic act violence last year in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Arvada, Colorado. I truly appreciate the support and friendship from the Colorado delegation in supporting this resolution and offering our most sincere condolences to the victims and their families.

On December 9, 2007, a young man targeted two Christian organizations that resulted in the death of four young people, in addition to the shooter. Our hearts go out to the family of Stephanie Works, 18, and Rachel Works, 16, whose lives were tragically ended while at the New Life Church in Colorado Springs. Further loss of life was prevented by the heroic acts of Jeanne Assam, an armed volunteer security guard, whose heroic actions stopped the shooter from inflicting more devastation. Hours earlier another fatal shooting occurred at a Youth with a Mission Facility in Arvada, Colorado that resulted in the tragic loss of Tiffany Johnson, 26, and Philip Crouse, 24.

The personal devastation inflicted on the families of these victims is unimaginable and has impacted our entire community. We offer this resolution to honor the memory of those who were lost, offer our condolences to the affected families, and recognize the courageous actions of Jeanne Assam in preventing this tragedy from harming more Coloradans. Our hearts go out to the families who still daily suffer from the atrocious attacks and we humbly offer our sympathy.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 886, "Expressing sympathy to the victims and families of the tragic acts of violence in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Arvada, Colorado."

This important legislation will honor and memorialize those who were affected by the tragic events in Colorado Springs and Arvada. On that fateful day, a gunman took the lives of five people and wounded 5 more, subsequently taking his own life.

The shootings at New Life Church in Colorado Springs and the Youth With a Mission Center in Arvada on December 9, 2007, remind us once again that the wrath of violence can easily destroy the lives of a congregation gathered in a sanctified establishment. As we reflect on the lives that were spared, we duly note the actions of Jeanne Assam. Jeanne Assam, a former police officer and New Life Church member and security guard, is credited with halting the gunman's spree by shooting him. Though her gunfire did not kill the perpetrator, her act of courage and conviction allowed her to halt the gunman's spree, subsequently preventing the death of more people.

The carnage at the Colorado tragedy commands that we here in this body take a stand against senseless acts of violence whether here in our own country or elsewhere around the world. It is long past time for our national community to declare that injuries inflicted on any member of the community by another simply based on hate or hatred of differences pose a threat to the peace and security of the entire community. For that reason alone, such conduct must be condemned and punished

severely, if not prevented altogether. I hope that the incident in Colorado does not reflect a larger problem within our society; however, my optimism is guarded with the reality of an escalating amount of gun violence in schools, malls, and churches.

Neither the mind nor the heart can contemplate a cause that could lead a human being to inflict such injury and destruction on fellow human beings. We can never completely understand why these things happen; however, we must persevere through the melancholy. The loss of those lives and innocence is a tragedy which all Americans mourn. In the face of such overwhelming grief, I hope the families and friends of those affected can take comfort in the certain knowledge that unearned suffering is redemptive. My deepest sympathies are with the victims, their families, and everyone who is affected by this tragic situation. This devastation reaffirms why we, as public officials, must take steps to ensure that the United States is a safer environment where acts of violence based on hate are not tolerated. We cannot sufficiently articulate the feelings of sorrow that are universally felt. I extend my prayers and support to the bereaved families during this time of mourning.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation, and, in so doing, showing respect for the lives that were lost, sacrificed, and spared.

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

Mr. ELLSWORTH. 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 Indiana (Mr. ELLSWORTH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 886, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. ELLSWORTH. 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 motion will be postponed.

NATIONAL GLANZMANN'S THROMBASTHENIA AWARENESS DAY

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 994) expressing support for designation of a National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 994

Whereas Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia affects men, women, and children of all ages;

Whereas this disorder is very distressing to those who have it, causing great discomfort and severe emotional stress;

Whereas children with Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia are unable to participate in many normal childhood activities including most sports and are often subject to social discomfort because of their disorder;

Whereas Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia includes a wide range of symptoms including life-threatening, uncontrollable bleeding and severe bruising;

Whereas Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia is frequently misdiagnosed or undiagnosed by medical professionals;

Whereas currently there is no cure for Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia;

Whereas it is essential to educate the public on the symptoms, treatments, and constant efforts to cure Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia to insure early diagnosis and treatment of the condition;

Whereas Helen P. Smith established the Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Research Foundation in Augusta, Georgia, in 2001;

Whereas Helen P. Smith and the Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Research Foundation have worked tirelessly to promote awareness of Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia and help fund research on the disorder; and

Whereas Congress should determine an appropriate day to designate as National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports the designation of a National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I stand for the consideration of H. Res. 994, as amended, which expresses support for the designation of a National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day.

H. Res. 994 was introduced by Representative PAUL BROUN of the fine State of Georgia on February 25, 2008, and has the support and cosponsorship of 57 Members of Congress. The measure was considered by the Oversight panel on March 13, 2008, and was passed by voice vote at that time after being amended for technical purposes.

Mr. Speaker, while many people may not be aware of Glanzmann's thrombasthenia, which is an extremely rare disorder of the blood where the platelets lack glycoprotein, a key element for blood to clot, therefore significantly prolonging bleeding time. While on average there are only 200 cases of Glanzmann's thrombasthenia reported every year, the disease and finding a cure for it still requires our attention, resources and support.

March 1, 2008, marked the inaugural commemoration of the National

Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day. The day was celebrated with events, receptions and our colleagues in the Senate Chamber passed an identical resolution honoring and recognizing the importance of National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day.

I think it is important that we in this body help to expand research awareness of Glanzmann's thrombasthenia, which is why I rise in support of H. Res. 994. Passage of this measure will help to raise the profile and the general public's understanding of this illness and the corresponding National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day. I urge passage of the resolution.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution urging the designation of a National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day. Discovered in Switzerland in 1918, Glanzmann's thrombasthenia, otherwise known as GT, is a rare and serious blood disorder that affects men, women, and children of all ages across the globe. The disease affects the ability of blood platelets to form, or clot, around the site of a broken blood vessel due to a deficiency of a specific protein on the surface of the platelet. Since the blood is unable to clot normally, those who suffer from GT are faced with uncontrollable, potentially life-threatening blood loss and severe bruising.

A very rare and little known hereditary disease, GT has severe emotional and physical effects on those who suffer from it. Children with GT often find themselves socially isolated as they are unable to participate in normal childhood activities such as sports or physically active play.

There is no cure for this disease, and because it is so rare, there is little information on the symptoms and treatments. It is important that we support valuable organizations such as the Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Research Foundation, founded by Helen P. Smith in 2001, in their effort to educate the public, promote awareness, and fund research of this serious disease.

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I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution that seeks to raise the awareness of this serious, emotionally damaging and potentially life-threatening disease.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago a beautiful young lady by the name of Julia Smith and her family came to my office. Julia lives in

Augusta, Georgia and is a constituent of mine.

This 9-year-old young lady, when she was first born, was covered with bruises. Her parents, of course, were, needless to say, very concerned and they asked the doctor about these bruises. The parents were told that this was just from a result of a difficult delivery.

A short time thereafter, Julia had a little scratch on her face that resulted in bleeding that covered her whole face and, of course, her mom was frantic. The blood tests were normal.

The family took Julia to the Medical College of Georgia, my alma mater. I'm a medical doctor, and so I'm proud of the Medical College of Georgia of doing the testing that was required to bring about the diagnosis of Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia in Julia.

Her mom, Helen, was, of course, very distraught and so she started researching, trying to find out about this very rare disease. The more she searched, the more she realized that there's very little information anywhere. And she started meeting other families all around the country, whose family members also suffered from GT.

With the help of a small grant from a private individual, Helen Smith founded the Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Research Foundation. And what she's doing is trying to find, certainly, the cure of this disease, but also searching to try to find ways of informing people who have this disease about the disease and help to comfort them. And so it's a research foundation that is extremely needed to try to prevent the disease symptoms which are uncontrollable bleeding, as well as very painful bruising. It's a life-threatening disease.

But Ms. Smith talked to me about this disease. And as a physician, as a Member of Congress, I realized that we really need to bring this disease to the forefront so that she can have some help. She's seeking for recognition. She's seeking for private grants and private funding of her foundation which is very much needed. And hopefully, this young lady, Julia Smith, can live a long and fruitful life, and we can find a cure to this disease. In fact, the researchers say that there's a possibility of finding a cure within a matter of just the next few years.

But without bringing public attention to the disease, Ms. Smith's going to continue to struggle to try to get the recognition that she so richly deserves for this very rare blood disorder.

So that's what this bill is all about. It's to promote the awareness of Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia. March 1 has been chosen as the day to establish the National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day. This day was chosen to coincide with the date of the fundraiser for the research foundation.

I want to thank Natalie Stroud of my office and my staff for her excellent work on this resolution.

And I urge my colleagues to vote with me on passage of H. Res. 994.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H. Res. 994, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would urge passage of this legislation, and yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 994, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. 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 motion will be postponed.

TEXAS MILITARY VETERANS POST OFFICE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5517) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7231 FM 1960 in Humble, Texas, as the "Texas Military Veterans Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5517

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

SECTION 1. TEXAS MILITARY VETERANS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7231 FM 1960 in Humble, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Texas Military Veterans 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 "Texas Military Veterans Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,