

on both sides of the aisle. He has demonstrated again and again not only as the ranking member in previous Congresses of our committee but now as the chairman that he can put together the best ideas of both sides, and not only move forward ideas that he firmly believes in but find consensus and actually get bills done and signed into law. So I hope the gentleman, unlike my fellow Ohioan, General Sherman, reconsiders.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 3 minutes.

Mr. OBERSTAR. And I thank the gentleman again for his ever thoughtful remarks, Mr. Speaker. If handed such a challenge, I would undertake it with vigor and with resolute purpose. But it hasn't been handed to me, although I appreciate the gentleman's offer.

I think our committee has been able very successfully to attack these issues of short-term as well as long-term importance to the Nation, and we intend to continue pursuing the best interests of the country in the legislation we move from this committee, and to incorporate the good ideas from all members of the committee regardless of their political stature or standing.

I recall so well during T-21, the shaping of the surface transportation legislation, Mr. SHUSTER, then the chairman, and I traveled the country to major points of congestion throughout America to advocate for more robust investment in surface transportation. And at one point, I believe it was in Atlanta at a news conference, the last question was, well, Mr. OBERSTAR, why are you traveling and participating in this news conference, you a Democrat, with Mr. SHUSTER, a Republican? And I said: Because I have never seen a Democratic bridge or a Republican road; but if we work together, we can build all-American roads and all-American bridges.

The reporter then turned to Chairman Shuster and said: Why are you travelling with Mr. Oberstar? And he said, Because JIM OBERSTAR and I are joined at the hip.

And I think if we could carry that spirit with vigor and honesty and with resoluteness of purpose, we can accomplish great things for this country and for this Congress. And I for that reason enjoy the participation of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA), and in the current context Mr. CUMMINGS of Maryland, because there is a real sense of doing what is good for America and putting the country first and not our own personal agendas.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 802.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CPL. JOHN P. SIGSBEE POST OFFICE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5975) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Main Street in Waterville, New York, as the "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5975

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

#### SECTION 1. CPL. JOHN P. SIGSBEE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Main Street in Waterville, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee 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 "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) 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 within 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, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the author of this legislation, Representative ARCURI of New York.

Mr. ARCURI. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5975, to rename the post office in Waterville, New York in memory of Corporal John P. Sigsbee.

Mr. Speaker, it is with both incredible pride and sadness that I address the House today to speak on this bill that pays tribute to the life and sacrifice of one of this Nation's fallen soldiers, U.S. Army Corporal John Sigsbee.

On January 16, 2008, Corporal Sigsbee of Waterville, New York was killed in action 50 miles north of Baghdad during his second tour of duty in Iraq.

□ 1600

The family he left behind while in the line of duty will soon receive his second Military Purple Heart on his behalf. Corporal Sigsbee was only 21

years old when his life was taken in service of our country.

John Sigsbee graduated from Waterville Central School in 2004 and attended Mohawk Valley Community College. Upon completing his first year of college, John decided to join the U.S. Army to further finance his higher education and became wounded one month to the day during his first tour of duty in Iraq.

John was sent home to recover at the Brooke Army Medical Center, where he was visited by Army personnel who awarded him for his bravery. These officers told John that he needed time to heal properly from the burns he suffered when his tank drove over two IEDs, and that he needed time to consider his decision to return to service. However, John replied, with his mother at his side, "Give me one year and I'll be back." John did just that, and it was then that his mother started to know what "sacrifice" truly means.

John went back and gave all that he had to give. In his mind, there was no question that his place was back with his fellow troops in Iraq to fulfill his responsibilities as a young American soldier.

Corporal Sigsbee valiantly served as a member of the 32nd Cavalry Unit in the 101st Airborne Division, a dedicated young man who every day honored his responsibility to his country and his mission. Corporal Sigsbee's purpose and sacrifices will be remembered by the entire village of Waterville, county of Oneida and now, with passage of this bill, by the whole Nation.

During calling hours and funeral arrangements for Corporal Sigsbee, his family and loved ones received an outpouring of gratitude and support by the village of Waterville. Over 2,000 citizens attended calling hours to pay their respects for this young American, and 300 members from local veterans' organizations came to the local high school as a show of strength and unity for their fellow soldier. Additionally, a 50-car procession escorted his body from the Griffiss Airfield to Saratoga National Cemetery where he was laid to rest.

On that day, January 25, 2008, Corporal Sigsbee received a true hero's welcome from not only his family and friends, but from people who did not know him yet wanted to give their thanks, thanks to a man who paid the ultimate price for their safety and their freedom. The renaming of this post office may be considered by some as a simple act by Congress. But it will forever symbolize to the village of Waterville and the citizens of Oneida County, and to future generations, the deep appreciation that this legislative body has for this man's life and contributions, and for the actions of each and every member of our Armed Services.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to support this legislation renaming the Waterville, New York, Post Office after and in honor of Corporal

John P. Sigsbee and to forever honor the life of this soldier, son, brother and American hero.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 5975, designating the post office in Waterville, New York, as the Corporal John P. Sigsbee Post Office.

In October 2005, Corporal Sigsbee joined the 101st Airborne Division 32nd Cavalry Unit, based in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, famously known as the home of the Screaming Eagles. After being deployed to Iraq, he was injured by a roadside bomb in July 2006. For his action, he was honored with the Purple Heart. After recovering at Brooke Army Medical Center, he insisted on returning to Iraq. Steve English, one of Corporal Sigsbee's high school teachers, said, "John was doing something he knew was important. After being injured, he could have chosen to be assigned anywhere. He chose Iraq." English noted that it was indeed Corporal Sigsbee's commitment to his fellow soldiers that drove him to return to Iraq.

Sadly, during his second deployment, Corporal Sigsbee was killed in action on January 16, 2008, along with two other American soldiers when they came under small arms fire and grenade attack in Balad. He was posthumously honored with a bronze star for his service and a promotion to the rank of corporal.

Corporal John Patrick Sigsbee's life and tragic death have served as a rallying point for his community of Waterville, New York. By naming the new post office in his hometown after this brave young American, we will establish not only a permanent monument for this fallen soldier, but a permanent reminder of his example.

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, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I rise to join my colleagues in the consideration and support of H.R. 5975, which renames a postal facility in Waterville, New York, after Corporal John P. Sigsbee.

The measure being considered was first introduced by Congressman MICHAEL ARCURI of New York on May 6, 2008, and is cosponsored by all members of the Empire State, the New York delegation. Upon introduction the measure was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and on June 12, 2008, our committee approved the bill by voice vote.

H.R. 5975 allows us to pay homage to the service of Corporal John P. Sigsbee who was tragically killed on January 16 while serving in Balad, Iraq. Corporal Sigsbee died as a result of wounds sustained from grenade and small-arms fire during combat operations.

Assigned to the 1st Squadron, 32nd Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat

Team, 101st Airborne Division out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Corporal Sigsbee joined the Army in October, 2005, and served his country valiantly up until the time of his death. For making the ultimate sacrifice of life, Corporal Sigsbee was awarded the Purple Heart which now rests with his parents, James and Susan Sigsbee, of Waterville, New York.

Mr. Speaker, as we pay tribute to this heroic American citizen, let us also take a moment and recollect on the thousands of men and women in uniform currently serving abroad in order to protect us here in the homeland. I ask that we all proudly commemorate both the life and the unfortunate death of Corporal John P. Sigsbee by passing H.R. 5975.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation, 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. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5975.

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.

#### SERGEANT PAUL SAYLOR POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6092) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 Tallapoosa Street in Bremen, Georgia, as the "Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6092

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

#### SECTION 1. SERGEANT PAUL SAYLOR POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 Tallapoosa Street in Bremen, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Sergeant Paul Saylor 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 "Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) 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 am pleased to join my colleagues, particularly the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY), in the consideration of H.R. 6092 which names the postal facility in Bremen, Georgia, after a fallen hero, Sergeant Paul Saylor.

Introduced on May 20, 2008, H.R. 6092 is sponsored by Congressman PHIL GINGREY, representative of Georgia's 11th Congressional District and cosponsored by the entire Georgia delegation and a total of 43 Members of Congress. H.R. 6092 was reported from the Oversight Committee on June 12, 2008, by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, a native of Norcross, Georgia, Sergeant Paul Saylor lost his life while serving in Iraq. According to military records, Sergeant Saylor was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 108th Armor Regiment from the Georgia Army National Guard out of Calhoun, Georgia, when he was killed on August 15 as a result of his Humvee accidentally rolling over into a canal in Mahmudiyah, Iraq.

Described as a good-hearted, very dedicated and hardworking gentleman, Sergeant Saylor served his country proudly and with distinction. In honor of sacrifice, Mr. Speaker, let us also pay tribute to the life of Sergeant Saylor and pass H.R. 6092 and designate the Tallapoosa Street post office building in Bremen, Georgia, after this fine American soldier.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY), the author of H.R. 6092.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Ohio (Mr. TURNER), the ranking member of the subcommittee, for yielding. I also, Mr. Speaker, want to thank my good friend from Illinois, Representative DAVIS, for the kind words that he just expressed toward Sergeant Paul Saylor and for allowing this bill to come forward today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6092, a bill that I introduced to honor the life of Paul Anthony Saylor by designating the post office in Bremen, Georgia, in Haralson County, as the Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, thankfully we are at a point today where the Iraqi Government is proving to be more and more capable of securing its country and where al Qaeda terrorists are on the verge of being completely routed. But we can all agree that the road on which we have traveled has been anything but smooth. Indeed, we have lost 4,166 of our Nation's greatest treasures in Iraq, the lives of the patriotic, heroic men and women who have served there.