

That's why I stand here today because I would like us to continue to work to help the automobile dealers in Detroit, and as well to help those homeowners who need mortgage repair and mortgage refinance, and give them an opportunity for the American Dream.

I am saddened by the conflict between Georgia and Russia, not Georgia in the United States, but I believe that is a NATO issue. And I would ask that we not give \$1 billion for repairing Georgia; we need to give \$1 billion to help repair our auto industry and to help those in mortgage crisis. Yes, we can be a partner in their rebuild, we believe in their democracy, but it is time now to reinvest in home. Give them a contribution, along with the NATO efforts. Give them the ability to stand strong. Provide for them the opportunity to engage in conflict resolution between Russia and Georgia. But it is time now not to give excessive funds to ensure that they stand up, we need to stand up here in America.

I ask my colleagues to reflect on this so that we can rebuild America in this do-something Congress.

LET'S VOTE ON AMERICAN ENERGY

(Mr. BROUN of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, last week I was here and other Republicans were here. The week before I was here. Republicans have been coming to this floor every single day since we voted to adjourn back in July. We've been here working for the American people to try to find commonsense solutions to our energy crisis.

We hear from the other side that they want to support the poor and the elderly. That's hogwash. The poor and the elderly are suffering more from energy prices than anything else. People can't afford to go to the doctor or drive to take their kids to school. School buses can't take kids to school.

We've been coming here every single day working to try to do something for the American public, but the Democrats went on vacation. They haven't continued to work like the Republicans have. We've got to find solutions to our energy crisis that makes sense economically, makes sense environmentally, and that's exactly what the American Energy Act will do.

So I call upon my Democratic colleagues, let's have an up or down vote on American energy so that we can make sense for the poor, the working class, everybody in America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Let the Chair remind visitors in the gallery that they are guests of the House of Representatives, but expressions of approval or disapproval of the proceedings are not permitted.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

SPOTTSWOOD W. ROBINSON III AND ROBERT R. MERHIGE, JR. FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2403) to designate the new Federal Courthouse, located in the 700 block of East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, as the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr. Federal Courthouse," as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2403

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States courthouse located in the 700 block of East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 2403.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2403, as amended. This bill honors the distinguished careers of two giants in the civil rights field.

From 1948 until 1960, Judge Robinson served at the NAACP's Legal Defense and Education Fund. During that time he was instrumental in representing the Virginia plaintiffs in the landmark lawsuit *Brown vs. Board of Education*, which declared separate but unequal schools as unconstitutional.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed Judge Robinson to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, a six-member bipartisan commission charged with studying civil rights violations in the United States. Judge Robinson was confirmed by the Senate by a vote of 73-17.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Judge Robinson to the District Court, and 2 years later he became the first African American to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Judge Robinson served as Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals from 1981 to 1986, and served on the Court until his retirement in 1992.

□ 1415

Judge Robert Merhige, Jr. was born in Brooklyn, New York on February 5, 1919. Judge Merhige attended High Point College in North Carolina and received his law degree from the University of Richmond's T.C. Williams School of Law in 1942. Upon graduation he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps, where he served as a crewman aboard a B-17 bomber based in Italy.

Judge Merhige was U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Virginia in 1967. He served there for over 30 years. He was a frequent lecturer at the University of Virginia and served on the faculty of the University of Richmond. While on the bench, Judge Merhige ordered the University of Virginia to admit women, and 2 years later he led the order to desegregate dozens of schools in Virginia.

Two weeks into his service on the court, Judge Merhige drew the first of many high-profile cases that became the landmark of his career. He ordered the release of black activist H. Rap Brown, who was imprisoned in Virginia after making an impassioned and militant speech in Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, this bill has broad bipartisan support, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

S. 2403 designates the new Federal Courthouse on East Broad Street in Richmond, Virginia, as the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert Merhige Jr. Federal Courthouse." Both Judge Robinson and Judge Merhige were exceptional leaders and prominent figures in the desegregation and civil rights movement.

Spottswood W. Robinson III was a distinguished jurist and a Virginia native. His was a career of firsts, beginning with his graduation from law school, first in his class. He then became the first African American to be appointed to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the first African American to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals, and the first African American chief judge of the D.C. Circuit.

Beyond simply being the first African American to serve in these positions, Judge Robinson worked on many important cases that helped to pave the way for those who followed. During his time working at the NAACP, Judge Robinson worked on the *Brown v. Board of Education* case and was part of several other groundbreaking civil rights judicial decisions.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Robinson served on the United States Commission on Civil Rights and was dean of the Howard University Law School. Much like Judge Robinson, Judge Merhige will be remembered for, among many other accomplishments, his significant impact in the civil rights movement.

Judge Merhige's 1967 opinion to desegregate Virginia schools was one of the most important and groundbreaking steps in the civil rights movement. Following the issuance of the opinion, Judge Merhige had an around-the-clock guard to protect him from those who disagreed. While his decision was unpopular at the time, it was a vital step towards educational equality in Virginia.

Prior to his service on the Federal bench as a judge, Merhige served honorably in the United States Air Force during World War II. He returned home to work as a lawyer and an advocate for a variety of clients in his adopted State of Virginia.

The naming of this courthouse after these two well-respected judges is an appropriate way to honor their service. While their service as jurists had an impact on the entire Nation, they will also be remembered as distinguished Virginia judges.

The bill has the support of the two Senators from Virginia and the entire Virginia congressional delegation. I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

And I would just ask that we reflect upon the circumstances in Virginia today, the progress that we have made since these decisions and since these judges led us out of segregation and into this modern era where we are in a society where our children grow up without real comprehension of what some of their predecessors lived through.

I would urge adoption.

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

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) such time as he may consume.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to rise in support of S. 2403, a bill to designate the new Federal Courthouse, located in the 700 block of East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, as the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr. United States Courthouse."

The Commonwealth of Virginia has a rich history of contributions in the founding of this country and in the establishment and development of our

legal system. Virginia practitioners such as George Wythe, Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, James Monroe, and Henry Clay have all profoundly shaped and molded our country's legal traditions. In fact, the first law school in the country was our own College of William and Mary located in Williamsburg, Virginia.

It is therefore fitting that we would name the new Federal Courthouse in our State's capital after two distinguished jurists, Judge Spottswood W. Robinson III and Judge Robert R. Merhige, Jr., whose exemplary careers under the law displayed the best ideals and principles of our Constitution and legal traditions.

Spottswood William Robinson III was born in Richmond, Virginia, on July 26, 1916, and passed away in his home in Virginia on October 11, 1998. He attended Virginia Union University and then Howard University Law School, graduating first in his class in 1939 and serving as a member of the faculty until 1947.

In 1964 Judge Robinson became the first African American to be appointed to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. In 1966 President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Judge Robinson the first African American to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. On May 7, 1981, Judge Robinson became the first African American to serve as chief judge of the District of Columbia Circuit. Judge Robinson served on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and as dean of the Howard University Law School.

In addition to these exemplary and groundbreaking roles, Judge Robinson is probably best known for his role as one of the lead attorneys with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund from 1948 to 1960 and specifically for his representation of the Virginia plaintiffs in the 1954 landmark U.S. Supreme Court case of *Brown v. Board of Education*, which declared "separate but equal" schools unconstitutional and is one of the landmark cases in our Nation's history.

Judge Robert R. Merhige was born in New York, New York on February 5, 1919, and passed away in Richmond on February 18, 2005. He attended High Point College in North Carolina where he received his undergraduate degree in 1940. He then earned his law degree from T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond from which he graduated at the top of his class in 1942.

From 1942 to 1945, during World War II, Judge Merhige served in the United States Army Air Force as a crewman on a B-17 bomber based in Italy. After the war he returned to Richmond where he practiced law from 1945 to 1967. During that time, Judge Merhige established himself as a formidable trial lawyer representing a wide variety of clients.

In August of 1967, Judge Merhige was appointed U.S. District Court judge for

the Eastern District of Virginia, Richmond Division, by President Lyndon B. Johnson, where he served for 31 years. While on the Federal bench, Judge Merhige presided over some of the most important and complex litigation in United States history. He ordered the University of Virginia to admit women in 1970. In 1972 he ordered the desegregation of dozens of Virginia school districts. As a result of his decision, he and his family were victims of threats and violence, and he was given 24-hour protection by U.S. marshals. His judicial courage and independence in the face of strong opposition is a testament to his dedication to equal justice under the law, and I believe his example is as pertinent today as it was then.

The new Federal Courthouse in Richmond is under construction and nearing completion. I believe that naming it after these two exemplary jurists will not only serve as a tribute to their fierce adherence to the Constitution and to their legacy of equal justice under the law but also will serve as a reminder of their contributions to ensuring a fair and just legal system for all people.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Senator JOHN WARNER and Senator JIM WEBB for introducing this bill in the Senate, as well as the support from the entire Virginia delegation. I would like to thank Chairman OBERSTAR and Chairwoman NORTON, Ranking Members MICA and GRAVES, Representatives CARNEY and KING, and both the Democratic and Republican leadership for the swift passage of this measure.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just wanted to say a few extra words about this resolution and about the progress that this country has made.

I have by now a few years on me, longer than a half century, and having grown up in the very Caucasian Midwest but traveled almost all the corners of this country and a lot of places in the world, and I have seen some examples of the segregation that existed back in those years that flowed through post-Civil War all the way up through the 1950s and 1960s and began to break down in the 1960s. And as I mentioned in my brief remarks in the opening, it is a condition today where we have a desegregation and integration that is far, far superior to what we had in our society a generation or two ago. And the young people growing up today really don't have, I think, a touch or a feel for what this Nation was like or the culture that was there. The South has transformed remarkably from what it was to where it is today.

I would submit that the leadership of these two gentlemen is part of the solution. They deserve significant credit for the leadership to move out of this.

I would state that we are all God's children, and because of that we need to pull together and recognize there is

much more that identifies us together than separates us apart. And when we get to this point where we are pulling together as one Nation, one people, and one cause and erase the divides that are easy to identify, we get to the point where we can joke with one another and laugh with one another and work with one another and love and fight with one another in a fashion that enhances this country and glorifies our Creator, then that is where this Nation needs to go. This is a big step in the right direction. It's timely. I urge the adoption of this resolution, and I appreciate all the gentlemen and gentlewomen from Virginia that are cosponsors of this resolution.

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

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, allow me to rise for a brief moment to congratulate the Senators from Virginia and my good friend and colleague on the Judiciary Committee, Mr. SCOTT, and, of course, the manager of this legislation and the minority manager as well.

No one who has benefited from the civil rights of the law, if you will, could ignore the contributions of Spottswood William Robinson III. So I rise today to again add my respect for the naming of this courthouse after these two jurists, both Robert Merhige and of course Spottswood W. Robinson III, but particularly want to add my appreciation to what Judge Robinson did for education in the lawsuit that was filed on behalf of 100 parents and 450 students at Moton High School in Prince Edward County, convinced that their only chance was getting this case before the Supreme Court. In addition, his work on the 1954 Brown versus Board of Education, the work of his efforts with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, he laid the pathway for those of us who are the beneficiaries of his great work.

Let me also suggest that the same with Robert Merhige and his work on civil rights issues but also dealing with major corporate litigation cases.

These namings sometimes are alluded to as not being very important, but as we proceed on many important issues such as solving the energy crisis, I'm glad, Mr. Speaker, that we stop for a moment to give honor to individuals who laid the groundwork not only for me and those like me but really for America, and those who stand on the floor of the House that value democracy and equal opportunity, these individuals are deserving of the respect and admiration of this United States Congress and certainly are deserving of the naming of the courthouse after them.

I rise today in support of S. 2403, which designates the new Federal courthouse in Richmond, Virginia as the "Spottswood W.

Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., Federal Courthouse." I want to thank Senator WARNER and the Senate Transportation and Infrastructure, and Senator WEBB, for remembering a great educator, civil rights attorney, and judge, along with U.S. Representative BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia who has championed this legislation.

BACKGROUND

Spottswood William Robinson III

Spottswood William Robinson III, was born in Richmond, Virginia, on July 26, 1916. He attended Virginia Union University and then attended Howard University School of Law, graduating first in his class in 1939.

Like his fellow jurist, Thurgood Marshall, he often credited the law school with instilling in its students the notion of social responsibility. He said, "one of the things that was drilled into my head was . . . 'This legal education that you're getting is not just for you, it was for everybody. So when you leave here, you want to put it to good use.'"

Spottswood Robinson argued one of the Supreme Court cases that led to the 1954 decision striking down school segregation. In early 1951, Robinson, who would later become a Federal judge, and his law partner in Richmond had no plans to attack school segregation in Virginia as unconstitutional. They were more focused on forcing local school systems to invest more in segregated black schools.

But that was before Barbara Johns, a high school junior, called their law office in April. She complained that nothing at her school—buses, textbooks, facilities—even approached the quality of those provided at White schools.

Robinson and his then-law partner Oliver Hill filed suit on behalf of 100 parents of 450 students at Moton High School in Prince Edward County, Va., convinced that their only chance lay in getting the case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The issues in that case and four others—including Brown vs. Board of Education—were decided in the high court's historic 1954 Brown decision declaring "separate but equal" schools unconstitutional.

Former Virginia Gov. Douglas Wilder wrote in a tribute to Robinson that, "Where one can ride on a bus, a train, or plane, or where one can live and rent or buy a house, or whether public education has to be given the same level to all people are basic issues. Spottswood Robinson has been there . . . in his quiet, unassuming . . . way, charting and paving a path for countless Americans . . . who owe to him a great debt of gratitude."

Judge Robinson was a faculty member of the Howard University School of Law from his graduation in 1939 until 1947. Judge Robinson was one of the core attorneys of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund from 1948 to 1960. Through the NAACP LDF Robinson worked on important civil rights cases including Brown v. Board of Education and Chance v. Lambeth, 4th Cir., 1951, establishing the invalidity of carrier-enforced racial segregation in interstate transportation.

From 1960–64 Spottswood Robinson became Dean of the Howard University School of Law. He then served as a member of the United States Commission on Civil Rights from 1961 to 1963.

In 1964, Judge Robinson was the first African-American to be appointed the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. In 1966, Judge Robinson became the first

African-American appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit when he was appointed by President Johnson.

On May 7, 1981, Judge Robinson became the first African-American to serve as Chief Judge of the court. Judge Robinson took senior status in 1989 and later retired. He passed on in 1998. Leaving behind a legacy of civil rights leadership and legal advocacy. Robert R. Merhige, Jr.

Robert R. Merhige Jr., was the U.S. District Court judge who ordered Virginia schools desegregated and presided over major corporate litigation cases. His unusually long tenure on the Federal bench—31 years—brought him many cases of national importance. He wrote the decision for a three-judge panel that threw out the appeals of Watergate figures G. Gordon Liddy, Bernard Barker, and Eugenio Martinez, after they were convicted of breaking into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

He ordered the University of Virginia to admit women in 1970. He clarified the rights of pregnant women to keep their jobs. He presided over the trials of Ku Klux Klan and American Nazi Party members accused of injuring and killing members of the Communist Workers Party in Greensboro, NC, in 1979.

No decision made him more unpopular than his orders to integrate dozens of Virginia's school systems. He was widely considered the most hated man in Richmond in the early 1970s and required 24-hour protection by U.S. marshals. Segregationists threatened his family, spat in his face, and shot his dog to death after tying its legs. Protesters held weekly parades outside his home. A guest cottage on his property, where his mother-in-law lived, was burned to the ground.

Not long ago he told the Richmond Times-Dispatch that he was still amazed, disappointed and angry at the public reaction to his rulings. He was known for his kindness and integrity and for brooking no delays or foolishness in his court, part of the Eastern District of Virginia known as the "rocket docket." He once ordered a marshal to remove a man who had fallen asleep in the courtroom. The man, it turned out, was his father.

Born in New York, Mr. Merhige attended High Point College in North Carolina and received his law degree from the University of Richmond's T.C. Williams School of Law in 1942.

He served in the Army Air Forces in World War II as a crewman on a B-17 bomber based in Italy. Mr. Merhige practiced law in Richmond from 1945 until he was appointed to the Federal bench in 1967 by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Two weeks into his job, the new judge drew the first of the controversial cases that became the hallmark of his career. He ordered the release of African-American activist H. Rap Brown, who was imprisoned in Virginia after making an impassioned and militant speech in Maryland.

In 1968, Mr. Merhige ruled that the conflict in Vietnam was a war, whether or not it was a declared war. That ruling came in a case in which 96 Army reservists tried to avoid serving in Vietnam. Mr. Merhige denied their request.

On a tour of his memorabilia-filled chambers two decades later, a reporter noted that among signed photographs, which ranged from former FBI director J. Edgar Hoover to former attorney general Ramsey Clark, a copy

of President Richard M. Nixon's resignation adorned the mantelpiece. "I wanted that since the day he was inaugurated," Mr. Merhige was quoted as saying.

Conclusion

Mr. Speaker, Judge Robinson and Judge Merhige were men who stood their ground, followed their conscience and the law. I am pleased to see the good State of Virginia—known as the Capitol of the South—recognizing two men who sought to change it—for the better.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 2403, and the new Federal courthouse that celebrates these two great civil rights advocates.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 2403, a bill to designate the United States courthouse, located at 700 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, as the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., United States Courthouse". Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., were appointed to the Federal bench by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964 and 1967, respectively. Judge Robinson graduated from Howard University Law School, was a prominent civil rights lawyer, and was appointed by President Kennedy to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Judge Merhige graduated from the University of Richmond, served in the U.S. Army, and was considered one of the most formidable lawyers in Virginia. Judge Merhige was known for presiding over several high-profile cases and was noted for ordering the University of Virginia to admit women.

Both judges served with distinction and played a key role in the racial integration of Virginia schools so it is fitting and proper to name the U.S. courthouse in Richmond, Virginia, as the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., United States Courthouse".

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of S. 2403, the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., United States Courthouse".

Mr. CARNEY. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2403, 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. CARNEY. 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.

□ 1430

THEODORE ROOSEVELT UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2837) to designate the United States courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, New

York, as the "Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2837

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

SECTION 1. THEODORE ROOSEVELT UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 2837.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2837, a bill which designates the courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, New York, as the Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse.

As we all know, President Roosevelt was the 26th President of the United States. He led an extraordinary life. He steered the United States into world politics and was a polished and accomplished public servant and indeed was a Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Theodore Roosevelt was born in New York City on October 27, 1858, and died in Oyster Bay, New York, in 1919. He served as the 26th President of the United States. During his youth, he struggled with ill health and later dedicated his life to strenuous outdoor activities and Spartan living. He served during the Spanish American War, leading the Rough Rider Regiment, which became famous during the battle of San Juan Hill.

He was elected Governor of New York in 1898. Upon the assassination of President McKinley in 1901, he became President, and served until 1909. He believed the government should serve as an equal and fair arbiter between great economic forces such as labor and management.

Roosevelt's life was rich with varied experiences. He served as Police Commissioner of New York City, Governor

of New York, and was an avid outdoorsman and naturalist, an ardent conservationist, and the author of 26 books. As I mentioned before, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1905. He died peacefully in his sleep in 1919.

I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

S. 2837 designates the United States Courthouse in Brooklyn, New York, as the Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse.

Theodore Roosevelt, one of our most famous Presidents and a true American icon, was born in New York City in 1858. In many ways, Teddy Roosevelt defies easy description. Over the course of his amazing life he was an historian, explorer, a hunter, a frontiersman, a conservationist, an author, a soldier, a political reformer, a Governor, and he was our Nation's youngest President.

After graduating from Harvard in 1880, he was elected to the New York Assembly, where he was a prolific Republican activist.

In 1884, after the tragic loss of his first wife and his mother, he struck out for the Western Frontier. In the Dakotas, Roosevelt became an avid hunter and rancher. As a deputy sheriff, he chased down horse thieves and criminals. The tough cowboy persona Roosevelt developed on the frontier would stay with him for the rest of his life.

Roosevelt made his mark as a political reformer when he became President of the New York City Police Commissioners and took on the corrupt practices of the time.

When the Spanish American War broke out in 1898, Roosevelt resigned his position as Assistant Secretary of the Navy to organize and lead a volunteer cavalry brigade, known as the Rough Riders. Roosevelt and the Rough Riders became famous for their assault on San Juan Hill.

After Roosevelt's success on the battlefield, he was elected the Governor of New York, as a Republican. Roosevelt's reputation as a political reformer grew as he took on the State's machine politics and corruption.

His reputation as a reformer helped put him on the McKinley Presidential ticket. Roosevelt was a powerful campaign asset and helped lead the landslide Republican victory in the 1900 election. Roosevelt became the youngest American President ever, at age 42, when President McKinley was tragically assassinated. The year then was 1901.

Teddy Roosevelt was a strong political reformer, a conservationist, which I identify with, and the President that elevated the United States to a world power. Roosevelt busted up monopolies and trusts. He created the National Park Service, the Forest Service, he built the Panama Canal, and he expanded the United States Navy into a fleet capable of projecting U.S. power