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|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Welch | Wilson (SC) | Yarmuth |
| Westmoreland | Wittman | Young (AK) |
| Wexler | Wolf | Young (FL) |
| Whitfield | Woolsey | |
| Wilson (OH) | Wu | |

NOT VOTING—20

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| Abercrombie | Grijalva | Payne |
| Barrett (SC) | Hall (TX) | Posey |
| Boehner | Hoekstra | Radanovich |
| Castor (FL) | Israel | Sanchez, Loretta |
| Deal (GA) | Johnson, Sam | Scott (VA) |
| Gerlach | Kirkpatrick (AZ) | Smith (WA) |
| Granger | Pascarell | |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1629

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2996, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees: Messrs. DICKS, MORAN of Virginia, MOLLOHAN, CHANDLER, HINCHEY, OLVER, PASTOR of Arizona, PRICE of North Carolina, OBEY, SIMPSON, CALVERT, LATOURETTE, COLE, and LEWIS of California.

There was no objection.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-74)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed notice stating that the Sudan emergency is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2009.

The crisis constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Sudan that led to the declaration of a national emergency in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, and the expansion of that emergency in Executive Order 13400 of April 26, 2006, and

with respect to which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13412 of October 13, 2006, has not been resolved. These actions and policies are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Sudan and maintain in force the sanctions against Sudan to respond to this threat.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 27, 2009.

□ 1630

GRANTING A FEDERAL CHARTER TO THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, together with my colleague WALTER JONES, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 832) to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 832

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

SECTION 1. GRANT OF FEDERAL CHARTER TO MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

(a) GRANT OF CHARTER.—Part B of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 1403 the following new chapter:

“CHAPTER 1404—MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

“Sec.

“140401. Organization.

“140402. Purposes.

“140403. Membership.

“140404. Governing body.

“140405. Powers.

“140406. Restrictions.

“140407. Tax-exempt status required as condition of charter.

“140408. Records and inspection.

“140409. Service of process.

“140410. Liability for acts of officers and agents.

“140411. Annual report.

“140412. Definition.

“§ 140401. Organization

“(a) FEDERAL CHARTER.—Military Officers Association of America (in this chapter, the ‘corporation’), a nonprofit organization that meets the requirements for a veterans service organization under section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, is a federally chartered corporation.

“(b) EXPIRATION OF CHARTER.—If the corporation does not comply with the provisions of this chapter, the charter granted by subsection (a) shall expire.

“§ 140402. Purposes

“(a) GENERAL.—The purposes of the corporation are as provided in its bylaws and articles of incorporation and include—

“(1) to inculcate and stimulate love of the United States and the flag;

“(2) to defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of the Constitution of the United States and the United States Government;

“(3) to advocate military forces adequate to the defense of the United States;

“(4) to foster the integrity and prestige of the Armed Forces;

“(5) to foster fraternal relations between all branches of the various Armed Forces from which members are drawn;

“(6) to further the education of children of members of the Armed Forces;

“(7) to aid members of the Armed Forces and their family members and survivors in every proper and legitimate manner;

“(8) to present and support legislative proposals that provide for the fair and equitable treatment of members of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, military retirees, family members, survivors, and veterans; and

“(9) to encourage recruitment and appointment in the Armed Forces.

“§ 140403. Membership

“Eligibility for membership in the corporation, and the rights and privileges of members of the corporation, are as provided in the bylaws of the corporation.

“§ 140404. Governing body

“(a) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The composition of the board of directors of the corporation, and the responsibilities of the board, are as provided in the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the corporation.

“(b) OFFICERS.—The positions of officers of the corporation, and the election of the officers, are as provided in the articles of incorporation and bylaws.

“§ 140405. Powers

“The corporation has only those powers provided in its bylaws and articles of incorporation filed in each State in which it is incorporated.

“§ 140406. Restrictions

“(a) STOCK AND DIVIDENDS.—The corporation may not issue stock or declare or pay a dividend.

“(b) DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME OR ASSETS.—The income or assets of the corporation may not inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, a director, officer, or member of the corporation during the life of the charter granted by this chapter. This subsection does not prevent the payment of reasonable compensation to an officer or employee of the corporation or reimbursement for actual necessary expenses in amounts approved by the board of directors.

“(c) LOANS.—The corporation may not make a loan to a director, officer, employee, or member of the corporation.

“(d) CLAIM OF GOVERNMENTAL APPROVAL OR AUTHORITY.—The corporation may not claim congressional approval or the authority of the United States Government for any of its activities.

“(e) CORPORATE STATUS.—The corporation shall maintain its status as a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

“§ 140407. Tax-exempt status required as condition of charter

“If the corporation fails to maintain its status as an organization exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the charter granted under this chapter shall terminate.

“§ 140408. Records and inspection

“(a) RECORDS.—The corporation shall keep—

“(1) correct and complete records of account;

“(2) minutes of the proceedings of the members, board of directors, and committees

of the corporation having any of the authority of the board of directors of the corporation; and

“(3) at the principal office of the corporation, a record of the names and addresses of the members of the corporation entitled to vote on matters relating to the corporation.

“(b) INSPECTION.—A member entitled to vote on any matter relating to the corporation, or an agent or attorney of the member, may inspect the records of the corporation for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

“§ 140409. Service of process

“The corporation shall comply with the law on service of process of each State in which it is incorporated and each State in which it carries on activities.

“§ 140410. Liability for acts of officers and agents

“The corporation is liable for any act of any officer or agent of the corporation acting within the scope of the authority of the corporation.

“§ 140411. Annual report

“The corporation shall submit to Congress an annual report on the activities of the corporation during the preceding fiscal year. The report shall be submitted at the same time as the report of the audit required by section 10101(b) of this title. The report may not be printed as a public document.

“§ 140412. Definition

“In this chapter, the term ‘State’ includes the District of Columbia and the territories and possessions of the United States.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters at the beginning of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 1403 the following new item:

“1404. Military Officers Association of America 140401”.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of S. 832, a bill to grant a federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America. My colleague WALTER JONES and I joined with 140 cosponsors to introduce the House companion, H.R. 2017.

S. 832 recognizes the dedication, service and accomplishments of military officers and their families, and the enduring contribution of MOAA to the military and veterans' communities, and the nation.

I want to thank Senators BILL NELSON and BOB CORKER for their hard work in helping successfully report the Senate bill.

MOAA has been seeking a federal charter for 15 years. Despite bipartisan and bicameral support, the bill had never previously received a floor vote in either chamber.

MOAA serves a membership of 370,000 active, reserve and retired officers and their spouses in every branch of the military.

The variety of services MOAA provides includes:

The MOAA Scholarship Fund, which provides interest-free loans and grants to students of military families;

Supplemental health insurance; and

Personalized career transition assistance services for members and spouses;

The Military Officers Association has had a distinguished record of protecting and improving earned compensation and benefits for the entire military and veterans' community. Thanks to the support of Members of this Body and our colleagues in the Senate, MOAA has led efforts that resulted in enactment of major legislative accomplishments including:

TRICARE for Life, landmark legislation that provides lifetime government-sponsored health coverage for military retirees and their family members;

The Post-9/11 GI Bill, which provides cost-free education at any public college or university in the country for the current generation of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans;

Elimination of a dollar-for-dollar offset to military retired pay for retirees with VA service-connected disabilities of 50% to 100%;

Access to continuous TRICARE health coverage for currently serving National Guard and Reserve families and for reservists who qualify for reserve retirement but are not yet in receipt of reserve retired pay at age 60;

Elimination of financial penalties for retired regular officers who pursue second careers in the Federal civil service; and

Upgrades in compensation and transition services for severely wounded warriors, their families and the survivors of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the nation.

MOAA serves a vital role in helping inform and shape public policy on national defense matters and by ensuring that the needs of the entire active duty, National Guard and Reserves, military retirees, survivors, veterans and their family members are given voice in the public forum.

I want to also congratulate MOAA for being recognized by “The Hill” newspaper for the third year in a row as the top advocacy organization representing veterans.

MOAA has long tradition of servant-leadership to the entire military and veterans community. The Association provides a variety of services not only to its members but to military men and women of all ranks and to veterans.

I am pleased to recommend a Federal Charter be granted to the Military Officers Association of America and ask for unanimous consent that S. 832 be passed.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1298

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1298.

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

There was no objection.

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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

WELCOMING HIS ALL HOLINESS BARTHOLOMEW, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE, NEW ROME, ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 838) welcoming to the United States and to Washington, DC, His All Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome, Ecumenical Patriarch on his upcoming trip on October 20, 2009, through November 6, 2009, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 838

Welcoming to the United States and to Washington, DC, His All Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome, Ecumenical Patriarch on his upcoming trip on October 20, 2009, through November 6, 2009.

Whereas Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is the spiritual leader of nearly 300,000,000 Orthodox Christians around the world and millions of Orthodox Christians in the United States;

Whereas Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is head of the largest Christian denomination headquartered in the Muslim world and convener of an ecumenical meeting which produced the first condemnation by Muslim religious leaders of the 9/11 attack on the United States as an anti-religious act;

Whereas the Ecumenical Patriarchate, located in Istanbul, Turkey, is the spiritual home of the world's oldest and second largest Christian church;

Whereas within the 2,000-year-old Sacred See of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the New Testament was codified and the Nicene Creed was created;

Whereas the disappearance of the See would mean the end of a crucial link between the Christian and the Muslim world since the continuing presence of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Turkey is a living testimony of religious co-existence since 1453;

Whereas Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew received on his first official visit to the United States in 1997, the Congressional Gold Medal, presented by the United States on behalf of the Congress in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to religious understanding and peace, and was recognized by the United States in a manner reserved for a very small number of world leaders;

Whereas the legislation bestowing the Congressional Gold Medal on Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew had one of the highest numbers of Members of the United States House of Representatives cosponsoring it in Congressional history;

Whereas His All Holiness is one of the few living persons to have been awarded the highest Congressional honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, which has been bestowed only on the most eminent individuals, such as George Washington, Winston Churchill, and Pope John Paul II;

Whereas Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is recognized in the United States and abroad as a leader in the quest for world peace, greater religious understanding, and respect for the Earth's environment;

Whereas Ecumenical Patriarchate Bartholomew was selected by Time Magazine as number 11 among 2008's 100 most influential people in the world;