

Five years later in 1979, Judge Cook became chief judge of the Northern District of Oklahoma and served in that capacity for 13 years.

In 1992, Judge Cook took senior status to enable the appointment of an additional judge to the Northern District. As a senior judge, he continued to be active and carried a full court docket for the next 12 years until a few months before his death on September 22, 2008.

Judge Cook was adamantly committed to his belief that politics should play no role in the dispensing of justice and demonstrated that belief in his judicial rulings and the administration of his responsibilities as chief judge. He was a man of fairness and integrity who opened each court session with "God bless the United States and save this honorable court."

Judge Cook's greatest legacy may be the restoration and the reopening of the original Federal courthouse in Tulsa, Oklahoma. When the Federal courts were moved to another building about 45 years ago, the old Federal building sat largely unused. Judge Cook saw this building as a solution when there became a need for additional court space. He spearheaded the effort to restore it to its original splendor. Judge Cook used his powers of persuasion and his influence as chief judge of the Northern District to insist on conforming the courthouse to its original design and decorum. Without his involvement, the building would have never been used for its current purpose, and the beauty of a lost era would not be visible as it is today in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

By his direct efforts, the building is now included in the National Register of Historic Places and is currently used for the courtrooms, judicial chambers, the bankruptcy court and affiliated Federal offices of the Northern District of Oklahoma. Due to the vision and hard work of Judge Cook, the building is now being used for its original purpose, as a Federal judicial courthouse.

Preserving the beauty of a lost era as a Federal judge, he conducted his duties in a nonpartisan manner. It is my hope that the naming of this Federal building will be an equally bipartisan effort to honor this exceptional man for his exemplary career in public service and bringing the Federal courthouse back to its original grandeur.

I urge the adoption of H.R. 3305.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3305, a bill introduced by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. SULLIVAN), which designates the United States courthouse at 224 South Boulder Avenue in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the "H. Dale Cook Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

Judge Cook was a well respected jurist who served as a Federal judge for well over 30 years. Judge Cook served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and later as member of the U.S. Air Force Reserve. During his long legal career, Judge Cook served as an attorney in private practice, chief prosecuting attorney in his county, as an

assistant U.S. attorney, counsel to the Governor of Oklahoma, and finally as a member of the Federal judiciary.

Judge Cook was nominated to the Federal judiciary by President Gerald Ford in 1974. He initially served as a visiting Federal judge with a seat on the bench of each of Oklahoma's Federal judicial districts. Judge Cook later became Chief Judge of the Northern District in 1979 and served in that position until 1992. In addition, Judge Cook sat several times by designation with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

Judge Cook succumbed to cancer just over a year ago, on September 23, 2008. He continued to hear cases on the Federal bench until only a few months before he passed away. Judge Cook was held in high esteem by his peers and served with distinction as a Federal judge. It is both proper and fitting to honor his civic contributions with this designation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3305.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, at this time, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I urge the Members to vote in favor of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3305.

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.

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2009

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1599) to amend title 36, United States Code, to include in the Federal charter of the Reserve Officers Association leadership positions newly added in its constitution and bylaws.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1599

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Reserve Officers Association Modernization Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF NEW LEADERSHIP POSITIONS IN THE FEDERAL CHARTER OF THE RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION.

(a) NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Section 190104(b)(2) of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "the president elect," after "the president,";

(2) by inserting "a minimum of" before "3 national executive committee members,"; and

(3) by striking "except the executive director," and inserting "except the president elect and the executive director,".

(b) OFFICERS.—Section 190104(c) of such title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting "a president elect," after "a president,";

(B) by inserting "a minimum of" before "3 national executive committee members,";

(C) by striking "a surgeon, a chaplain, a historian, a public relations officer,"; and

(D) by striking "as decided at the national convention" and inserting "specified in the constitution of the corporation"; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting "and take office" after "be elected"; and

(B) by striking "and the national public relations officer," and inserting "the judge advocate, and any other national officers specified in the constitution of the corporation,".

(c) VACANCIES.—Section 190104(d)(1) of such title is amended by striking "president and last past president," and inserting "president, president elect, and last past president,".

(d) RECORDS AND INSPECTION.—Section 190109(a)(2) of such title is amended by striking "national council;" and inserting "other national entities of the corporation;".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUMMINGS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CHU. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1599 amends the nearly 60-year-old Federal charter of the Reserve Officers Association to reflect simple changes that have already been made to the organization's structure. The Reserve Officers Association was founded in 1922 and received a Federal charter by Congress in 1950.

As Congress observed at the time, the purpose of the corporation is to support and promote the development and execution of a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security. The ROA represents the Reserve Components officers for the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, the Air and Army National Guard, Public Health Service and the officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

This bill makes a number of technical changes to the ROA's Federal charter. For instance, the charter will now include the newly created position of president-elect and there would be more positions on the ROA's National Executive Committee. S. 1599 was introduced by Senators LEAHY, CHAMBLISS and PRYOR and passed the Senate in September. Identical legislation was introduced in the House by Representative HOWARD COBLE, my colleague on the Judiciary Committee, and Representatives CARNEY and GARY G. MILLER.

I commend the House sponsors as well as Chairman CONYERS and Ranking Member SMITH for their leadership

in moving this bill swiftly to the floor. It is important to point out that this bill does not run afoul of the Immigration Subcommittee's policy to not create any new Federal charters. Rather than create a new Federal charter, it merely amends a nearly 60-year-old existing charter.

This policy against new charters was first adopted by the subcommittee of jurisdiction 20 years ago in the 101st Congress and has strong bipartisan support. It is based on the considered judgment that a congressional charter is unnecessary to the operation of any charitable organization and may falsely imply to the public that an organization and its activities carry a congressional seal of approval.

Moreover, this policy reflects the subcommittee's judgment that the investigation and monitoring of a chartered organization takes congressional time and resources that are better spent on important policy and oversight efforts. That we are taking up this body's valuable time today to ratify simple changes to the ROA's leadership structure is evidence in itself that Congress should not be increasing the number of chartered organizations.

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That having been said, because S. 1599 makes only technical amendments to an existing charter and does nothing to create a new charter, I support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The gentlelady from California (Ms. CHU) pretty well touched very thoroughly on this subject matter, and I'll add somewhat to that. I rise in strong support of S. 1599. The Reserve Officers Association is well known and respected in Washington, D.C. It was founded in 1922 by General "Black Jack" Pershing with a mission to "support and promote the development and execution of a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national defense."

The Reserve Officers Association has as its goal to ensure adequate resources for the National Guard and the various reserve components and ensure that these entities play a key role in the national defense. The Association also is dedicated to the support of the interests of our citizen soldiers, their families and their survivors. Membership is open to all federally commissioned military officers and warrant officers and their spouses. There are currently about 65,000 members.

The Reserve Officers Association received a Federal charter in 1950. The Association would like to modify its charter to reflect technical changes made to its Constitution and bylaws, such as the addition of the position of "president elect" and the allowance for more than three executive committee members. That is what this legislation accomplishes. The Senate passed the bill in September by unanimous con-

sent, and I've introduced a companion House version in this body.

I urge my colleagues to support this meritorious legislation, which will allow the Reserve Officers Association to continue to play a vital role here in Washington.

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

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

Mr. COBLE. I have one speaker remaining, Mr. Speaker. I yield to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. GARY G. MILLER) such time as he may consume.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman CONYERS and Ranking Member SMITH for allowing S. 1599 to come to the floor today. I want to also thank my colleague, HOWARD COBLE, who just previously spoke before me, a retired U.S. Coast Guard captain, and CHRIS CARNEY, an active reservist Navy commander, for introducing the House companion bill. I also wish to thank the committee staff for working so diligently behind the scenes to bring the bill to the floor today.

Founded in 1922, then chartered by Congress in 1950, the Reserve Officers Association's mission is to "support and promote development and execution of a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security." ROA is a first-class, member-oriented association which provides the men and women who serve our Nation in the cause of freedom a voice in creating government policy.

ROA has a long list of policy accomplishments and an ambitious long-range program for the coming decade and beyond. Today ROA is still proudly serving our Nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines in so many ways. This legislation, once enacted into law, will allow ROA to make the necessary technical changes within its organization to stay effective as an association.

In 2010, ROA will be celebrating its 60th year as a congressionally chartered organization. I wish them continued success and thank them for their service to our country.

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. I urge my colleagues to support S. 1599, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1599.

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. COBLE. 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.

HONORING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEARCH

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 851) recognizing and honoring the 40th anniversary of SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, headquartered in Sacramento, California.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 851

Whereas the Department of Justice's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration created SEARCH in 1969 as a 10-State project to demonstrate whether it was feasible to exchange criminal history records on an automated and nationwide basis;

Whereas SEARCH not only demonstrated the feasibility of an automated nationwide system of sharing criminal records, but also, through partnership with the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, State agencies and other organizations, helped to establish the national criminal history record information system;

Whereas SEARCH is a nonprofit organization created by and for the States, governed by a Membership Group comprised of one gubernatorial appointee from each of the States and territories;

Whereas SEARCH's guiding vision is to ensure "Accurate and timely information, supported by well-deployed information and identification technology, enables the justice and public safety decision-maker to administer justice in a manner that promotes individual rights and public safety";

Whereas SEARCH provides training and technical assistance to help the criminal justice community combat high-technology crimes, gather valuable information in investigations, and link the Nation's law enforcement agencies through policy and technical solutions;

Whereas SEARCH helps agencies effectively implement information sharing technology to make accurate, more informed, immediate, and appropriately secured decisions about criminal justice and security issues, and to administer justice in an efficient and effective manner;

Whereas SEARCH has pioneered the development of both technology and policy solutions for justice implementation of biometric technologies, thereby enabling electronic fingerprints to become a rapid, reliable, and cost-effective identification authentication process and further supporting information sharing and collaboration among and between agencies;

Whereas SEARCH has made a profound contribution, working with the Department of Justice, to develop successive generations of privacy and security policies that are now reflected in both Department of Justice regulations and Federal legislation;

Whereas SEARCH has played a critical role in the development of systems such as the Interstate Identification Index (III), the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), commonly called the Brady check system, the National Fingerprint File (NFF), the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS), and key standards for information sharing and interoperability, such as the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM);

Whereas SEARCH's work with the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security helps the Nation's justice and public safety communities plan, develop, implement, test,