

googled Area 51, and, of course, I saw detailed maps or detailed photos of everything, including the airfield that perhaps someone would land at, well into that Nevada test range which Google identifies as Area 51.

So I would say that if the gentleman and, of course, the Chair, would continue to work with us on all these matters, we will, on a bipartisan basis, drill down to try to prevent these prohibitions on that, which certainly flies in the face of common sense.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 1323, the Reducing Information Control Designations Act.

This bill is being considered with an amendment to address some concerns that have been raised with the provision in the bill requiring incentives for individuals who successfully challenge the information control designation. This amendment strikes the language requiring incentives but continues to require a process through which individuals can challenge the information control designation.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1323 promotes transparency and government efficiency by promoting a common language within government. Therefore, I urge swift passage of the bill.

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

Mr. CLAY. 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 Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1323, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LANCE CORPORAL MATTHEW P. PATHENOS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1216) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1216

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

SECTION 1. LANCE CORPORAL MATTHEW P. PATHENOS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield,

Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos 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 "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. 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 Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. CLAY. I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

On behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I stand and join my colleagues from my home State of Missouri for the consideration of H.R. 1216, which names a postal facility in Chesterfield, Missouri, after Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos.

As stated, H.R. 1216 has the support of the entire House congressional delegation from Missouri but is sponsored by my friend, Representative Todd Akin. The bill was introduced on February 26 of 2009 and was considered by and reported from the Oversight Committee by voice vote on March 10.

As a member of the 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Marine Forces and Reserve out of Bridgeton, Missouri, following in the footsteps of his older brother, Matthew Pathenos enlisted in military service with the hope of helping those who could not help themselves.

Unfortunately, on February 7, 2007, Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos was killed while conducting combat operations in Fallujah, Iraq. In recognition of Corporal Pathenos' commitment to country and the concept of freedom, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in commemorating the life of this brave Marine by supporting the passage of H.R. 1216.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this bill designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the Lance Corporate Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building.

Marine Lance Corporal Pathenos was a selfless patriot. He was a loving brother, son and friend. As one of his comrades in arms once reflected, "The best thing about Matt was his ability to wake up every day with a smile and hold it all day long." Even through the hardships of war, Matt strove to bring joy to his friends.

A native of Ballwin, Missouri, Matt was an avid golfer and accomplished pilot, earning his flying license at age 14. After graduating from high school in 2003, Matt followed in the footsteps of his older brother and mentor, Marine Sergeant Christopher Pathenos, who had enlisted in the Armed Forces in the wake of September 11.

In the words of one relative, "For Matty, the motivation was more about Christopher, seeing how the Corps treated him."

As a member of the 3rd Battalion, 24th Marines, Matthew was one of 80 Marine members of his unit that were attached to a sister unit, the 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, for deployment to Iraq in September of 2006.

Tragically, on February 6, 2007, Lance Corporal Pathenos lost his life near Fallujah when his Humvee was struck by an improvised explosive device. His family will always remember him as a smiling young man who "sang as though no one could hear him and danced as though no one was watching him."

In a release shortly after the tragic loss, the family captured the sentiments of a grateful Nation. "Like his brother, Christopher, Matthew was proud to be a Marine and volunteered to serve his country. Matthew paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and the future generations of this country. He loved his country and family, and we will miss him terribly."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join the chairman and myself in support of this courageous young man and the sacrifice he gave by naming the post office in his honor.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Again, I would like to thank my friend and colleague, Mr. AKIN, for introducing such a thoughtful measure.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of renaming the Town and Country Commons Post Office in Chesterfield, Missouri, after Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos by passing H.R. 1216.

I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1216, a bill I introduced to honor the life of Matthew P. Pathenos by designating the post office in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building." A resident of Ballwin, Missouri, Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos was part of the 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, of the Marine Forces Reserve. On February 7th, 2007, Lance Corporal Pathenos was killed during combat operations in the Anbar province of Iraq. Matthew was often described by family and friends as a friendly young man who always had a joke to tell and a smile on his face. Matthew decided to join the military in order to follow his older brother into his country's service with the hope of helping those who could not help themselves. Matthew's then girlfriend, Erin, calls Lance Corporal

Pathenos her hero, and wishes she might one day, “posses a fraction of his bravery and discipline.”

As the father of two Marines, one of whom has served in Iraq; it is a privilege to stand here today to honor one of our fallen soldiers. Matthew’s commitment and dedication to his country is a shining example of how our military men and women are the finest our nation has to offer. His and his family’s sacrifice should serve as a reminder to all that the freedom we enjoy as Americans is not free but the result of the tremendous bravery and selfless service of men and women willing put themselves in harms way for freedom’s cause.

Our nation will be forever indebted to Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos.

Vote “yes” on H.R. 1216.

Mr. CLAY. 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 Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1216.

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. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION EXTENSION

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1541) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1541

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Act entitled “An Act to extend temporarily certain authorities of the Small Business Administration”, approved October 10, 2006 (Public Law 109–316; 120 Stat. 1742), as most recently amended by section 1 of Public Law 110–235 (122 Stat. 1552), is amended by striking “March 20, 2009” in each place it appears and inserting “July 31, 2009”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on March 19, 2009.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may 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 gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

As our Nation responds to the current economic downturn, small businesses will be central to our recovery. They are the engine of our economy, producing 60 to 80 percent of new jobs, and their role is even more important during recessions.

The fact is, when the job market is tight, many Americans venture out, launch their own enterprises. Following the recession of the early 1990s, small firms generated 3.8 million new positions for American workers, a number that surpassed big business expansion by almost half a million.

That kind of resilience, in the face of economic uncertainty, is a testament to the strength of our Nation. Times may be tough, but the American entrepreneurial spirit is tougher. Today, the House is considering legislation that will extend programs at the Small Business Administration into July.

These programs play a pivotal role in our economy. The SBA guarantees loans that allow new ventures to start and existing firms to grow. It provides counseling and technical know-how to entrepreneurs, and it helps ensure that small firms can obtain their fair share of Federal contracts, something that will be more important as the Economic Recovery Act generates \$111 billion worth of new public works projects.

Extending these programs is important, but we must not lose sight of a larger goal. Later this Congress we will pass legislation to modernize the SBA and change the agency’s culture. In these difficult economic times, we will need an SBA that can respond effectively. This will require extensive reforms.

Already in this Congress we passed the most significant update to the agency in a decade. With the economic recovery legislation, we made SBA bank loans more affordable for entrepreneurs. We increased the amount of a loan that the SBA can back, further opening up affordable credit for small business owners.

We established a new Small Business Stabilization Financing Program at the SBA, which will provide short-term loans to businesses struggling to meet their existing obligations. We gave the SBA tools it needs to begin unfreezing the secondary market for small business loans.

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By reforming and updating the Small Business Investment Company pro-

gram, we help channel new venture capital to small firms.

Taken together, all of these initiatives will yield \$21 billion in new investment and lending for small businesses and save or create 600,000 new jobs.

Earlier this week, President Obama moved to implement many of these changes. I applaud the administration for working quickly. However, this is just the start.

Later this year, the committee will draft a comprehensive rewrite of the SBA. If there has ever been a time for a strong, effective SBA, that time is now. It will be the responsibility of every Member in this House to make sure that we reauthorize these programs properly so the SBA can help Main Street businesses weather this recession and contribute to our economy.

The extension we are voting on today will give us the time to hear from all our colleagues and interested parties as we develop this legislation. I urge my colleagues to vote “yes.”

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the chairwoman’s request to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1541. The bill is very simple. It extends the authorization of all programs operated or authorized by the Small Business Act, the Small Business Investment Act, and any program by the Small Business Administration for which Congress has already appropriated funds. The extension will last until July 31 of this year.

This extension is necessary because the authorization for various programs operated by the SBA ceases on March 20. The Committee has worked in a bipartisan fashion in the last Congress, and we reported out a number of bills to address programs operated by the SBA. Despite the efforts of the House, time in the last Congress expired before the legislative process could run its course.

The work needed to help America’s entrepreneurs revitalize the economy simply can’t be accomplished by Friday of this week.

Without the enactment of this extension, a number of vital programs that the SBA operates will cease to function. Given the importance that small businesses play, and will continue to play in the revitalization of the American economy, we cannot allow the SBA authorizations to run out.

Enactment of this extension will enable the House and Senate to work in a diligent manner to address the necessary changes to SBA programs. I urge all of my colleagues to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1541.

I reserve the balance of my time.

VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU).

Mr. WU. Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you, Mr. Speaker. As President Obama said recently, “small businesses are the heart of the American