

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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

NATIONAL JOB CORPS DAY

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 163) expressing support for designation of September 23, 2009, as "National Job Corps Day".

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 163

Whereas over the course of 45 years, nearly 3,000,000 youth in the United States have been provided a safe living and learning environment on Job Corps campuses nationwide;

Whereas 123 Job Corps campuses educate and train 60,000 youth in the United States each year;

Whereas throughout its more than four decades of existence, Job Corps has successfully provided the Nation's economically disadvantaged youth with critical residential, academic, and vocational services;

Whereas Job Corps is considered the Nation's largest and most successful high school dropout recovery and youth empowerment program;

Whereas youth enrolled in Job Corps, receive intensive academic remediation, gain employability, learn life skills, and receive job placement assistance;

Whereas Job Corps builds the lives of youth, many of whom are high school dropouts, read slightly below the 8th grade reading level, and have never held a full-time job;

Whereas in an average 8 month stay at Job Corps the vast majority of youth leave with a high school diploma or equivalency, improve their literacy by more than two grade levels, and 75 percent of Job Corps graduates secure employment or enter the military;

Whereas Job Corps' successful model of preparing youth in the United States has included partnerships and linkages with employers and labor representatives;

Whereas this public-private partnership of American ingenuity has led to local and large employers and labor representatives providing Job Corps students hands-on, practical experience through internships and helping during the transition from student to employee;

Whereas Job Corps students and staff have contributed to their communities through millions of hours of community service, signaling the importance of giving back to the communities in which they live;

Whereas dedicated Job Corps staff invest their time and talents in the lives of students and without whom Job Corps could not fulfill its mission;

Whereas the economic benefits of a local Job Corps center generate 100 permanent jobs, thus producing 15,000 qualified and dedicated staff in 48 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; and

Whereas September 23, 2009, would be an appropriate day to designate as "National Job Corps Day", in honor of the 45th anniversary of Job Corps: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) supports the designation of "National Job Corps Day"; and

(2) encourages State and local governments to observe the day with appropriate activities that promote awareness of Job Corps.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. 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 Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Oversight Committee, I am pleased to present House Concurrent Resolution 163 for consideration. This legislation expresses support for the designation of September 23, 2009, as "National Job Corps Day."

The measure before us was introduced on July 8, 2009, by my colleague, Representative JERRY MORAN of Kansas, and it was favorably reported out of the Oversight Committee on September 10, 2009, by unanimous consent. Additionally, this legislation currently enjoys the support of over 65 Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 163 supports the designation of September 23 as "National Job Corps Day." Administered by the United States Department of Labor, the Job Corps is the Nation's largest career technical training and educational program for young people over the age of 16. The Job Corps offers a wide array of services, including career planning, on-the-job training, job placement, residential housing, food services, and driver education.

Since its inception via the 1964 Economic Opportunity Act, the Job Corps has provided countless young Americans with the academic, vocational and social skills training needed to help them obtain meaningful jobs and to pursue further educational opportunities.

In light of the recent economic crisis, the various services and programs offered by the Job Corps have never been more important for America's youth and for the entire Nation. The Job Corps helps to ensure that America's workforce remains capable of handling the challenges of our rapidly changing world.

Notably, the Job Corps boasts 123 centers nationwide, including centers in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Of these 123 centers, my own congressional district is the proud home of the Job Corps' Boston regional office. This terrific regional office oversees Job Corps centers in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey,

New York, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

In closing, I am delighted to support House Concurrent Resolution 163, and I urge all of our friends and Members to join me in recognizing the continuing success of the Job Corps.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1530

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

I rise today to discuss House Concurrent Resolution 163, expressing support for the designation of September 23, 2009, as National Job Corps Day.

The Job Corps organization has been training young adults for careers since 1964. Job Corps's mission is to "attract eligible young people, teach them the skills they need to become employable and independent, and place them in meaningful jobs or further education." By committing to this mission, Job Corps is able to successfully train thousands of youth in the United States each year.

Job Corps involves youth and a free career development program, which integrates the teaching of academic, vocational, employability skills and social competencies. This gives young people the opportunity to prepare themselves for a fruitful future, with help from the dedicated employees who ensure this program runs smoothly and effectively. These people should also be commended.

Keeping our Nation's youth in productive programs like Job Corps helps to steer the youth of the United States in the right direction. The staff and students have contributed to their communities millions of hours of community service, showing the importance of giving back to the United States of America.

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

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support the designation of September 23, 2009, as National Job Corps Day by agreeing to House Concurrent Resolution 163.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 163. This legislation designates tomorrow, September 23, 2009, as "National Job Corps Day." I introduced this resolution to commemorate the 45th anniversary of Job Corps and to recognize the program for its successes.

I firmly believe that the world is changed one person at a time. At Job Corps' 123 centers across the country, the program is changing lives each day. Close to three-quarters of the students who enroll in Job Corps are high school dropouts. Many have never held a full-time job. These young people come from difficult circumstances, with skills and abilities not yet discovered or fully developed.

Yet, Job Corps recognizes the potential in these individuals. It gives them the opportunity to improve their education and learn an employable skill. It provides the care, encouragement, and support these youths need to turn their lives around.

In an average 8 month stay at Job Corps, the majority of students leave with a high

school diploma or equivalency and improve their literacy by more than two grade levels. About 75 percent of Job Corps graduates secure employment or enter the military.

Young people need Job Corps now more than ever. While it can be difficult for a young person who lacks the proper skills and education to find work in good economic times, it becomes even more of a challenge in times of economic uncertainty. The unemployment rate in August for those ages 16 to 19 was a staggering 25.5 percent. For 20 to 24 year olds, the jobless rate was just over 15 percent.

While Job Corps reaches some 60,000 youths each year, it cannot serve all those in need. Sadly, many young people still fall through the cracks and the cost to these individuals and society is immense.

Studies tell us that over the course of the next decade, the 12 million students who are projected to drop out of high school will cost our economy more than \$3 trillion.

Here on this floor, we have been talking a lot lately about health care. Studies show that each class of dropouts costs states \$17 billion in publically-subsidized health care over the course of their lives.

In addition, individuals lacking more than a high school education make up close to the entirety of our Nation's prison population and account for 90 percent of incarceration spending.

But it's about more than dollars and cents. It's about more than employment statistics. It's about people. It's about helping people achieve a better life. And that is what Job Corps does.

Young people are our country's future. We have a responsibility to care for and educate them. Job Corps helps us do that.

So I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and join me in recognizing Job Corps for the work it does for young people who need it most.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleagues in celebrating the 45th anniversary of Job Corps. Since its inception in 1964, Job Corps has educated over 3 million people, helping them secure their high school diplomas, improve literacy and find secure employment.

Oregon has six Job Corps centers, one of which is in the Third Congressional District of Oregon. The Springdale Job Corps Center houses over 120 students and offers services to an additional fifty day students. The Center helps prepare students for careers in the culinary, administrative, security, automotive and health care fields, as well as assists students with their high school diplomas or equivalent. I am impressed by the energy, thoughtfulness and passion of those who work at the Springdale Center and the discipline and drive of the students they prepare.

On the 45th anniversary of Job Corps founding, I would like to acknowledge the great work being done in Springdale, Oregon and across the country.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H. Con. Res. 163, a resolution expressing support for September 23 to be recognized as "National Job Corps Day."

In my home district of San Bernardino, California, we have an Inland Empire Job Corps center that has helped thousands of young people improve the quality of their lives through career, technical, and academic training.

These young people have been able to give back to their local communities by becoming productive members of society, and with countless hours of community service organized through Job Corps.

In fact, over the last 45 years, nearly 3 million youth across the Nation have been provided a safe living and learning environment on Job Corp campuses nationwide.

Job Corps is America's largest and most successful high school dropout recovery and youth empowerment program.

75 percent of Job Corps graduates secure either permanent employment or enter into military service.

It is only fitting that Congress moves to recognize this highly successful program—and continues to support it during these financially troubling times.

I urge my colleagues to express their support for the Job Corps Program; and for the hardworking men and women who make a positive difference in the lives of America's young people.

Vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 163.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 163, legislation commending Job Corps on their 45th Anniversary and declaring September 23, 2009 as "National Job Corps Day."

For 45 years, Job Corps has served our Nation's at-risk youth by providing desperately needed residential, academic and vocational services to help economically disadvantaged students secure a job and build critical life skills. As a co-chair of the Friends of Job Corps Caucus, I proudly support Job Corps and salute this unique program for helping nearly three million youth pursue their dreams of an independent life.

One of our country's most significant challenges is helping America's forgotten youth. Thirty percent of our youth do not graduate from high school and 40 percent of those who do complete high school are unprepared for work or higher education. Taken together, this means that an astounding three out of five American youth leave traditional schools without the skills they need to succeed in work or post-secondary education.

The Job Corps model remains out-of-school youths' best chance for success. For over four decades, Job Corps has been considered the Nation's largest and most successful dropout recovery program. Each year, more than 60,000 youths choose to enroll in Job Corps to receive the support they need. The vast majority of students leave with a GED or high school diploma and over 85 percent of Job Corps graduates obtain jobs, enlist in the military or pursue higher education.

In addition to helping students, Job Corps stimulates the economy through local economic activity. Job Corps funding is immediately invested in local economies across the nation through its 15,000 staff and the money local centers spend regionally on supplies and services. Every dollar invested in Job Corps stimulates \$1.91 in local economic activity.

I have seen first-hand the difference the Job Corps program has made in my own district through my work with the Quentin Burdick Job Corps Center in Minot, North Dakota. This center serves approximately 250 students in the region, and has been one of the top performing centers in the country for over five years. I am proud of the work the Burdick Job Corps Center has done in my community, giv-

ing disadvantaged youths the skills they need to succeed in today's workforce—at no cost to them or their families.

For all of these reasons, I want to commend Job Corp students and staff on their 45th anniversary, and urge my colleagues to join me today in supporting this important resolution.

Mr. LYNCH. I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res 163.

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. LYNCH. 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.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
POST OFFICE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2971) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2971

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

SECTION 1. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 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 "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. 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 Massachusetts?

There was no objection.