

million new jobs; we were at peace throughout the world. In fact, we had a projected surplus of \$5.6 trillion. By this time, we would have paid off our debt. Instead, after 8 years of Republican control of all three branches of government, 8 years later, we had \$12 trillion of debt; we were engaged in two wars; health care costs were strangling our families and businesses. In fact, we were losing 700,000 jobs a month.

One year later, that job loss has been cut by 90 percent. We have a health care reform bill that will enable all American families to have affordable health care at less cost. The process of governance is difficult. To just say “no” is irresponsible.

GETTING THE AMERICAN ECONOMY BACK ON TRACK

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Massachusetts, Virginia, New Jersey—they have all spoken, and I think they speak for the American people.

They want us to try to work out these problems that they’re facing together and not keep pointing fingers. It’s time for us to get down to the job of creating jobs. They don’t want this health care bill. It’s pretty darn clear. That was the major issue in Massachusetts. So we need to get together and solve the problems of health care without ramming something down the people’s throats from behind closed doors. It’s extremely important.

They don’t want higher taxes; they want lower taxes. They don’t want more government interference in their lives; they want less. So what we ought to do is address the problems that are really important right now. The first thing is creating jobs and getting this economy back on track and not to try to ram a health care bill down the American people’s throats that they really, really don’t want.

SAVING AMERICA FROM AN ECONOMIC ABYSS

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, there is always a great deal of danger in spontaneous reactions to elections. One of the things that I thought about last night when I watched SCOTT BROWN accept his victory in Massachusetts was that he didn’t talk about returning to the agenda of 2000–2008. He didn’t talk about returning to Bush economics or the Republican agenda. As a matter of fact, he never mentioned the word “Republican.”

What he did talk about, and he talked about it extremely well, was about the need for us to listen to the people, that the job wasn’t his job or a Kennedy job. This was the people’s job. It’s a lesson for all of us to learn.

The true political victory will be won by the party and the individuals who

demonstrate responsiveness to the needs of their communities and of their citizens. We have been doing that now for a year. I think we can make a strong case on the Democratic side that we have saved this country from an economic abyss. We will continue to do that while we continue to listen to the people we work for.

TOP 10 LIST OF HEALTH REFORM BENEFITS WASHINGTON REPUBLICANS THREATEN TO STRIP AWAY

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, we need to get our courage up and continue to reform health care. There are tremendous benefits that will be lost if we don’t clearly draw the path to health care reform.

What we are doing is providing protections against insurance companies’ discrimination and against losing coverage when you get sick. Insurance security, if you lose your job, will be guaranteed. There will be relief for small businesses and employers. There will be jobs for Americans in the health care industry, no lifetime limits on coverage, and there will be free preventative care.

That is what we want to do for the American people. We must go out and clearly explain the benefits, each and every one of us, to the American people.

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.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GARFIELD M. LANGHORN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3250) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1210 West Main Street in Riverhead, New York, as the “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3250

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

SECTION 1. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GARFIELD M. LANGHORN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1210 West Main Street in Riverhead, New York,

shall be known and designated as the “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn 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 “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn Post Office Building”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

□ 1030

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

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, as chairman of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction over the United States Postal Service, I am proud to present H.R. 3250 for consideration. This legislation will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1210 West Main Street in Riverhead, New York, as the “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn Post Office Building.”

H.R. 3250 was introduced by my colleague and friend Representative TIM BISHOP of New York, on July 17, 2009, and was favorably reported out of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee by unanimous consent on October 29, 2009. In addition, the legislation enjoys the support of the entire New York House delegation.

Born on September 10, 1948, in Cumberland, Virginia, Private First Class Garfield Langhorn distinguished himself through his brave, dedicated, and selfless military service during the Vietnam War as a member of the United States Army’s Troop C, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Aviation Brigade.

In recognition of his heroic actions during the Vietnam War, Private First Class Langhorn posthumously received the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration awarded by the United States Government, as well as the Purple Heart. Private First Class Langhorn was one of 20 African American soldiers to receive the Medal of Honor for their service during the Vietnam War.

As noted by the citation accompanying his Medal of Honor, Private First Class Langhorn demonstrated “conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life and beyond the call of duty” while serving as a radio operator in Troop C in Vietnam’s Pleiku province on January 15, 1969.

Specifically, the citation recounts that Private First Class Langhorn’s

platoon had been inserted into a landing zone in order to rescue two pilots of a downed Cobra helicopter. While members of his platoon, who had found the two pilots dead, attempted to take the men's bodies to a nearby pickup location, Private First Class Langhorn provided radio coordination and covering fire as the platoon came under intense fire from enemy forces.

As darkness fell, an enemy hand grenade landed directly in front of Private First Class Langhorn and only a few feet from several wounded members of his platoon. In response, and without hesitation, Private First Class Langhorn threw himself on the grenade and absorbed the ensuing blast, thereby saving the lives of his comrades by sacrificing his own.

Accordingly, the Medal of Honor citation further notes that, "Private First Class Langhorn's extraordinary heroism, at the cost of his own life, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military, and reflects great credit on himself, his unit, and the United States Army."

Mr. Speaker, in continued tribute to Private First Class Langhorn's bravery and self-sacrifice, the members of the United States Army's 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry, past and present, have committed themselves to ensuring that his legacy and his memory lives on.

As noted by retired Sergeant Major Tony Morton, president of the 7th Squadron 17th Air Cavalry Association, all cavalry troopers assigned to the squadron must "earn their spurs" through the completion of a grueling 3-day series of tests and tasks known as the "spur ride." It is notable that completion of one of the stations requires soldiers to possess a detailed knowledge regarding the service and sacrifice of Private First Class Langhorn, a requirement that, according to Sergeant Major Morton, serves to ensure that Private First Class Langhorn "will go on in this squadron as long as this squadron is flying the colors."

In addition, in 2008, the squadron cut the ribbon on a conference center named after Private First Class Langhorn and the unit's other Medal of Honor recipient from Vietnam, Sergeant Ray McKibben. Moreover, the squadron also rededicated a memorial to the two soldiers that has been relocated from Fort Knox, Kentucky, to the unit's new headquarters at nearby Fort Campbell on the Kentucky-Tennessee border.

Mr. Speaker, the life of Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn stands as a testament to the lives of all those brave men and women who have served in the United States military and offered our Nation the ultimate sacrifice. Let us further honor the courageous soldiers through the passage of H.R. 3250, which designates the Riverhead, New York, Postal Service building in Private First Class Langhorn's name.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3250.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3250, designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1210 West Main Street in Riverhead, New York, as the "Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn Post Office Building."

Garfield M. Langhorn's selfless and heroic actions, for which he received the Congressional Medal of Honor, serve as an inspiration to all Americans.

On January 15, 1969, U.S. Army Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn of New York was serving as a radio operator in the Pleiku province of North Vietnam. His platoon's assignment was to rescue two helicopter pilots who had been shot down and were behind enemy lines. Langhorn coordinated with aircraft that were providing cover to his platoon during the rescue mission. While soldiers in the platoon were bringing the bodies of two helicopter pilots they were rescuing to an extraction site, well disguised North Vietnamese soldiers suddenly surrounded the platoon. Langhorn radioed the support aircraft for assistance and helped provide cover for the other soldiers in the platoon.

As night came, the fighting continued, but the air support could no longer accurately pinpoint the soldiers on the ground. The enemy soldiers continued to close in. An enemy soldier threw a hand grenade near Langhorn and wounded several of his colleagues and men. According to his Congressional Medal of Honor citation, "choosing to protect these wounded, he unhesitatingly threw himself on the grenade, scooped it beneath his body and absorbed the blast. By sacrificing himself, he saved the lives of his comrades."

Mr. Speaker, Garfield Langhorn was a true American hero. In his last dying words, he is reported to have said, "You have to care." Private First Class Langhorn did care deeply about his fellow soldiers and he cared about his country. His story is an inspiration to all Americans.

I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 3250 to honor Private First Class Langhorn's sacrifice for years to come.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's kind words.

I yield 3 minutes to the chief sponsor of this bill, Mr. BISHOP of New York.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, let me start by thanking my friend Mr. LYNCH for his remarks with respect to this legislation. Let me also thank the gentleman from Illinois for his remarks and his support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as the proud sponsor of H.R. 3250, and I thank the leadership for calling up this bill to name the United States Post Office located at 1210 West Main Street in Riverhead, New York, in my district on Eastern Long Island, as the "Private First

Class Garfield M. Langhorn Post Office Building".

It was a journey of a hardworking American family, looking for an opportunity and a better way of life, that brought the family of Private First Class Garfield Langhorn of the United States Army from Cumberland, Virginia, to Riverhead, New York, in the early 1950s.

Private First Class Langhorn's mother still lives in this close-knit community—her name is Mary—where she raised her son who proudly answered the call of his country during the Vietnam War. He distinguished himself as a radio operator and as a good soldier. I am proud to represent Mrs. Langhorn, and I commend her for the grace and the dignity with which she carries her loss.

On a hillside in Pleiku province, Private First Class Langhorn heard an even higher call than service and duty. His ultimate sacrifice saved the lives of several of his fellow soldiers by selflessly absorbing the explosion of an enemy grenade within his own body. It was an act of valor and heroism for which the Medal of Honor was created, and for which it is solemnly reserved.

Today, the Medal of Honor retains pride of place on Mary Langhorn's wall as a tangible symbol of the respect and honor her son earned from the American people. Passing H.R. 3250 today affirms the pride of Riverhead by memorializing one of its most distinguished citizens.

As they conduct their business each day, the people of Riverhead who visit the post office will be reminded of PFC Langhorn's extraordinary service and sacrifice and can reflect on the true value of freedom. They will know that PFC Garfield M. Langhorn is a national hero, and the values for which he gave his life, honor, loyalty, and family will again forever be memorialized.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to all of my colleagues in the New York delegation for cosponsoring this legislation, and I again thank Chairman TOWNS, Mr. LYNCH, and the gentleman from Illinois for their support.

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3250.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I again, in closing, urge my colleagues to join the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) in honoring Private First Class Garfield Langhorn through the passage of H.R. 3250.

I yield back the balance of my 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 pass the bill, H.R. 3250.

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.

CONGRATULATING NANCY GOODMAN BRINKER

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 708) congratulating Nancy Goodman Brinker for receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 708

Whereas Ambassador Brinker is the founder of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, the world's leading breast cancer grass roots organization, and Ambassador Brinker established the organization in memory of her sister, who passed away from cancer in 1980;

Whereas through innovative events like Race for the Cure, the organization has given and invested nearly 1.5 billion for research, health services and education services since its founding in 1982;

Whereas the Susan G. Komen for the Cure has developed a worldwide grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists who are working together to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find cures;

Whereas Ambassador Brinker has served as Chair of the President's Cancer Panel (1990);

Whereas Ambassador Brinker has served as United States Ambassador to Hungary (2001–2003);

Whereas Ambassador Brinker has served as Chief of Protocol of the United States (2007–2009);

Whereas, in May of this year, Ambassador Brinker was named the first-ever World Health Organization's Goodwill Ambassador for Cancer Control;

Whereas, on July 30, 2009, President Obama named Peoria native Ambassador Nancy Goodman Brinker as a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom;

Whereas the Presidential Medal of Freedom is America's highest civilian honor that is awarded to individuals who make an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors;

Whereas Ambassador Brinker's public service has impacted millions of lives and her work, from promoting cancer research to promoting freedom around the world, and has been praised by members of both parties; and

Whereas President Obama will present Illinois native Ambassador Nancy Goodman Brinker with the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Wednesday, August 12, 2009: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Nancy Goodman Brinker for receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHOCK) 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 and add any extraneous materials.

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 Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am proud to present H. Res. 708 for consideration. This legislation expresses our congratulations to Ms. Nancy Goodman Brinker for receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

House Resolution 708 was introduced by my colleague and friend Representative AARON SCHOCK of Illinois on July 31, 2009, and was favorably reported out of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee by voice vote on December 10, 2009. In addition, the legislation enjoys the support of nearly 60 Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, seeing that my colleague is the lead sponsor of this, I will reserve the balance of my time and allow the gentleman to offer this resolution.

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my appreciation to my friend from Massachusetts. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor a great woman, a great leader, and, really, an icon in our country and around the world for what the power of one person, working with hundreds and thousands of others, but really one person's vision, tenacity, and hard work can mean for her fellow mankind on Earth.

We rise today to honor Nancy Goodman Brinker. She was born December 6, 1946, in Peoria, Illinois, and is most notably known for her work with the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, the world's leading breast cancer grassroots organization, which has impacted millions of lives.

This organization was established in memory of her sister, Susie Komen, who passed away from cancer in 1980. Ms. Brinker since then has also founded the Susan G. Komen for the Cure's signature program, the Race for the Cure, the largest series of 5-K run and fitness walks in the world.

Since its origin in 1983 in Dallas, Texas, the Race for the Cure series has grown from one local race with 800 participants to a national series of 112 races that yielded just over 1.5 million participants last year.

Ms. Brinker's contributions to society extend beyond her work with the Susan G. Komen centers. Ms. Brinker has served in the government as Chair of the President's Cancer Panel in the early 1990s. She then went as the U.S. Ambassador to Hungary from 2001 to 2003, and then as the Chief of Protocol for the United States from 2007 to 2009.

□ 1045

Time magazine in 2008 named her as one of the 100 most influential people in the entire world. In July, 2009, President Obama named Nancy Goodman Brinker as a recipient of the 2009 Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Presidential Medal of Freedom, of course, is America's highest civilian honor that is awarded to individuals who make an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interest of the United States, world peace, cultural, or other significant public or private endeavors. She was presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Wednesday, August 12, 2009. The inscription on her Presidential Medal of Freedom says this: Drawing strength from tragedy, Nancy Goodman Brinker has transformed the Nation's approach to breast cancer.

When her sister was diagnosed in 1977, most breast cancer victims knew relatively little about the disease and suffered from popular stigmas. Nancy Brinker promised to challenge these norms. She founded Susan G. Komen for the Cure in honor of her sister. Today, the organization supports research and community awareness programs across the United States and around the world. Nancy Goodman Brinker's unique passion and determination have been a blessing to all those whose lives have been touched by breast cancer. In fact, it's these 1.5 million participants in the Race for the Cure and the thousands of people that this organization have touched that have led to the increased awareness of breast cancer. It's her work that has led to the infamous pastel pink being synonymous with breast cancer awareness and the work of the organization.

But let us be clear. The work has done much more than just create awareness about breast cancer research. Nancy Goodman Brinker's work has saved lives. In fact, the work of the Susan G. Komen Centers has generated over its 27 years \$1.5 billion in cancer research. As a result, we have discovered the first breast cancer susceptibility gene. The research dollars have led to the first use of magnetic resonance imaging scanners, or MRIs. They discovered the pathways that some cancer cells take in the body, leading to treatments to potentially stop the spread of cancers to other organs. And as a result of this continuous work, mortality from breast cancer is down. In the last decade, deaths from breast cancer fell by over 20 percent, and more than 2.5 million people in the United States are breast cancer survivors, the largest group of cancer survivors in America.

Now, as we read through the life and the work of Nancy Goodman Brinker, one might think this sounds like an obituary. But, my friends, rest assured Nancy Goodman Brinker's contributions to society are far from over. While many might retire, given this long resume of accomplishments, she continues to take on the mantle and