

though the perpetrator was off in the penitentiary. And not too long after this crime was committed, I received a phone call from Lisa's mother, and she told me that Lisa had taken her life. She left a note, Madam Speaker, that I still have in my office today across the street, and the note reads, "I'm tired of running from Luke Johnson in my nightmares."

See, she got the death penalty for being a victim of sexual assault. And we would hope that victims could handle it, that they could move on with their life, that they could cope, but that's not the world we operate in because they're real people. And we as a Nation need to be sensitive to victims of sexual assault. It's the most unusual crime in our culture. We can sort of see why people commit theft. We can see sometimes why people get mad and in a rage they might even commit a murder. But there is no logical reason why anybody would commit the crime of sexual assault against another person unless it's an attempt to steal the very soul of that person, and that's what criminals are trying to do when they commit this crime. That is why it is such a horrible crime, and we as a culture must be concerned about it.

So this resolution helps bring that to the public forum, that Sexual Assault Awareness Month is something that we should be, as a people, concerned about because victims have rights, too. The same Constitution that protects defendants protects victims of crime. And as it has been said before, we are not judged by the way we treat the rich, the famous, the powerful, the important folks. We're judged by the way we treat the innocent, the weak, the victims of crime. That's how we as a people will be judged.

So I commend the gentlelady from Wisconsin for sponsoring this resolution. I wholeheartedly support it and I urge its adoption.

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

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my cosponsor of this legislation for also putting a name, a story, and a face on this very consequential matter. Lisa and Carrie from our respective States represent many other victims and survivors alike, and it speaks to the importance of this resolution. I commend the gentleman for his advocacy and ask for support of this resolution.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1259.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1208) supporting the goals of World Intellectual Property Day.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1208

Whereas intellectual property is the backbone of the economic competitiveness of the United States and the only economic sector in which the United States has a trade surplus with every nation in the world;

Whereas well over 50 percent of United States exports now depend on some form of intellectual property, compared to less than 10 percent 50 years ago;

Whereas intangible assets that stem from intellectual property, such as high-value services, global branding, technological know-how, and scientific research, must be recognized as cornerstones in achieving economic recovery and creating jobs;

Whereas intellectual property assets today represent more than one third of the value of United States-based corporations and more than 17 percent of the gross domestic product of the United States;

Whereas intellectual property plays a significant role in an increasingly broad range of services, ranging from the Internet to health care to nearly all aspects of science and technology and literature and the arts, and the potential for innovation and invention must be fostered as its greatest attribute;

Whereas the United States and all countries share the challenge of combating piracy and counterfeiting of intellectual property, including illicit trade in life-saving drugs, cutting edge technologies, film, music, books, and inventions that affect the quality of life;

Whereas the piracy and counterfeiting of intellectual property have a significant impact on economies around the world, translate into lost jobs, lost earnings, and lost tax revenues, and threaten public health and safety;

Whereas the World Intellectual Property Organization, with 184 member states, is the primary organization in the world focused on the development and protection of intellectual property rights for all creators and all countries;

Whereas World Intellectual Property Day provides an opportunity to reflect on how intellectual property touches all aspects of people's lives, how copyright helps music to be heard and art, films, and literature to be seen, how industrial design helps shape the world in which people live, how trademarks provide reliable signs of quality, and how patenting helps promote ingenious inventions that make life easier, faster, safer, and sometimes completely changes the way people live;

Whereas the theme of 2010 World Intellectual Property Day is "Innovation-Linking the World", and presents an opportunity to champion the role of intellectual property rights in providing incentives for the development of the innovative solutions needed to meet today's global challenges while creating jobs and stimulating the United States economy;

Whereas April 26, 1970, was the date on which the Convention establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization entered into force;

Whereas, in 2000, member states of the World Intellectual Property Organization es-

tablished World Intellectual Property Day to celebrate the contribution made by innovators and artists to the development and growth of societies across the globe and to highlight the importance and practical use of intellectual property in everyone's daily lives; and

Whereas April 26, 2010, has been designated as World Intellectual Property Day, a time to celebrate the importance of intellectual property to the United States and the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals of World Intellectual Property Day to promote, inform, and teach the importance of intellectual property as a tool for economic, social, and cultural development;

(2) recognizes the ever-increasing importance of intellectual property and the new challenges and serious threats to its protection, which affect prospects for future growth of the United States economy;

(3) supports robust and ongoing efforts to protect the health and well-being of citizens in the United States from fraudulent and illegal counterfeiting and piracy;

(4) congratulates the World Intellectual Property Organization for building awareness of the value of intellectual property and developing the necessary infrastructure to help citizens take full advantage of their own creativity; and

(5) applauds the ongoing contributions of human creativity and intellectual property to growth and innovation and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter and stronger future for the United States and the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 1208 supports the goals of World Intellectual Property Day and recognizes the importance of protecting intellectual property. World Intellectual Property Day brings attention to the impact that intellectual property has in our daily lives, educates us on how intellectual property protection promotes creativity and innovation, and celebrates its contributions to society.

The theme for World Intellectual Property Day this year is, "Innovation: Linking the World." The focus is to educate us on how innovation technologies have created an interlinked and global society.

Yesterday, we celebrated the 10th annual World Intellectual Property Day. This day was selected because on April 26, 1970, the United Nations established

the World Intellectual Property Organization, otherwise known as WIPO. WIPO works to promote the protection of intellectual property throughout the world, and yesterday was WIPO's 40th anniversary. This resolution congratulates the World Intellectual Property Organization for building awareness of the value of intellectual property. This resolution also celebrates the contributions of innovators throughout the world and reminds us of the importance of protecting intellectual property rights.

Protecting intellectual property rights is key to maintaining incentives for the development of innovative solutions to meet today's global challenges, and so we must continue to fight against piracy and counterfeiting of intellectual property. Piracy damages our national economy and the world economy. It results in lost jobs and stifles innovation.

I would like to thank Congressman ADAM SMITH for introducing this resolution. I would also like to acknowledge the strong bipartisan support of members of the Intellectual Property Caucus.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he might consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE), a senior member of the Judiciary Committee and a former chairman of the Intellectual Property Subcommittee.

Mr. COBLE. I thank my friend from Texas (Mr. SMITH) for yielding.

Madam Speaker, intellectual property has been described as the cornerstone, or one of the cornerstones, of America's economic future; and I think that is an accurate description.

H. Res. 1208 supports the goals of World Intellectual Property Day, which falls on April 26 every year, which this year also happened to fall on the 40th anniversary of the World Intellectual Property Organization, commonly known as WIPO. WIPO has grown to 184 member states, and its new director general, Francis Gurry, issued a statement honoring World Intellectual Property Day, which pledged to ensure that the intellectual property system continues to serve its most fundamental purpose of encouraging innovation and creativity, and that the benefits of the system are accessible to all, helping to bring the world closer.

Robust and effective laws combined with effective enforcement are absolutely necessary to meet General Gurry's global ambitions. According to the Department of Commerce, intellectual property-intensive industries employ nearly 18 million workers, account for more than 50 percent of all U.S. exports, and represent 40 percent of the country's growth in the United States. USA for Innovation estimates that U.S. intellectual property is worth between \$5 trillion and \$5.5 trillion. The credit for this success belongs to our

great innovators and for our robust intellectual property laws which have enabled innovation to flourish in America.

Expanding similar intellectual property protections throughout the world is, in my opinion, Madam Speaker, in everyone's best interest. In this regard, WIPO plays a very important role, and it is my hope that General Gurry will make every effort to help others realize the significance of intellectual property rights and work to help implement and enforce robust laws which ensure that intellectual property will flourish everywhere.

I urge support of H. Res. 1208.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH), the author of the resolution before us.

(Mr. SMITH of Washington asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 1208.

I would like to thank Chairman CONYERS as well as his staff for their support in bringing this resolution to the floor, and for the kind remarks from the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE). I also want to thank the other Chairs of the House Intellectual Property Caucus, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. BONO MACK) and, again, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE), who have joined me in sponsoring House Resolution 1208.

This important resolution commemorates World Intellectual Property Day, which was observed yesterday, April 26. Each year since 2001, World IP Day has been held in observance of the establishment of the World Intellectual Property Organization by the United Nations. World Intellectual Property Day calls attention to the importance of IP for both our Nation and the international economy. It recognizes the contributions made by the countless artists, innovators, and other creative minds that enrich, assist, and inform us in many ways.

In and around my district in Washington State, I am able to observe daily the critically important role played by innovation and intellectual property to the economies of the South Sound region and the United States. As many of my colleagues are aware, Washington State is fortunate to boast a robust technological and innovative economy, with companies that range in size from major corporations to hundreds of smaller and medium-size businesses. Together, these industries directly and indirectly create hundreds of thousands of jobs and generate billions of dollars in economic activity. Each relies upon innovation and respect for intellectual property to remain successful and internationally competitive.

Similarly, in States and localities throughout America, artists, inventors, and employees in IP-intensive industries play a major role in sup-

porting economic vitality. IP creates well-paying job opportunities for workers of multiple skill levels, drives research and development investment, creates new products and services that make our Nation more globally competitive, and drives American exports to foreign markets.

For intellectual property to work, it has to be protected; people have to know that they will get the value of their inventions and of their brain power. We must protect intellectual property to grow jobs here in the U.S. It is critical.

I am proud to recognize World Intellectual Property Day, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to recognize World Intellectual Property Day and the role that intellectual property plays in our Nation.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the purpose of House Resolution 1208 is to congratulate the World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO, for its work and to support the goals of World Intellectual Property Day. This day includes teaching the importance of intellectual property as a tool for economic, social, and cultural development.

WIPO is considered the most important international organization for the promotion of intellectual property. Among other responsibilities, WIPO administers treaties, such as the Berne and Paris Conventions, that protect intellectual property globally. The United States, of course, is a WIPO member.

Nine years ago, WIPO member states commemorated the founding of the organization by establishing World Intellectual Property Day. April 26, 1970 is the date on which the convention that created WIPO took effect. This resolution commemorates the achievements of WIPO and its designation of April 26, 2010 as World Intellectual Property Day for the current year. In addition, the resolution contains background information on the extent to which intellectual property generates jobs, sales, and exports for the United States, while contrasting these benefits with the problems related to piracy and anti-counterfeiting.

I support this resolution and I urge its adoption.

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

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1208.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1715

INTERSTATE RECOGNITION OF NOTARIZATIONS ACT OF 2009

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3808) to require any Federal or State court to recognize any notarization made by a notary public licensed by a State other than the State where the court is located when such notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3808

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 “Interstate Recognition of Notarizations Act of 2009”.

SEC. 2. RECOGNITION OF NOTARIZATIONS IN FEDERAL COURTS.

Each Federal court shall recognize any lawful notarization made by a notary public licensed or commissioned under the laws of a State other than the State where the Federal court is located if—

(1) such notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce; and

(2)(A) a seal of office, as symbol of the notary public’s authority, is used in the notarization; or

(B) in the case of an electronic record, the seal information is securely attached to, or logically associated with, the electronic record so as to render the record tamper-resistant.

SEC. 3. RECOGNITION OF NOTARIZATIONS IN STATE COURTS.

Each court that operates under the jurisdiction of a State shall recognize any lawful notarization made by a notary public licensed or commissioned under the laws of a State other than the State where the court is located if—

(1) such notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce; and

(2)(A) a seal of office, as symbol of the notary public’s authority, is used in the notarization; or

(B) in the case of an electronic record, the seal information is securely attached to, or logically associated with, the electronic record so as to render the record tamper-resistant.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ELECTRONIC RECORD.**—The term “electronic record” has the meaning given that term in section 106 of the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (15 U.S.C. 7006).

(2) **LOGICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH.**—Seal information is “logically associated with” an electronic record if the seal information is securely bound to the electronic record in such a manner as to make it impracticable to falsify or alter, without detection, either the record or the seal information.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that 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 gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 3808, the Interstate Recognition of Notarizations Act of 2009, requires all Federal and State courts to recognize documents lawfully notarized in any State of the Union when interstate commerce is involved. An identical version of this bill passed the House in 2007.

A notary public has the professional expertise to verify the identity of the signatory to a document and ensure that it was willingly signed. Notary publics are a critical first line of defense against fraud. Although notarization serves the same purposes in all States, there are differences in State laws governing notarization, and also varying technical formalities. That makes it difficult for a State to recognize an out-of-state notarization.

For example, some States dictate that ink seals must be used, while others require embossers. Some States require very specific language in the acknowledgment certificate, and thus the language used in other States may not be acceptable. Such technical differences between State law hinder the recognition of documents that were lawfully notarized in the State in which the notarization was performed, and this can cause unnecessary delays that impact important legal rights and interstate commerce.

The fact that some States do not recognize documents lawfully notarized in other States also presents a constitutional issue. The U.S. Constitution requires that each State give full faith and credit to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State. The 21st century affords advances in transportation and telecommunications that have expanded the ability of individuals and businesses to conduct their affairs across State boundaries. The laws governing notarization should not be permitted to continue encumbering their ability to do so.

By giving those laws reciprocal recognition, effectively harmonizing them, H.R. 3808 will bring those laws within the spirit of the Constitution’s vision and bring much needed relief from antiquated formalities.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, at the outset I want to thank the sponsor of the bill, Representative ADERHOLT, for his persistence and patience. This is the third time the full House has considered his

bill to streamline the use of notarized documents across State lines, and I hope this will be the last, followed by the Senate, and then enactment.

H.R. 3808 eliminates unnecessary impediments in handling the everyday transactions of individuals and businesses.

Many documents executed and notarized in one state, either by design or happenstance, find their way into neighboring or more distant states.

If ultimately needed in any one of the latter jurisdictions to support or defend a claim in court, that document should not be refused admission solely on the ground it was not notarized in the state where the court sits.

H.R. 3808 ensures this will not happen.

A notarization in and of itself neither validates a document nor speaks to the truthfulness or accuracy of its contents.

The notarization serves a different function—it verifies that a document signer is who he or she purports to be and has willingly signed the document.

By executing the notarial certificate, the notary public, as a disinterested party to the transaction, informs all other parties relying on or using the document that it is the act of the person who signed it.

Consistent with the vital significance of the notarial act, H.R. 3808 compels a court to accept the authenticity of the document even though the notarization was performed in a state other than where the forum is located.

Madam Speaker, much of the testimony we received at our Subcommittee hearing on the bill in 2006 addressed the silliness of one state not accepting the validity of another state’s notarized document in an interstate legal proceeding.

Some of the examples were based on petty reasons. For instance, one state requires a notary to affix an ink stamp to a document, an act that is not recognized in a sister state that requires documents to be notarized with a raised, embossed seal.

Passing the bill will streamline interstate commercial and legal transactions consistent with the guarantees of the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the Constitution.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members to support H.R. 3808.

I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the chairman’s support for this legislation to be brought to the floor, and of course the support of Ranking Member SMITH on this legislation as well. Without it, this legislation, we would not be here today where we are.

One other person who has been very supportive and who actually brought this to my attention several years ago is my friend MIKE TURNER, from Birmingham. We’ve worked together on this to try to resolve this issue through the United States Congress, and so here we are, as mentioned, the third time to try to resolve this.

There is an old saying, “The third time’s the charm,” and I am hopeful today that saying holds true. As my colleagues who serve on the Judiciary Committee are well aware, today marks the third time that the House of