

And while we work here in the House and the Senate to enact much broader and sweeping policies to try to promote renewable energy development around this country, we need to also recognize that in some parts of this Nation there are some very locally produced, locally driven projects like this one in Canton and Avon, Connecticut, that can produce some pretty immediate effects for local rate payers, providing them with clean, renewable, locally produced and locally run energy.

I would like to thank Chairman WAXMAN and Chairman MARKEY and Ranking Members BARTON and UPTON for their help in bringing this legislation to the floor. And I urge passage today of H.R. 4451.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today on behalf of our side of the aisle of the Energy and Commerce Committee and report that we have absolutely no opposition and actually support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, today we are considering the Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act. This bill was considered in a markup of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Environment on March 24, and in a markup of the full committee on May 26, both times passing by a voice vote.

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The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as FERC, to reinstate the terminated licenses for the Upper and Lower Collinsville Dams hydroelectric projects, and to extend for 2 years after the date of any such reinstatement the date by which the licensee is required to commence construction, and, in the event that FERC reinstates the licenses, to require FERC to transfer such licenses to the town of Canton, Connecticut.

I commend Representative MURPHY for offering an amendment in the nature of a substitute at the full committee markup that made two important changes. The first is requiring FERC to provide an opportunity for the submission of comments by interested persons before reinstating one or both of the terminated licenses. Therefore, interested parties will have an opportunity to address any concerns with FERC. And the second is to include a new Section 6 which would clarify that nothing in H.R. 4451 would diminish or extinguish any existing rights under such license.

Mr. Speaker, this bill has no direct cost. We are in support of the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his support of the bill and for working with us in providing the amendments that he referenced. I think it is important to underscore his point, that this is not a requirement that FERC reissue these licenses to the town of Canton, it is permissive language allowing them

to do that given proper environmental review and proper availability of comment from other interested parties.

This really is an example of how local power production can be done right. This is a nonpartisan local issue, Democrats and Republicans at the local and State level, along with the administration in the State of Connecticut coming together, to try to promote a project to bring two long-dormant dams online.

I would note also that the reconstruction of the dams will allow for potential fish passage along a stream that has not allowed for that passage for a long time. There are multiple benefits to the community and to ratepayers. I thank the gentleman for his support of the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a bill that I believe has been given far too little attention by the Congress, especially considering the potential precedent that it may set.

H.R. 4451, the Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act allows the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to transfer the permit for a hydro-electric power plant once held by a private company into the hands of a public municipality. This bill went through the Energy & Commerce Committee, although I could hardly say it received regular order consideration. When this legislation was first presented to us at the subcommittee level, Members were told it was a non-controversial bill, and that all the interested parties agreed with the actions being taken.

Members of the Energy & Commerce Committee subsequently learned otherwise when the company involved, Summit Hydro, LLC, told my office that not only were they opposed to the transfer of these permits, but that they were not even told our Committee was considering the legislation. I find it outrageous that this Congress would move ahead with transferring a privately-held permit to a public entity without so much as a legislative hearing.

Despite my objections at the Committee level, voicing concerns that no hearing had been held, the Majority pushed this legislation forward.

I am disheartened that this legislation was moved by the full House today, and hope that the Senate will provide Summit Hydro, LLC the proper deference in defending its actions and explaining its story before this bill becomes law and becomes yet another example of government taking over actions more properly suited for the private sector.

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

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCGOVERN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4451, 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.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS 101ST ANNIVERSARY

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 242) honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 101st anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 242

Whereas the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (referred to in this resolution as the "NAACP"), originally known as the National Negro Committee, was founded in New York City on February 12, 1909, the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth, by a multiracial group of activists who met in a national conference to discuss the civil and political rights of African-Americans;

Whereas the NAACP was founded by a distinguished group of leaders in the struggle for civil and political liberty, including Ida Wells-Barnett, W.E.B. DuBois, Henry Moscowitz, Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villard, and William English Walling;

Whereas the NAACP is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States;

Whereas the NAACP National Headquarters is located in Baltimore, Maryland;

Whereas the mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination;

Whereas the NAACP is committed to achieving its goals through nonviolence;

Whereas the NAACP advances its mission through reliance upon the press, the petition, the ballot, and the courts, and has been persistent in the use of legal and moral persuasion, even in the face of overt and violent racial hostility;

Whereas the NAACP has used political pressure, marches, demonstrations, and effective lobbying to serve as the voice, as well as the shield, for minority Americans;

Whereas after years of fighting segregation in public schools, the NAACP, under the leadership of Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall, won one of its greatest legal victories in the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954);

Whereas in 1955, NAACP member Rosa Parks was arrested and fined for refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama—an act of courage that would serve as the catalyst for the largest grassroots civil rights movement in the history of the United States;

Whereas the NAACP was prominent in lobbying for the passage of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, and 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, César E. Chávez, Barbara C. Jordan, William C. Velásquez, and Dr. Hector P. Garcia Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006, and the Fair Housing Act, laws that ensured Government protection for legal victories achieved;

Whereas in 2005, the NAACP launched the Disaster Relief Fund to help survivors in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Florida, and Alabama to rebuild their lives;

Whereas in the 110th Congress, the NAACP was prominent in lobbying for the passage of H. Res. 826, whose resolved clause expresses that: (1) the hanging of nooses is a horrible

act when used for the purpose of intimidation and which under certain circumstances can be criminal; (2) this conduct should be investigated thoroughly by Federal authorities; and (3) any criminal violations should be vigorously prosecuted;

Whereas in 2008, the NAACP vigorously supported the passage of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act of 2007, a law that puts additional Federal resources into solving the heinous crimes that occurred in the early days of the civil rights struggle that remain unsolved and bringing those who perpetrated such crimes to justice;

Whereas the NAACP has helped usher in the new millennium by charting a bold course, beginning with the appointment of the organization's youngest President and Chief Executive Officer, Benjamin Todd Jealous, and by outlining a strategic plan to confront 21st century challenges in the critical areas of health, education, housing, criminal justice, and environment; and

Whereas, on July 16, 2009, the NAACP celebrated its centennial anniversary in New York City, highlighting an extraordinary century of Bold Dreams, Big Victories with a historic address from the first African-American president of the United States, Barack Obama: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes the 101st anniversary of the historic founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and

(2) honors and praises the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its anniversary for its work to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all persons.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 242 honors one of our Nation's oldest and most esteemed civil rights organizations, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, known as the NAACP, also known as the conscience of the United States Congress.

This year, the NAACP celebrates its 101st anniversary, and its ongoing efforts to promote justice and equality for all Americans; not just Americans of color, but all Americans.

I salute the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) the sponsor of this resolution, and the former president of the Houston branch of the NAACP, for his continued commitment to recognizing the NAACP for its historical and contemporary civil rights contributions.

As we celebrate the Nation's pre-eminent civil rights organization on its

101st anniversary, I would like to reflect on a few bits of history concerning the NAACP.

First, I would like to acknowledge its history which began February 12, 1909, when the organization was formed by Ida Wells-Barnett, W.E.B. DuBois, Henry Moscowitz, Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villiard, and William English Walling, a biracial group that consisted of Christians and Jews.

It is a history that includes some of the most significant moments in our Nation's great story where we come to a more perfect union, like the 1954 case of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, the landmark Supreme Court case that ended the separate but equal fallacies that our government and laws labored under, and chief counsel was Thurgood Marshall, later one of the great justices of our Supreme Court.

The NAACP's contributions also have included support for and rallying and lobbying for the 1957, 1960, and 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act and the 1968 Fair Housing Act where Clarence Mitchell led the way with the NAACP. And of course the court case that the NAACP was involved in, *Loving v. Virginia*, which turned over the miscegenation laws in this country in 1967, an aberrant set of laws that are precursors to other laws that still are in debate in this Nation today.

But the fight didn't end there; which brings me to my second point. Today, we are reminded of the NAACP's mission, to ensure equality of rights of all persons, and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination. It is as important and relevant as it was decades ago. Just this year, a hate crimes law was passed that ensured that there was not discrimination based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or other distinguishing characteristics, and the NAACP was there in great support.

The NAACP is engaged in battles on multiple fronts on its 101st anniversary. Its dedicated team is leading the charge in addressing issues that disproportionately impact communities of color. The NAACP advocates for equality in education, influences the debate on environmental justice, works to end disparities in the criminal justice system, racial profiling and other types of injustices.

In addition, the NAACP is working to prevent families from losing their piece of the American dream during this housing crisis, by working with financial institutions to change the mortgage lending practices that helped bring on this crisis. They are party to a lawsuit against Wells Fargo in Baltimore County, Maryland, and also in Memphis, Tennessee. Improving fair credit access, supporting sustainable home ownership, and promoting financial literacy for disadvantaged communities are among their other great priorities.

The NAACP was supportive of the resolution that the 110th Congress

passed, for the first time in our Nation's history apologizing for slavery and Jim Crow laws, and to make clear that the vestiges of Jim Crow and slavery would be affected by the future Congresses.

Today's commemoration of the NAACP's 101st anniversary occurs as the organization prepares for its convention, "One Nation, One Dream," in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 10-15. At that time, hundreds of NAACP members and leaders will consider bold and innovative approaches to tackling the challenges we face in the 21st century.

Among those leaders will be President Benjamin Todd Jealous, present Chairwoman Roslyn Brock, former Chairman Julian Bond, Washington Bureau Director Hilary Shelton, and Detroit Branch President Wendell Anthony, who have exhibited fearless dedication to build on the NAACP's great legacy. This legacy includes many great heroes, such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., of whom a bust is in our Capitol Rotunda; Coretta Scott King, his widow; Rosa Parks; Medgar Evers; Benjamin Hooks; and many others. I must mention some great leaders from my hometown of Memphis: Vasoc and Maxine Smith; Jesse Turner, Sr.; Jesse Turner, Jr.; Russell Sugarman; A.W. Willis; Johnny Turner; and others.

Their unwavering commitment to protect and promote civil rights for all Americans is a proud tradition that the NAACP continues today. I am a life member of the NAACP, and proud of it. I encourage others to support the NAACP in their efforts to make the American dream true for all. I congratulate the NAACP on its 101st milestone, and I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this resolution recognizes the 101st anniversary of the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This resolution also praises the NAACP for its work to secure the political, educational, social and economic equality of all persons.

The NAACP was founded on February 12, 1909, in New York City. It was the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth. The NAACP is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States today.

In 1913, the NAACP organized opposition to racial segregation in Federal Government offices. The NAACP also played a key role in securing the rights of African Americans to serve as officers in World War I. Throughout the past century, the NAACP has worked to achieve equality of rights for all persons through nonviolence. The NAACP's mission also includes the elimination of racial hatred and racial discrimination.

After World War I, for example, the NAACP expended significant resources

in an effort to combat the lynching of African Americans throughout the United States. The NAACP centered its efforts around education and lobbying for legislation.

In later years, the NAACP's leadership was instrumental in bringing about the passage of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960 and 1964; the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and the desegregation of public schools in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954.

The NAACP continues to work on behalf of this worthy mission for the rights of all people today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN), the sponsor of this resolution and the former president of the Houston branch of the NAACP.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I especially want to thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) for working with us on this resolution. I especially want to thank the ranking member, Mr. SMITH, for his working with us on the resolution, and I also want to give an extra special thanks to Mr. SENSENBRENNER because the first time we introduced this resolution he was the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and he was very helpful not only up front in helping me with the resolution, but also behind the scenes making sure that we got the resolution through the House. Mr. SENSENBRENNER, I will be forever grateful to you.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to present this resolution because the NAACP stands for what America stands for, and that is liberty and justice for all.

The NAACP was founded in 1909, as was indicated, by a diverse group of Americans. It is important to note that the NAACP has always been an integrated organization. From its inception, it has been an integrated organization.

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While I applaud all that has been done by the African Americans who have been a part of the NAACP, I have to also make mention of the many other persons who are not African Americans, because we simply did not get here by ourselves. There were persons of good will of all ethnicities who have been of benefit to us to help us have these opportunities that we have today. So today we want to thank persons who were members of the NAACP at its inception, but also persons who helped to bring the NAACP along the way.

James Weldon Johnson was the first African American executive secretary of the NAACP. But it's important to note that prior to his becoming the first, there were five other executive

secretaries, none of whom were African American.

It's important to note that the NAACP accords an award annually. It is known as the Spingarn Medal. This is given to a person who has made great achievements in the area of helping the human rights and civil rights struggle. It is important to note that the Spingarn Medal is named after Joel Spingarn. The Spingarn family was a great contributor to the NAACP. In fact, Thurgood Marshall was a great litigator in part because of other persons who made contributions to the NAACP. They were great contributors, and as a result we had this litigation to go forward. The NAACP is an organization that welcomes anyone who desires to be a part of the fight for human dignity and human freedom.

I believe that the NAACP merits this special expression from the Congress of the United States of America, and I also believe that we should thank Senator DODD, because he has the Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3 that has 15 Senators who have signed onto it, and that will hopefully pass the Senate.

I am asking all of my colleagues to please support this legislation because the NAACP made it possible for us to sleep where we sleep, because of *Shelley v. Kraemer* and *Barrows v. Jackson*. It allows us to eat where we eat because of *Brown v. Board of Education* and other cases associated with it. So, literally, we live where we live, we sleep where we sleep, and we eat where we eat because of the NAACP. It has earned the right to be recognized by the Congress of the United States of America, and I beg that my colleagues would support this resolution.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the work of Congressman GREEN from Houston. And when I look at him and I look at Mr. SMITH, I think about my weekend trip this past weekend. I went to Austin, Texas. And when I was in Austin, I was at the Barbara Jordan Airport, and in the baggage area on the ground floor, there is a statue of Barbara Jordan in her regal splendor. And what a great member of the NAACP she was, and what a great American.

Ms. WATSON requests some time. I would be pleased if she would contribute. I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, and to the authors and cosponsors of this resolution, I just want to add to the testimony that you have already heard in support of this resolution commending the NAACP, that many of us would not be here if not for the work and the support of others of the NAACP.

I am a case in point. I remember being elected as the first African American woman to the second largest school board in the United States, that's LA Unified School District, and in the California State Senate as the first ever. And I was so proud that members came to me to show me their membership in the NAACP.

I then knew that the work that was done over 100 years ago was of such vision for the future of this country, and particularly my State of California, the largest in the Union, and the first State to be a majority of minorities, that that vision, that hard work, that dedication brought about justice so that the State of California and the United States of America could be reflective of who we are as a people. The justice, the fairness, the freedom, the liberty all came about for people like me because of this organization and others who supported it.

So I am pleased, I am pleased, and I do hope that all men and women of fair mindedness with division will support wholeheartedly this resolution.

Thank you, Congressman.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for over 100 years the mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has been to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights for all people, as well as to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination. This organization has always envisioned a society where all barriers of racial discrimination are removed through the democratic processes, as well as to ensure equality for all Americans. Throughout the past 101 years, the NAACP has faithfully adhered to its mission.

Founded on February 12, 1909, President Lincoln's 100th birthday, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and most recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization. It was established in response to the lynchings that were committed against blacks throughout the country. Today, the NAACP's more than half-million members and supporters are still the premier advocates for civil rights and equality in their respective communities.

Over the last century, the talents of the NAACP's collective membership have enabled it to overcome numerous adversities and obstacles. After 101 years of setbacks and successes, this organization currently bears witness to numerous advancements that may not have been made possible if it were not for the collective voices and willpower of NAACP supporters past and present.

It is hard to imagine where our country would be today if it had not been for the courageous men and women in the NAACP who risked their lives and livelihoods in order to promote equality.

It is hard to imagine where this country would be if the NAACP had not tirelessly fought for improved equality for African-Americans.

It is hard to imagine where this great country would be if it were not for the courageous men and women who fought to promote the rights of everyone, regardless of the color of their skin.

Indeed, it is hard to imagine our country without the NAACP. My own life would not be the same if it were not for those individuals who stood up for equality and sought to form a more perfect union.

I want to congratulate the NAACP on its 101 years of service to our country and for all of its many accomplishments. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I'm a proud lifelong member of the NAACP, and today I join my colleagues in celebrating its 101st anniversary.

The Monterey County Branch of the NAACP was created in 1932. Our chapter now ranks as one of the largest per capita branches in the United States and has been active in education and law—and we're all better for it. In 1947, the Fort Ord Army training base in Seaside, CA—one of the largest bases in the U.S.—was the first military base in the United States to be integrated.

As we recognize the great achievements of one of America's finest organizations, let us not forget that the struggle continues. Our country was founded on the ideal of equality for all, with the self-evident right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

I want to thank the NAACP for 101 years of hard work. You've made America a stronger and better nation. I especially want to thank my constituent, Ben Jealous, now the youngest national president of the NAACP. Your work continues, but we congratulate you on this historic day.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 242.

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. COHEN. 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 THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ON ITS 140TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1422) honoring the Department of Justice on the occasion of its 140th anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1422

Whereas the Department of Justice officially came into existence on July 1, 1870, through an Act of Congress establishing it as "an executive department of the government of the United States" with the Attorney General as its head;

Whereas pursuant to the Act, the Department was charged with providing the means for enforcing Federal laws, furnishing legal counsel in Federal cases, and construing the laws under which other Federal executive departments act;

Whereas there are currently 93 United States attorneys stationed throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands, serving as the Nation's principal litigators and chief Federal law enforcement officials for their specific region, under the direction of the Attorney General;

Whereas the Department of Justice comprises 7 specialized divisions, including the Antitrust Division, Civil Division, Civil Rights Division, Criminal Division, Environment and Natural Resources Division, National Security Division and the Tax Division, also including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Prisons, the United States Marshals Service, the U.S. Central Bureau-International Criminal Police Organization, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Office of Justice Programs;

Whereas in 2006, the Department of Justice recognized the danger threatening the United States due to technology-assisted exploitation crimes targeting children, and responded by launching Project Safe Childhood, an effort which has resulted in record numbers of arrests and prosecutions of individuals who seek to commit sexual crimes against children;

Whereas in the past decade the Department of Justice has obtained approximately 1,300 convictions for financial crimes;

Whereas the Department of Justice responded to the significant increase in the number of firearms-related violent crimes in small geographic areas by creating the Violent Crime Impact Team (VCIT) initiative and since 2004 has arrested more than 14,100 gang members, drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and other violent criminals, including more than 2,800 identified as "worst of the worst" criminals;

Whereas the Department of Justice plays a key role in the fight against international drug trafficking;

Whereas in the past 8 years, the Department of Justice has disrupted 8, and dismantled 2, Priority Target Organizations (PTOs);

Whereas Operation FALCON (Federal and Local Cops Organized Nationally) is a series of nationwide fugitive apprehension operations coordinated by the Department of Justice, and has resulted in the collective capture of more than 55,896 dangerous fugitive felons since its inception in 2005;

Whereas since 2004, the Department of Justice has led the 2 largest multinational law enforcement efforts ever directed at online piracy, involving simultaneous efforts in 12 countries, more than 200 searches and arrests in more than 30 States, more than \$100,000,000 in seized pirated works, and a total of 112 felony convictions to date; and

Whereas the Department of Justice's accomplishments are numerous and have played a significant part in securing the safety and security of the families and communities of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the Department of Justice on the occasion of its 140th anniversary;

(2) commends the men and women of the Department of Justice for their tireless commitment to pursuing justice, combating major domestic and international crimes, ensuring civil liberties, and protecting the people of the United States; and

(3) encourages the Department of Justice to continue its mission of pursuing the administration of justice for all people in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. I ask unanimous consent all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 1422 recognizes the 140th anniversary of the creation of the Department of Justice. Since 1870, the Department has been tasked with enforcing our laws, providing Federal leadership in securing the public safety, and ensuring the fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.

The Department has long been served with distinction and courage by attorneys, investigators, and prosecutors at Main Justice and in the field. Its divisions and components do important work for the American people in criminal law, civil litigation, environmental law, antitrust law, tax law, and administration of justice-related grants. We especially appreciate the efforts and sacrifices of the law enforcement officers serving in components such as the FBI, DEA, ATF, and the U.S. Marshals office.

I would like to highlight three important points today as we commemorate the 140th anniversary of the Department. First, the Department has played an integral part in promoting justice for all Americans. Since its creation, the Department has handled the legal business of the United States, with control over all criminal prosecutions and civil suits in which the United States has an interest.

Through the Civil Rights Division, the Department enforces Federal law, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, religion, familial status, and national origin. Following the landmark Civil Rights Acts of the 1960s, the Department of Justice used its newfound authority to initiate desegregation of school districts across this Nation. And through its enforcement of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Department helped curtail the injustice of African American voters being prevented from exercising what is an American right, the right to vote.

The Justice Department also continues to vigorously enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act, to ensure that people living with disabilities are not discriminated against in employment, by public entities and transportation, or in public accommodations.

The great strides we have made in securing rights for all Americans to attain an education, access the voting booth, and secure jobs and housing, regardless of race, gender, or national origin, are in no small part due to the thanks of the Department of Justice.

Second, the Department has played an important role in protecting Americans from acts of terrorism, whether