

important milestone in bringing law and order to Mississippi with respect to African American civil rights. Agent Moore's efforts resulted in 19 people being indicted in 1967 for violating the civil rights of these three gentlemen. Ultimately, seven men were tried and convicted. Roy Moore served 34 years with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and died on October 12, 2008, at the age of 94.

It is fitting that we honor the memories of these young men and the memory of the FBI agent responsible for leading the investigation of their disappearances by designating the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building.

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

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, we are a very young Nation, but it is so crucial that we remember our history and that we honor our martyrs. This is one of those examples when we have a great opportunity to do both.

These individuals gave their lives for the rights that we, frankly, take for granted now and that we hold so dear. Special Agent Moore ensured that the rule of law was enforced and that those murderers were brought to justice, so I think that it is fitting and appropriate to honor these men by naming the FBI building in Jackson, Mississippi, after them. I also support the Senate amendment, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3562, an act to designate the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building.

Madam Speaker, 45 years ago, three young men lost their lives while attempting to organize and register voters during that time known as Freedom Summer. These men were James Chaney, a 21-year-old man from Meridian, Mississippi; Andrew Goodman, a 20-year-old college student from New York; and Michael Schwerner, a 24-year-old CORE organizer and social worker who was also from New York.

On July 21, 1964, the three men were driving from Meridian, Mississippi, to Longdale, Mississippi, to investigate the burning of Mount Zion United Methodist Church, which had been the meeting place for numerous civil rights

groups. Along their journey, the trio was stopped by a Neshoba County deputy who was also a known member of the Ku Klux Klan. Subsequently, the three young men were arrested for speeding and were held without the use of a telephone at the Neshoba County jail. Hours later, they were fined and released.

Shortly after the trio continued their journey, they were again pulled over by the sheriff's deputy, who likely unbeknownst to them, was followed by a mob of Klansmen who had assembled to abduct and kill the men. The three individuals were taken to a remote area of the county and were beaten and killed. Their car was burned, and their bodies were buried in an earthen dam.

Days after their disappearances, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover personally selected Agent Roy K. Moore to lead the investigation effort. Agent Moore had become renowned for his investigation of the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, which killed four young girls. As the investigation's lead agent, Moore was charged with commanding hundreds of agents who temporarily flooded the State—many of them reluctant to do their work.

After significant investigation by Agent Moore and the FBI, the three individuals' bodies were found on August 4, 1964. Due to Mississippi's officials' refusal to prosecute the individuals for murder, the Justice Department brought charges against 17 individuals for conspiracy to deprive the three workers of their civil rights. Seven of the 17 individuals were found guilty, but none of them served terms longer than 6 years in jail.

Finally, on June 21, 2005, a Neshoba County jury convicted Edgar Ray Killen on three counts of manslaughter and sentenced him to three consecutive terms of 20 years in prison in connection with the deaths of these young men.

The murder of James Chaney, who was black, and the murders of Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, who were both Jewish, attracted national attention to the reality of the State's racial problems. As a result of their deaths, there was more pressure on the Federal Government to pass the Voting Rights Act.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the House for quickly moving this legislation after it was returned from the Senate.

The struggle for justice and equality has eternally bonded James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore. Today, Congress will act to link their legacy to Mississippi's newest symbol of justice and equality.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3562, which designates the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "James Chaney,

Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building".

This bill, as originally passed by the House, named this Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI, facility in Jackson after James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, civil rights activists who were lynched in the summer of 1964 while attempting to organize African Americans to vote and pursue other civil rights in Mississippi. On June 21, 1964, the three men drove to Longdale, Mississippi, to investigate the site of a burned church in Neshoba County. They were arrested by the Neshoba County police as they were leaving the site and held by the police for several hours. They were later released only to be re-arrested shortly thereafter. After the second arrest, the Neshoba County police officer turned the three civil rights activists over to local Klansmen. On August 4, 1964, 44 days later, their bodies were found buried in an earthen dam near Philadelphia, Mississippi. The Senate amendment to H.R. 3562 adds FBI Agent Roy K. Moore to the building name.

Agent Roy Moore was personally picked by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to lead the investigation into the deaths of these young men. Nineteen men were later indicted; seven were tried and convicted. Agent Moore said the FBI would be there until it broke the back of the Ku Klux Klan, reestablished the rule of law at the local level, and enforced the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Senate amendment to H.R. 3562.

□ 1330

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, again, this is an important piece of legislation, and I would urge its support.

With that, I would yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I support this legislation, move that it pass, and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 3562.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam 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.

ROBERT M. BALL FEDERAL BUILDING

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5773) to designate the Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building," as amended.

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

H.R. 5773

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, commonly known as the Social Security Administration Operations Building, shall be known and designated as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5773.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5773, as amended, which designates the Social Security Operations Building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, as the Robert M. Ball Federal Building.

Commissioner Ball was often described in press accounts as not only the longest serving Social Security Commissioner, but also as chief advocate and defender through the years. Commissioner Ball started with the Social Security Administration as a field assistant in 1939 in New Jersey for the Social Security Administration, eventually becoming the Social Security Administrator from 1962 to 1973.

After Commissioner Ball left the Social Security Administration, he continued to have an outsized role in shaping the program. In 1981, he served as a member of the National Commission on Social Security Reform, arguing for a mix of tax increases and benefit cuts to maintain the viability of Social Security. Commissioner Ball was an outspoken opponent of any attempts to dismantle Social Security or to privatize Social Security. Commissioner Robert M. Ball died January 29, 2008.

Given Commissioner Ball's exceptional public service and dedication to the Social Security Administration, it is fitting to honor him by naming the Operations Facility of the Social Security Administration located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Mary-

land, as the Robert M. Ball Federal Building. I urge support of my colleagues.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Ball served as Commissioner of Social Security during the Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon administrations, and even in 1981, he served on the Greenspan Commission that was created by President Reagan to examine the Social Security system. So I think it speaks obviously very well for him; his expertise was tapped by both Republicans and Democratic administrations. It seems fitting, Madam Speaker, that we name a Social Security building after him in recognition for his dedication to that agency.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY).

Mr. POMEROY. I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

Madam Speaker, normally I don't come to the floor to add to a building naming that's flying through, but I want to put into the RECORD my thoughts about Bob Ball, one of the most remarkable people I have ever met. And there is no one I have met whose public sector contribution I admire more. Naming this building on the campus of Social Security, a building that has so much of the daily delivery of the Social Security benefit to the American people, having this building carry his name is just so utterly appropriate.

Bob Ball, through his entire service, had a clear vision of Social Security. It comes down to simply this: If all of us protected each of us, the lives of tens of millions would be improved and our country would be stronger as a result.

He was the most influential proponent of social insurance our country has ever had. He was a leading thinker, a gifted administrator, a skilled political operative, an irresistible advocate, an exceptional teacher, and I can tell you personally he was a very wise mentor.

Of all of his remarkable abilities and traits, perhaps the one we will remember most was his dogged persistence. He stayed on task and made valuable contributions to Social Security through six decades of service. Bob knew what his mission was and he never wavered in pursuit of it. By the time he resigned as Administrator of Social Security, he had literally worked at the agency for 37 years. He was the longest tenured administrator serving under three different Presidents of two political parties.

Now, when he retired after 37 years, you might think, well, there he goes riding off into the sunset, job well done. Well, Bob indicated another inclination. In fact, he wrote in his letter

of resignation to President Nixon, "I will continue to be available for whatever help I can give promoting the sound development and sound administration of this important program."

As the preceding speaker said already, he served on the committee that ultimately worked the long-term solvency package for Social Security out in 1983, and he continued to work right until his final days—at the ripe age of 93—on advancing this notion of Social Security for the American people.

There is nobody I can think of more deserving of the perpetuating honor memorializing his life and his work than Bob Ball, and I am just delighted with this resolution and urge Members' support.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5773, as amended, which names the operations building on the Social Security Woodlawn campus in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building", after former Social Security Administrator, Robert M. Ball.

Robert M. Ball dedicated his professional life to Social Security and its beneficiaries, serving as Commissioner of Social Security from 1962 to 1973, spanning the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations. During his tenure in a variety of senior executive positions at the Social Security Administration, both the disability program and Medicare were enacted into law, and Commissioner Ball played a significant role in creating, securing enactment of, and implementing both of these landmark pieces of legislation.

Commissioner Ball, after retiring from public service in 1972, remained active and engaged in social security issues and policy. In 1981–83, he served on the Commission on Social Security Reform. Mr. Ball was instrumental in working out a compromise among Commission members, that led to the Social Security Act Amendments of 1983, which restored solvency to the Social Security Trust Fund. These amendments remain the most substantive changes to the social security system in the last 30 years.

Recognizing the contributions of Robert M. Ball to the Social Security system by naming the Operations Building at the Social Security Woodlawn campus is a fitting and apt tribute to this public servant who one historian describes as "the major non-Congressional player in the history of Social Security in the period between 1950 and the present."

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5773.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I introduced H.R. 5773 to name the Social Security Operations Building in Baltimore in honor of Robert "Bob" Ball, a man who dedicated his career to defending and strengthening Social Security and who helped to expand the safety net for our Nation's seniors by supporting the creation of Medicare.

Mr. Ball's legacy of service makes it truly fitting that we designate the Social Security Operations Building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building."

Mr. Ball helped build Social Security from the ground up.

In 1939, he started working for the newly formed Social Security Board as a field assistant in Newark, New Jersey.

His experiences in the field demonstrated to him that Social Security was meant to be a contract between the generations enacted to ensure that retired seniors could avoid poverty in their later years. Mr. Ball's dedication to this basic principle guided all of his future work.

In 1949, Mr. Ball was appointed assistant director of the Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance. He was subsequently promoted to deputy director and then acting director.

Through these positions, he developed a deep technical expertise in Social Security, learned how Congress works, and developed the relationships with Members of Congress that would enable him to serve as a valued technical resource for decades.

During his tenure, Mr. Ball assisted Congress members in developing the policies that have been essential to ensuring Social Security programs are run responsibly and effectively.

For example, Bob Ball was the architect of the 1950 amendments raising Social Security benefits and expanding coverage to more Americans, including such groups as the self-employed, and making it easier for these groups to begin to qualify for benefits.

Ball helped draft the legislation establishing Social Security disability benefits in 1956 and helped Members secure its passage even though the Eisenhower administration opposed this change.

In 1957, Ball helped Representative Aime Forand draft a bill that was essentially the forerunner of the legislation that created Medicare. Ball continued to advocate for health insurance for seniors from that time until Medicare's eventual passage in 1965.

For this and his subsequent work supporting the implementation of the Medicare program, he is also known as the father of Medicare.

President John F. Kennedy appointed Robert M. Ball as commissioner of Social Security in 1962. Mr. Ball served in this post until 1973—longer than anyone else prior or since.

During his service as commissioner, Mr. Ball helped develop the 1972 amendments that linked benefits to inflation, ensuring that Social Security would never fail to meet basic needs.

Robert M. Ball continued to serve Social Security beneficiaries even after leaving government employment through his service on several federal commissions, including the Greenspan Commission in 1983, where he helped broker a compromise that averted a financial crisis and brought decades of financial stability to the Social Security trust fund.

Robert Ball was described by *American Scholar* magazine in 2005 as Social Security's "biggest thinker, longest-serving commissioner and undisputed spiritual leader" and as "Social Security's chief advocate and defender."

I cannot imagine a better tribute to a man who dedicated his life to the health and welfare of others than that his name be permanently attached to the building where Social Security operates.

As I close, I thank my colleagues from Maryland who have co-sponsored this legislation as well as Chairman OBERSTAR, Ranking Member MICA, and my colleagues in the Transportation and Infrastructure committee for working with me to move this legislation.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I simply ask for support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5773, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, commonly known Social Security Administration Operations Building, as the 'Robert M. Ball Federal Building'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1340

OBSERVING FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE RITA

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1583) observing the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas, remembering those lost in the storm and in the process of evacuation, recovery, and rebuilding; saluting the dedication of the volunteers who offered assistance in support of those affected by the storm, recognizing the progress of efforts to rebuild the affected Gulf Coast region, commending the persistence of the people of the States of Louisiana and Texas following the second major hurricane to hit Louisiana that season, and reaffirming Congress' commitment to restore and renew the Gulf Coast region, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1583

Whereas on September 24, 2005, Hurricane Rita made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane just east of the Texas-Louisiana border, between Sabine Pass and Johnson's Bayou, with wind speeds of 120 miles per hour, and further devastated the Gulf Coast;

Whereas Hurricane Rita caused 7 deaths, forced 3,000,000 residents to evacuate their homes, left 1,000,000 people without electricity (according to the National Climatic Data Center), and caused flooding and tornadoes in the States of Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Alabama;

Whereas damages from Hurricane Rita are estimated at \$11,300,000,000;

Whereas in 2005, Hurricane Rita was the second hurricane to reach Category 5 status in the Gulf of Mexico, making it only the third time that more than one Category 5 storm had formed in the Atlantic in the same year (according to the National Climatic Data Center);

Whereas the storm surge from Hurricane Rita was as high as 15 feet near the landfall site and according to the United States Geo-

logical Survey traveled as far as 50 miles inland, causing disastrous flooding and massive loss of property;

Whereas tens of thousands of homes and businesses in Louisiana and Texas were destroyed by the flooding; and

Whereas the United States Geological Survey's National Wetlands Center indicates that 217 square miles of Louisiana's coastal lands were transformed to water after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) observes the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas;

(2) expresses its support to the survivors of Hurricane Rita and condolences to the families of its victims;

(3) commends the courageous efforts of those who assisted in the response to the storm and the recovery process;

(4) recognizes the contributions of the communities in Louisiana and Texas to the United States; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to rebuild, renew, and restore the Gulf Coast region.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous material on H. Res. 1583.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1583, observing the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Rita.

Hurricane Rita made landfall as a category 3 hurricane just east of the Texas and Louisiana border with wind speeds of 120 miles per hour unleashing devastating destruction.

Hurricane Rita directly led to the deaths of at least seven people, left over 1 million people without electricity, and damaged or destroyed hundreds of thousands of homes. In addition to this devastation the storm caused in Texas and Louisiana, it also caused flooding and tornadoes in the States of Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Total damages from the storm are estimated to be over \$11 billion.

Hurricane Rita also led to one of the largest evacuations in United States history. Prior to making landfall, Hurricane Rita set a record as the most intense hurricane ever in the Gulf of Mexico. The storm also set a record for the most rapid intensification for any tropical cyclone, as it strengthened from a category 2 hurricane to a category 5 hurricane in less than a day.

All of these factors, coming less than a month after Hurricane Katrina, prompted 3 million residents to evacuate their homes. In many instances,