

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

H.R. 5758

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

SECTION 1. SERGEANT ROBERT BARRETT POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) **DESIGNATION.**—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Government Center in Fall River, Massachusetts, shall be known and designated as the “Sergeant Robert Barrett 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 “Sergeant Robert Barrett Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5758. This measure designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Government Center in Fall River, Massachusetts, as the Sergeant Robert Barrett Post Office Building.

H.R. 5758 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts, Representative BARNEY FRANK, on July 15, 2010. It was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on July 28, 2010, and enjoys the support of the entire Massachusetts delegation to the House.

Sergeant Robert Barrett was a member of the 1st Battalion, 101st Field Artillery Regiment of Fall River. He had served as a commanding officer in his high school's junior ROTC and was head of its honor guard.

After graduating, he enlisted in the Army National Guard. He served in the honor guard for a time, including at the inauguration of President Obama, as a member of the Massachusetts National Honor Guard's volunteer regiment.

Sergeant Barrett was stationed as a part of a 15-member embedded training team training an Afghan battalion. While on patrol south of Kabul International Airport, Sergeant Barrett was killed by a suicide bomber in an attack that also injured eight others in his battalion. He was 20 years old.

Sergeant Barrett is survived by his parents, Paul and Carlene Barrett; his older sister Rebecca; and his 2-year-old daughter Sophie Alexandra.

Mr. Speaker, let us now take time to honor the service of Sergeant Barrett through the passage of H.R. 5758, which will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Government Center in Fall River, Massachusetts, in his name. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5758 and strongly request support for it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of the legislation, my colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK).

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. I should note that I am speaking on behalf of myself and my colleague with whom I share the honor of representing the city of Fall River, Mr. MCGOVERN, who is at a doctor's appointment now. But he fully joins in these sentiments.

First, I want to thank the committee. As the gentlewoman noted, this bill was introduced at the request of the city government of Fall River in July of this year, so this is very prompt action by the committee, and I appreciate both sides moving so quickly.

As the gentlewoman reported, Sergeant Barrett was a 20-year-old patriotic American with a 2-year-old daughter and a loving family. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, because I attended this funeral, as I have tried to attend the funeral of every one of our service people killed in one of our wars, that he was widely respected, admired and in many cases loved by the people of the city of Fall River. There was great sadness in the city when the news came of his death in the service of his country and when the funeral was held. His high school classmates were deeply grieved by the loss of someone they greatly admired.

I was glad to respond when the city very appropriately asked that we name this post office in his honor. It is a central facility. As the address says, it is the Government Center. It is virtually adjacent to the city hall in Fall River. It is at the center of the town, right at the end of one of our great bridges, the Braga Bridge, which spans the Taunton River. Anybody who drives from anywhere outside of Massachusetts to Cape Cod will drive along that road and will get to see this post office, and I hope will be reminded of the extraordinary sacrifice that the young father, son and brother made on behalf of this country.

So I want to again express my appreciation to the committee and send again my condolences to Sergeant Barrett's family and friends.

It is a sobering moment, Mr. Speaker. I will say this. I have tried, as I know many Members do, to attend, if

it is at all possible, the funeral of those killed in our service. It is sometimes necessary for a Nation to go to war, there is no question about it. There is in the world evil that must be confronted. In Afghanistan, it was an evil that led to the murder of thousands of innocent Americans and hundreds of innocent Africans a few years before at the hands of a murderous thug named Osama bin Laden. But being reminded of the inevitable consequences of going to war, the death of among our best young people and the pain it inflicts on those who survive them, that is a very important part of the education we need to get.

So I will continue. I hope there won't be many more instances, but I will continue whenever I can, if there is a death of someone in the district I represent, to attend, to be reminded that war is both necessary and terrible. We will do it when we have to, but we should always be aware of those consequences.

Again, to those who survive Sergeant Barrett, there is nothing we can do to replace the enormous loss you have suffered with the death of this wonderful young man, but I hope you will know that your country at least understands the depth of that loss and appreciates it.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5758.

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. NORTON. 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.

□ 1440

COMMENDING BOB SHEPPARD

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1529) commending Bob Sheppard for his long and respected career as the public-address announcer for the New York Yankees and the New York Giants.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1529

Whereas Bob Sheppard served as the public-address announcer for the New York Yankees from opening day in 1951 through 2007;

Whereas Bob Sheppard served as the public-address announcer for the New York Giants from 1956 through 2005;

Whereas Bob Sheppard announced at 62 World Series games, 2 All-Star Games, and introduced more than 72 Hall of Famers throughout his career, with his often-heard, booming voice eventually earning him the nickname "The Voice of God";

Whereas Bob Sheppard utilized his great oratory skills not only in the sports arena, but as the chairman of the speech department at John Adams High School in Queens, New York, and as an adjunct professor of speech at St. John's University;

Whereas Bob Sheppard was honored for his 50 memorable years of service as the announcer at Yankee Stadium with "Bob Sheppard Day", celebrated on May 7, 2000, and with a permanent plaque in Monument Park behind Yankee Stadium in the Bronx;

Whereas Bob Sheppard's clear, distinctive voice has set the standard of sports announcing, and has become ingrained in the fans and players as a widely recognized and revered Yankees tradition;

Whereas Bob Sheppard's voice will continue to live on as the recorded introduction of Yankees' shortstop Derek Jeter;

Whereas Bob Sheppard lived for 70 years in Baldwin, New York, and spent 4 years playing in semi-professional football leagues on Long Island, including the Valley Stream Red Raiders and the Hempstead Monitors; and

Whereas Bob Sheppard died on July 11, 2010, at his home in Baldwin, New York, at age 99: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the legacy of Bob Sheppard and his distinctive announcements as a revered tradition not only to the New York Yankees and the New York Giants, but also to the games of baseball and football and the field of sports announcing; and

(2) commends Bob Sheppard for his 52 years of service as a public-address announcer and his long tenure as a speech professor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am proud to present H. Res. 1529 for consideration. This legislation commends Bob Sheppard for his long and respected career as the public-address announcer for the New York Yankees and the New York Giants. Introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative CAROLYN MCCARTHY of New York, on July 15, 2010, H. Res. 1529 was favorably reported out of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee on September 23, 2010. In addition, this legislation enjoys the support of over 50 Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, born on October 20, 1910, in Queens, New York, Bob Sheppard served as the public-address announcer for the New York Yankees from opening day in 1951 through 2007 and was also the PA announcer for the New York Giants from 1956 through 2005. During this period, Mr. Sheppard announced 4,500 Yankees baseball games, including 22 pennant-winning seasons and 13 World Series championships. Additionally, during his half century covering the New York Giants, Mr. Sheppard announced nine conference championships and three NFL championships.

Mr. Sheppard prided himself on being clear, concise, and correct; and his distinctive style earned him the nickname "the voice of God," which was first coined by Yankee Hall-of-Famer Reggie Jackson. Mr. Sheppard's distinctive style has set the standard of sports announcing, and as New York Times writer Richard Goldstein notes, "In an era of blaring stadium music, of public-address announcers styling themselves as entertainers and cheerleaders, Mr. Sheppard, a man with a passion for poetry and Shakespeare, shunned hyperbole."

Notably, Mr. Sheppard did not limit his oratory skills to the baseball diamond and the football field. In fact, he also served as chairman of the speech department at the John Adams High School in Queens and as an adjunct professor of speech at St. John's University in the Bronx. For his tireless dedication to his craft, Mr. Sheppard was elected to the St. John's University Sports Hall of Fame, the Long Island Sports Hall of Fame, and the New York Sports Hall of Fame. He also received honorary doctorates from St. John's University and Fordham University and received the St. John's Medal of Honor, the highest award that the university can confer on a graduate, in 2007.

On May 7, 2000, Mr. Sheppard's legacy was enshrined in Yankee Stadium's Monument Park with a plaque that reads: "Bob Sheppard, the voice of Yankee Stadium. For half a century he has welcomed generations of fans with his trademark greeting, 'Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Yankee Stadium.' His clear, concise, and correct vocal style has announced the names of hundreds of players—both unfamiliar and legendary—with equal divine reference, making him as synonymous with Yankee Stadium as its copper facade and Monument Park." Sadly, on July 11, 2010, Mr. Sheppard passed away at the age of 99 in his home in Baldwin, New York.

Mr. Speaker, let us further honor the life and legacy of Mr. Sheppard through the passage of H. Res. 1529, which recognizes his distinctive style of announcing, influence on the entire field of sports announcing, and also commends him on his 52 years of service as a public-address announcer and speech professor. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1529.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1529, commending Bob Sheppard in his long and respected career.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to have the honor of yielding to the gentlelady from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) so that she has plenty of time to address this item.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I certainly thank my colleague. I want to thank Ms. NORTON and again my colleague and I want to thank everybody on the committee.

I do rise today to ask my colleagues to support H. Res. 1529, commending Bob Sheppard for his long and respected career as the public-address announcer for the New York Yankees and the New York Giants. As someone who has spent my whole life in New York, his voice was very, very distinctive not only to New Yorkers but to many, many of my colleagues across the country.

On July 11, 2010, Mr. Sheppard passed away at the age of 99 in his home in Baldwin, which is part of my district, the Fourth Congressional District in New York. Mr. Sheppard was a constant in sports announcing for over 50 years. His distinctive voice was recognized by both players and fans. Each game began with his trademark cadence—as we in New York kind of talk sometimes funny—"Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to Yankee Stadium."

He performed the role as a public-address announcer at Yankee Stadium from opening day in 1951 through the year 2007, and as the public address announcer for the New York Giants from 1956 through the year 2005. At the age of 62, he announced the World Series games, two All-Star games, and has introduced more than 72 Hall-of-Famers throughout his career. He will always be remembered for his clear, concise, and correct announcements and pronouncements, taking pride in the name of every player he introduced.

Bob Sheppard utilized his great oratory skills not only in the sports arena but, as was mentioned, as the chairman of the speech department at John Adams High School in Queens and as professor of speech at St. John's University. Bob Sheppard was honored for his 50 memorable years of service as the announcer at Yankee Stadium with Bob Sheppard Day, celebrated on May 7, 2000, and with a permanent plaque in Monument Park behind Yankee Stadium in the Bronx. His voice will always continue to live on as the recorded introduction of Yankees' shortstop Derek Jeter.

My resolution serves to recognize the legacy of Bob Sheppard and his distinctive announcing style as a revered tradition not only to the New York Yankees and to the New York Giants, but also, as I said earlier, to the games of baseball and football and the field of

sports announcing. I do want to thank my 52 colleagues, cosponsors of the resolution, including many Members who are fans of other teams. I have to say, though, the majority of us were over a certain age that certainly remembered Bob. Additionally, the resolution commends Mr. Sheppard for his 52 years of service in the field of sports announcing and his dedication to spreading his knowledge and skill through teaching speech at both the high school and the college levels.

Today, we do salute Bob Sheppard. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1529.

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.

□ 1450

JESSE J. MCCRARY, JR. POST OFFICE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5655) to designate the Little River Branch facility of the United States Postal Service located at 140 NE 84th Street in Miami, Florida, as the "Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Post Office."

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5655

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

SECTION 1. JESSE J. MCCRARY, JR. POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Little River Branch facility of the United States Postal Service located at 140 NE 84th Street in Miami, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I present H.R. 5655 for consideration. This measure designates the Little River Branch facility of the United States Postal Service, located at 140 Northeast 84th Street, in Miami, Florida, as the Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Post Office.

H.R. 5655 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Florida, Mr. KENDRICK MEEK, on June 30, 2010. It was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on July 28, 2010. It enjoys the support of the entire Florida delegation to the House.

Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. was the first African American member of the Florida cabinet since the end of Reconstruction, being appointed to that post in 1978. He is also remembered for his work as a civil rights activist, leading lunch counter sit-ins in Tallahassee during his days studying at Florida A&M. Mr. McCrary also had an esteemed legal career, serving as Florida's first African American assistant attorney general in 1967. He was renowned for his knowledge of constitutional law and for his skill at debate and argument.

In 2003, 2 years after Mr. McCrary suffered a disabling stroke, the Florida House passed a resolution honoring him as a "living legend" and as a "pre-eminent authority on constitutional law who won 10 landmark cases presented before the Florida Supreme Court." His colleagues remember him as a dedicated public servant and as a fierce advocate for underserved communities. Sadly, Mr. McCrary died of lung cancer on October 29, 2007.

Mr. Speaker, let us now take time to honor the memory of this great public servant, Jesse J. McCrary, Jr., through the passage of H.R. 5655, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5655, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of the bill, the gentleman from Florida, Representative KENDRICK MEEK.

(Mr. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Mr. Speaker, Jesse McCrary was an outstanding American, and I believe the chair did a very fine job in outlining his track record of what he was able to accomplish on behalf of not only this country, but of the State of Florida. He was a trailblazer in the first of many areas, a barrister of all

barristers in the State of Florida, his memory being one of creating organizations for those who walked the trail that he actually made.

He started at the Wilkie Ferguson Bar Association, which is in south Florida. It is a place for young African American lawyers who join the legal field in the south Florida area. It is a place where they can go and share notes and can talk about experiences. They also receive professional advice from those who came before them.

Jesse McCrary was an American who believed in serving. Even though he was a legal eagle, he took time to talk to people in the public defender's office. He took time to talk to young lawyers in the State attorney's office. He took time to talk to 501(c)(3) lawyers and to share with them the importance of the legal community.

So I am very honored that we are moving this legislation forward to recognize his memory and enshrine it in south Florida, and I know the south Florida community will be forever grateful of the House of Representatives' endorsement of his memory and of his purpose.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, may I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5655.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REDUCING WAITING PERIOD FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL ELECTIONS

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5702) to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to reduce the waiting period for holding special elections to fill vacancies in the membership of the Council of the District of Columbia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5702

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

SECTION 1. TIMING OF SPECIAL ELECTIONS FOR LOCAL OFFICE IN DISTRICT OF CO- LUMBIA.

(a) COUNCIL.—

(1) CHAIRMAN.—Section 401(b)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (sec. 1-204.01(b)(3), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "one hundred and fourteen days" and inserting "seventy days".

(2) MEMBERS ELECTED FROM WARDS.—Section 401(d)(1) of such Act (sec. 1-204.01(d)(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking