

the age of 80. He is survived by his daughters, Mary and Martha; son, John; and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, let us honor Judge Thomas Kongsgaard for serving both his country and his community through the passage of this bill to designate the 2nd Street post office in Napa in his honor. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6237.

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 H.R. 6237, which is appropriate, seeing I am one of the 52 original cosponsors to the item, and I strongly urge support for the resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6237, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlelady from the District supporting the bill.

Let me just point out as an interesting procedural note, for Mr. THOMPSON to bring this before us he had to get 52 cosponsors. The House rules require that everyone in the State sign on. So where Delaware may only need one or Nevada may need only three Members, those of us in California have a very high threshold we have to fulfill to be able to take this, and Mr. THOMPSON took this action.

It is something that we should all consider in the future: Should this judge be required to have 52 Members of the House cosponsor a bill when someone from another State may need only two or three or four or five? So it is an interesting part of our process here. Some people may say that it is unfair, but it happens to be the House rules, and the Congressmen have to live within those rules.

I strongly support the passage of this bill.

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. 6237, 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.

□ 1540

SAM SACCO POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6387) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 337 West Clark Street in Eureka, California, as the "Sam Sacco Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6387

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

SECTION 1. SAM SACCO POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 337 West Clark Street in Eureka, California, shall be known and designated as the "Sam Sacco 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 "Sam Sacco 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 yield myself such time as I may consume.

On behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to present H.R. 6387 for consideration. This legislation will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 337 West Clark Street in Eureka, California, as the Sam Sacco Post Office Building. Introduced by our colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON of California, on September 29, 2010, H.R. 6387 enjoys the support of the entire California House delegation.

Born and raised in Susanville, California, Sam Sacco moved to Eureka, California, in 1956 with his wife Mary Beth and four children: Sam, Jr.; Joe, Jim, and Lisa. For the next 30 years, Mr. Sacco dedicated his life to serving his community as a local business owner and public official.

As a longtime owner of a Farmers Insurance agency in Eureka, Mr. Sacco also attended to the needs of local families with a warmth and generosity that will not be forgotten. In addition, in 1974, Mr. Sacco was afforded the opportunity to further serve the city of Eureka upon his election as mayor. Throughout his mayoral tenure, which began in 1975 and ended in 1979, Mr. Sacco devoted his attention to advocacy on behalf of the city's working families. Notably, for example, Mr. Sacco worked tirelessly to safeguard the interests of hundreds of local timber industry workers during the expansion of Redwood National Park.

Mr. Speaker, Sam Sacco is well regarded as a model citizen and a dedicated public servant, whose compassion for his local community was larger than life. The life of Sam Sacco stands

as a testament to his public service, and it is our hope that we can honor this remarkable individual through the passage of this legislation to designate the West Clark Street post office in his honor.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6387.

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 H.R. 6387, and I think it is quite appropriate that we pass this bill.

Let me just say, Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of serving as a fellow mayor with Mayor Sam back in the late seventies. We actually served in the League of California Cities together. I just find it interesting that all these years later I stand here on the House floor voting on a post office named after a colleague of mine who, though he lived almost 1,000 miles away, was a fellow mayor in my State at one end, while I was at the southern end.

I would ask that we support H.R. 6387.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask again for support of H.R. 6387.

Seeing that this is our last bill for at least the foreseeable future, I would like to just point out I think there is one thing that all of us have seen, and today probably is a good example, especially those who have been watching.

This process that we have gone through today is one that we have gone back into over the last decade, and a lot of Members have raised the issue, is this the most prudent way of us handling these procedures? I know the gentlelady from the Federal district has raised issues about how to streamline it and expedite the process.

I think these issues of the resolutions and the way we are naming the post offices are ones that need to be reviewed, and hopefully both sides in the new Congress will be willing to look at this and say, look, historically this type of process has been used to buy time for leadership to be able to try to get individuals to vote their way, not necessarily the way the district constituency wanted them to vote.

I think that this is one place that we should be able to have a frank discussion in January. Hopefully we will see this type of process be put in, let's just say the trash heap of history, and we go to a much more expedited process that talks about substance.

I don't think any of us were very happy with what happened in the last few years while we were doing resolutions and naming post offices while there were major budgetary and financial crises going on. I think we can all agree, especially after what we just went through today, let's try to look in January at having a better process

that talks about more substantive issues.

Even though these are important to the individuals involved, the Nation is in a very critical time, and for us to be spending the majority of our time in the last few years actually doing things that the average citizen would say were not critical, I think that this is one time we can get together and say this process needs to be reformed, and hopefully in January we will not be going through a day like we just did.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from the Federal district for working with me today on these items.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman as well, and again I 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. 6387.

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.

IMPROVING CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS OF THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6399) to improve certain administrative operations of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6399

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

SECTION 1. CONSOLIDATION OF STAFF POSITIONS.

(a) CONSOLIDATION.—Section 108 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1991 (2 U.S.C. 1849) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 108. The Architect of the Capitol may fix the rate of basic pay for not more than 32 positions at a rate not to exceed the highest total rate of pay for the Senior Executive Service under subchapter VIII of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, for the locality involved.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1203(e) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2003 (2 U.S.C. 1805(e)) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to pay periods beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS TO ACQUIRE BUILDING.

(a) AVAILABILITY.—The amounts described in subsection (b) shall be available to the Architect of the Capitol for the acquisition (through purchase, lease, transfer from another Federal entity, or otherwise) of real property for the use of the Capitol Police.

(b) AMOUNTS DESCRIBED.—The amounts described in this subsection are amounts ap-

propriated to, and remaining available for obligation by, the Architect of the Capitol under the heading “Architect of the Capitol, Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds” or under the heading “Architect of the Capitol, Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds and Security” in any Act making appropriations for the legislative branch for fiscal years 2007 through 2010.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. 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 the measure now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill does two things: First, over time Congress has passed five laws creating three categories of senior management positions in the Architect's Office. The five laws specify the number of positions in each category, their functions and compensation. The creation of multiple categories with different pay caps can yield undesirable effects, including the possibility of employees earning more than supervisors. This patchwork hinders the Architect's flexibility to align senior positions equitably across the agency and to make broad organizational changes.

This bill combines the affected positions into one category for administrative purposes capped at a single rate of pay. The Architect requested this sensible provision, which solves the problem that Congress never intended to create.

Second, Mr. Speaker, the bill provides the Architect with the authority to purchase a vehicle maintenance facility for the U.S. Capitol Police. Congress has previously appropriated the money, and there is no additional cost.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill. I urge support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BRADY for bringing this bill to the floor. This bill provides the Architect of the Capitol with two administrative remedies in order to provide better management of the Capitol complex.

First, the bill gives the Architect of the Capitol more flexibility in his allocation of senior staff positions. Currently there is an arbitrary limitation in place.

Second, the bill authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to purchase a building that they have been leasing for some time. The building is currently

used for United States Capitol Police vehicle maintenance and is also used as USCP headquarters for the hazardous device unit.

This money has already been appropriated, and this resolution provides the appropriate authorization needed from our committee of jurisdiction.

I thank Chairman BRADY for bringing this bill to the floor, and I am pleased to support this resolution.

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker I urge an aye vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6399.

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.

□ 1550

CONGRATULATING NASA FOR HELPING TO RESCUE CHILEAN MINERS

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1714) congratulating the engineers, scientists, psychologists, and staff of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for helping to successfully rescue 33 trapped Chilean miners from a collapsed mine near Copiapo, Chile.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1714

Whereas, on August 5, 2010, 33 Chilean miners were trapped by the collapse of a gold and copper mine near Copiapo, Chile;

Whereas, on August 22, 2010, all 33 miners were discovered alive after an intensive 17-day rescue effort;

Whereas, on August 27, 2010, the Chilean government asked the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to provide technical advice that might be of assistance to the trapped miners;

Whereas NASA's vast knowledge and experience with extreme isolation, analog missions, undersea environments, and space flight uniquely suited the agency to help with this historic rescue;

Whereas sustaining, supporting, and rescuing the trapped miners was an extremely challenging task;

Whereas, on August 30, 2010, NASA employees from the Johnson and Langley Space Centers traveled to Chile to assist with the rescue efforts;

Whereas the NASA team worked closely with the Chilean government, including the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Mining, the Chilean Navy, and the Chilean Space Agency;

Whereas NASA assisted the Chilean government by sharing knowledge acquired during space flight missions for the provision of medical care and psychological support in extreme isolation;