

this so timely. I was told yesterday it would be on the floor at 2:45, and I walked on the floor at 2:43, and it was on the floor at 2:45. So that shows that the House can work in a bipartisan, efficient fashion when it so desires.

Mr. Speaker, I was a White House Fellow in the class of 1981 and 1982 under President Ronald Reagan. I was one of 14 Fellows that year. I worked for the Secretary of Energy, the Honorable James Edwards of South Carolina, the former Governor of South Carolina. The Deputy Secretary was Ken Anderson, and my direct report was J. Hunter Child III, the director of the Office of Policy, Planning and Analysis.

In my class in 1981-82, we had Mike Ullman, who's now the CEO of J.C. Penney; we had Paul Applegarth, who was a senior official at the World Bank and later became a Presidential appointee under President Bush. We had several military officers, Tom Shul, Ellie Heineman. We had a police captain from Oakland, Chip Stewart. And we had a cheerleader from the New England Patriots who later worked for the director of the FBI. So we had a very diverse class.

The White House Fellows is nonpartisan. In fact, I don't recollect one political question being asked me in the interview process. To show you the caliber of the folks that interviewed me, in the semifinals at the LBJ School in Austin, Texas, I was interviewed by Hillary Rodham Clinton and Sarah Weddington, who was the chief attorney in support of *Roe v. Wade*. At the national finals in Washington, D.C., Ed Fuelner, who was then and now head of the Heritage Foundation, was one of the individuals who interviewed me. So you had very staunch Democrats and also very staunch conservative Republicans.

But they were interested then and now not in your political views so much as they were interested in your vision for America and where you had been and, even more importantly, where you might go in the future.

Most Fellows are in their late twenties to mid thirties. Some are as old as their mid forties. You serve for 1 year for one of the senior officials in the White House or the Office of the Vice President or a Cabinet Secretary. It's a very diverse experience. You have real work to do, as has been pointed out. You are paid at the GS schedule 14, but you also develop a friendship with your Fellows and you have what's called an educational program where you meet with officials of that administration but also leaders in the country.

We met my fellowship year with, of course, the President, the Vice President, all the Cabinet Secretaries, but we also met with Tip O'Neill. We met with Tom Foley. Tip O'Neill was then Speaker and Tom Foley, I believe, was the majority leader or the whip. I think Mr. Foley was the whip. We met with Leon Jaworski who was the prosecutor in Watergate.

Each fellowship class gets to go on some trips, both domestically and internationally. We took three domestic trips or four domestic trips. We went to California where Congressman Leon Panetta hosted us. We went to New York City, had a helicopter ride where we went over the old Yankee stadium. We went to Chicago, and I was able to get the class to come down to Texas, and we visited in Texas.

It is a tremendous program. Since President Johnson initiated it in 1965, over I think 672 young men and women have served as White House Fellows. Members of this body include, in addition to myself, former Congressman Tom Campbell of California, former Congressman and Senator Tim Wirth of Colorado, and in the other body, Senator Dave Karnes of the great State of Nebraska.

It's a program that encourages you once you've been a White House Fellow to be in public service or at least community service, either in the business world or in your civic or, in some cases, elective office. I wouldn't be on the floor of the House of Representatives today, Mr. Speaker, if it had not been for the White House Fellows Program. I believed before I became a Fellow that Washington was this mystic place that most of the time was nonfunctional and very difficult to navigate. The White House Fellowship Program gave me a window on government in Washington, in both the executive and the legislative branches, and it showed me that there were people of good will on both sides of the aisle, in the executive and the legislative branches. It showed me that in spite of what some people think this is a very transparent, open process. If you have an issue and you want to have an impact in our America, that is still possible; and I cannot say anything but the most positive things, Mr. Speaker, about the White House Fellows Program.

So I'm very glad on behalf of the other 671 former and current White House Fellows to be the chief House sponsor, very appreciative of it moving through the Senate, very appreciative of our Speaker and minority leader, Mr. BOEHNER and Ms. PELOSI, putting it up on the floor; and I would certainly encourage a unanimous vote in support of it.

I want to thank my good friend from Utah for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. Con. Res. 72, to recognize the 45th anniversary of the White House Fellows Program.

The White House Fellows Program, as envisioned by President Johnson, was designed "to give the Fellows first hand, high-level experience with the workings of the Federal government and to increase their sense of participation in national affairs." In the fall of 1965, the first class of Fellows was named. The program is nonpartisan, and has remained so through nine administrations. Each year between 11 and 19 Americans are chosen for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. The Fellows are placed into various agencies of govern-

ment and are then able to work hand-in-hand with leaders at the highest levels of government. In return for the Fellowship year, the Fellows are expected to repay the privilege of serving by continuing to work as private citizens on their public agendas.

To date, more than 600 White House Fellows have served the Federal government and established a record of leadership and service. A number of former Fellows have gone on to serve their government and communities in important ways, by receiving appointments as Cabinet officials and senior White House staff, election to the House of Representatives, Senate, and State and local government, appointments to the Federal, State, and local benches, appointments as United States Attorneys, leadership in many of the Nation's largest corporations and law firms, presidents of colleges and universities, deans of distinguished graduate schools, officials in nonprofit organizations, distinguished scholars and historians, and service as senior leaders in every branch of the United States Armed Forces.

In 1981, I was honored to be selected to serve as a White House Fellow in the Reagan Administration and was placed in the Department of Energy. This was an experience where I gained valuable insight and knowledge about leadership and public policy, and it was a privilege to serve in this unique capacity.

I believe the White House Fellows program is worthy of recognition, and I commend those who have worked to make it a success and a national resource for all branches of our government.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend those individuals who were once Fellows and have gone on to serve our Nation with such distinction. I urge all Members to join me in support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of our time.

Ms. CHU. 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 California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 72.

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. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### PRIVATE ISAAC T. CORTES POST OFFICE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6205) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at

1449 West Avenue in Bronx, New York, as the "Private Isaac T. Cortes Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6205

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

**SECTION 1. PRIVATE ISAAC T. CORTES POST OFFICE.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1449 West Avenue in Bronx, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Private Isaac T. Cortes 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 "Private Isaac T. Cortes Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. 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 California?

There was no objection.

□ 1500

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6205, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1449 West Avenue in Bronx, New York, as the Private Isaac T. Cortes Post Office. H.R. 6205 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from New York, Representative JOSEPH CROWLEY, on September 23, 2010. The measure enjoys the support of New York's entire delegation to the House.

A native of the Bronx, Private Isaac T. Cortes held several jobs before enlisting in the Army. He was very proud to work as a security guard at Yankee Stadium and at one point hoped to become an officer with the New York City Police Department. He enlisted with the Army in November 2006 to gain experience that would help him achieve that goal, but later decided to become a career military man.

Private Cortes served as an infantryman with the 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Light Infantry, based out of Fort Drum, New York. He was a Humvee driver and performed operator-level maintenance on the vehicle. While overseas in Iraq, he participated in mountain Humvee and dismounted walking patrols. Private Cortes engaged in weapons cache searches and humanitarian aid missions to the local Iraqi people.

Sadly, on November 27, 2007, Private Cortes was one of two soldiers killed

when an improvised explosive device was detonated as his vehicle rode past Amerli, Iraq, about 100 miles north of Baghdad. His awards and decorations include the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Army Service Medal.

He is survived by his parents, Emily and Isaias, his younger brother Christopher, a young daughter Amaria, and a large extended family. They remember Private Cortes as the kid who would help elders carry groceries, the young man who would play with his younger cousins, and the father who wanted to be the best he could be for his young child. Today we also remember him as the soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Mr. Speaker, let us now pay tribute to the life and service of Private Isaac T. Cortes by designating the postal facility on West Avenue in the Bronx in his honor.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6205.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 6205, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1449 West Avenue in Bronx, New York, as the Private Isaac T. Cortes Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, Private Cortes was born and raised in the Bronx and joined the Army in November of 2006. After basic training, he was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division based out of Fort Drum, New York. In September 2007, Private Cortes deployed to Iraq to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. And sadly, Mr. Speaker, less than 2 months later, on November 27, 2007, Private Cortes died when the vehicle he was riding in was struck by an improvised explosive device. Private Cortes was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star to honor his bravery and courage.

Mr. Speaker, it is altogether fitting and proper that we name this post office to honor Private Cortes. This was a man who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country, fighting for our freedom and the freedom of the Iraqi people. The least we can do is honor his memory by naming this post office after him. I join all Members to join me in strong support of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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 gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6205.

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. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

**FOR VETS ACT OF 2010**

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3794) to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to include organizations whose membership comprises substantially veterans as recipient organizations for the donation of Federal surplus personal property through State agencies.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3794

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Formerly Owned Resources for Veterans to Express Thanks for Service Act of 2010" or "FOR VETS Act of 2010".

**SEC. 2. RECIPIENTS OF CERTAIN FEDERAL SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY.**

Section 549(c)(3)(B) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in clause (viii), by striking "or" after the semicolon;

(2) in clause (ix), by striking the period and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(x) an organization whose—"

"(I) membership comprises substantially veterans (as defined under section 101 of title 38); and

"(II) representatives are recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 5902 of title 38."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. 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 California?

There was no objection.

Ms. CHU. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I present S. 3794, the FOR VETS Act of 2010. The measure authorizes the transfer of Federal surplus property to State agencies for donation within the State for veterans organizations.

S. 3794 was introduced by our colleague in the other Chamber, Senator PATRICK LEAHY of Vermont, on September 16, 2010. It was referred to the