

Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and agreed to in the Senate, with amendment, by unanimous consent. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on November 15, 2010.

This bill, which was originally known as the Formerly Owned Resources for Veterans to Express Thanks for Service Act of 2010, adds veterans groups to the list of entities already eligible to receive the transfer of surplus Federal property from State agencies through donation. Under this measure, eligible groups will include education or public health organizations whose membership is substantially comprised of veterans and whose representatives are recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, S. 3794 provides unneeded and unutilized Federal property to assist our veterans in their daily lives. This is a small token of our gratitude for their sacrifices on behalf of our country, but one that can make a great difference to those proud men and women who have given so much for us. I would like to thank Senator LEAHY, Chairman TOWNS, and Ranking Member ISSA for their hard work on this bill; and I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this commonsense legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of S. 3794, the FOR VETS Act of 2010. Mr. Speaker, this is a simple bill that is long overdue. The FOR VETS Act, known as the Formerly Owned Resources for Veterans to Express Thanks for Service Act—that's a great acronym right there—makes organizations whose membership is comprised primarily of veterans eligible to receive excess personal Federal property. I think it's appropriate that we draw a distinction between personal property and real property. There are major differences, and the value is certainly one of them.

Every day, Mr. Speaker, the General Services Administration, through State agencies, donates surplus goods, such as computers and home appliances, to a wide variety of organizations such as hospitals, schools, and public libraries. The FOR VETS Act simply adds veterans organizations to this list of eligible recipients who can receive the excess Federal personal property. The property being donated under the FOR VETS Act will be items that the Federal Government is no longer using. I can't imagine a more deserving segment of the population to which we should be donating this excess property.

□ 1510

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my 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 pass the bill, S. 3794.

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 372. An act to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosures of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 77. Concurrent resolution to provide for the approval of final regulations issued by the Office of Compliance to implement the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 that apply to certain legislative branch employing offices and their covered employees.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 3817) "An Act to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978, and the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 to reauthorize the Acts, and for other purposes."

CONGRATULATING GERDA WEISSMANN KLEIN ON PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1743) congratulating Gerda Weissmann Klein on being selected to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1743

Whereas Gerda Weissmann was born in Bielsko, Poland in 1924;

Whereas within months of the German invasion of Poland in 1939, Ms. Weissmann's brother Arthur was taken away by the Germans and the remainder of her family was forced to live in a ghetto;

Whereas Ms. Weissmann was soon separated from her parents, who were sent to Auschwitz;

Whereas Ms. Weissmann was forced to spend the next 3 years in a succession of slave-labor and concentration camps;

Whereas in 1945, Ms. Weissmann was forced to walk in a 350-mile death march during which 2,000 women, including Ms. Weissmann, were subjected to starvation, exposure, and arbitrary execution;

Whereas the death march ended in Volary, Czechoslovakia, when the survivors were liberated by the United States Army;

Whereas Ms. Weissmann was one of less than 120 women to survive the death march;

Whereas one of the American Army officers who helped liberate the survivors was German-born Lieutenant Kurt Klein, whose parents had been murdered in Auschwitz;

Whereas Ms. Weissmann and Lieutenant Klein fell in love, got married, and moved to the United States to start a family;

Whereas upon moving to the United States, Mrs. Weissmann Klein worked vigilantly to promote Holocaust education and remembrance, teach tolerance, and combat hunger;

Whereas Mrs. Weissmann Klein's first book, *All But My Life*, was published in 1957, and chronicles her courageous struggle for survival during the Holocaust;

Whereas *One Survivor Remembers*, a documentary about Mrs. Weissmann Klein's experiences during the Holocaust, won an Academy Award in 1996;

Whereas Mrs. Weissmann Klein's lifelong work has been to repay this country for her freedom and the boundless opportunities given to her, she founded Citizenship Counts, a nonprofit organization that teaches today's youth to appreciate and celebrate the majesty of their American citizenship;

Whereas Mrs. Weissmann Klein's life and work have inspired generations of Americans and countless individuals from around the world; and

Whereas, on November 17, 2010, President Barack Obama announced that Gerda Weissmann Klein would be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Gerda Weissmann Klein on being selected to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1743, a measure congratulating Gerda Weissmann Klein on being selected to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom. House Resolution 1743 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Arizona, Representative HARRY MITCHELL, on December 1, 2010. The measure enjoys the support of over 90 Members of the House.

Mr. Speaker, in 1939, Mrs. Weissmann Klein was living in Poland at the age of 15. Within months of the German invasion of Poland that year, she began to

lose her family. Her beloved older brother, Arthur, was taken away by the Germans, and the remainder of her family was forced to live in a ghetto. Later, the Nazis separated her from her parents, sending them to Auschwitz.

Weissmann Klein was forced to spend 3 years in a series of concentration and slave labor camps from 1942 to 1945. In 1945, she and the other inmates of her camp were sent on a 350-mile death march to avoid the advance of Allied forces. When the U.S. Army liberated the survivors of the march in Volary, Czechoslovakia on May 7, 1945, she was one of fewer than 120 out of 2,000 women to survive.

After the war, she married Lieutenant Kurt Klein of the U.S. Army, an intelligence officer present at the liberation at Volary. She settled with Kurt in Buffalo, New York, and had three children. She then spent decades telling her story, giving speeches, and writing books offering a message of hope drawn from her struggle for survival.

She and Kurt also got involved in a number of charity efforts. In 1998, they started the Gerda and Kurt Klein Foundation, a public nonprofit foundation which promoted the teaching of tolerance, respect for others, and the value of community service. Currently, she is focusing her efforts on her new foundation, Citizenship Counts, a nonprofit organization that reaches out to middle and high school students to promote the appreciation and potential of American citizenship and the democratic process.

For her life of service and promotion of tolerance and understanding among all people, President Obama announced that early next year, Gerda Weissmann Klein will be one of 15 recipients of the Nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mr. Speaker, let us now pay tribute to Mrs. Weissmann Klein and congratulate her on being selected for the Presidential Medal of Freedom through the passage of House Resolution 1743. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1743, congratulating Gerda Weissmann Klein on being selected to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mr. Speaker, last month, on November 17, Gerda Weissmann Klein was informed that she will be receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom. This award is the highest civilian honor that an American can receive, and Ms. Klein is very deserving.

She was born in Poland in 1924, and was taken prisoner when Nazi Germany invaded Poland in 1939. After being separated from her parents, Ms. Klein spent the next 6 years in concentration camps—6 years.

In 1945, Ms. Weissmann was forced to walk 350 miles in a death march where

roughly 2,000 women were subjected to starvation, exposure, and arbitrary execution. Ms. Weissmann was one of less than 120 women who miraculously survived the death march and were liberated by the United States forces in Czechoslovakia.

One of the U.S. soldiers who was there to liberate the women was Lieutenant Kurt Klein. Klein and Ms. Weissmann soon fell in love and were later married.

Since moving to America after the war, Mrs. Weissmann Klein has worked tirelessly to promote Holocaust education and remembrance, teach tolerance, and combat hunger. She has written multiple books about her experience as a Holocaust survivor, and, to this day, she works to promote tolerance and educate people about the horrors of the Holocaust.

It is with great honor I commend her on being selected to receive this award and thank her for the work she has done.

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the sponsor of this resolution, Representative HARRY MITCHELL from Arizona.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1743, as amended, a resolution congratulating Gerda Weissmann Klein on receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mrs. Weissmann Klein's story is remarkable and represents so much of what is so great about America. She was born in Bielsko, Poland in 1924. She was just 15 years old when Germany invaded her homeland in 1939, and the world she knew changed forever. Her brother, Arthur, was taken by the Nazis. Her parents were sent to death camps in Auschwitz. For 3 years, Gerda was forced to endure a succession of slave labor and concentration camps.

In 1945, Gerda was one of 2,000 women forced by Nazis to walk a 350-mile death march, during which women were subjected to starvation, exposure, and arbitrary execution. The death march finally ended in Volary, Czechoslovakia, when the survivors were liberated by the United States Army. Gerda was one of fewer than 120 women who survived.

One of the American Army officers who helped liberate Gerda that day was a German-born Lieutenant named Kurt Klein, whose parents had been murdered at Auschwitz. Gerda and Kurt fell in love, got married, and moved to the United States and started a family.

Once here, Gerda and Kurt worked diligently to promote Holocaust education and remembrance. They taught tolerance and worked to combat hunger.

Gerda became a United States citizen, a privilege for which she has devoted her life's work as gratitude. She founded Citizenship Counts, a nonprofit organization that teaches our youth to appreciate and celebrate the majesty of their American citizenship.

In 1957, Gerda's first book, "All But My Life," was published. It chronicles her courageous struggle for survival during the Holocaust. In 1996, "One Survivor Remembers," a documentary about her experiences during the Holocaust, won an Academy Award.

Gerda Weissmann Klein's life and work have inspired generations of Americans and countless individuals around the world.

Last month, President Barack Obama announced that Gerda Weissmann Klein would be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. This is the highest civilian honor that can be bestowed, and it is well deserved.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, as amended.

Before I yield, I want to thank Representative JEAN SCHMIDT for partnering with me on this resolution. I also want to thank Chairman TOWNS and Ranking Member ISSA, as well as both the majority and minority member staffs, for helping bring this resolution to the floor.

□ 1520

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I have been very critical of a lot of resolutions that have come to the floor recognizing things like the Hollywood Walk of Fame. But there are certain people, certain things that rise to a level of excellence that are so extraordinary that they deserve the recognition of this Nation and of this body, and I find that this fits that category. So it is my honor to join in strong support of this resolution and urge my colleagues to vote for it.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1743. I was honored to join with Congressman MITCHELL to introduce this Resolution which congratulates Gerda Weissmann Klein on being selected to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mrs. Weissmann Klein was born in 1924 in Bielsko, Poland. She is a Holocaust survivor and an amazing person with a truly inspirational story.

When Germany invaded Poland in 1939, her family was forced to live in a ghetto. She was separated from her family and spent 3 years in slave-labor and concentration camps. In 1945, she was forced to walk a 350-mile death march that ended in Volary, Czechoslovakia. Out of 2,000 women, less than 120 survived.

A true love story, she met her future husband, German-born U.S. Army Lieutenant Kurt Klein, amongst the liberators in Volary. They married, moved to the United States, and started a family.

Mrs. Weissmann Klein has led a dignified life in the United States. She is dedicated to her family and to educating others about many things, including the Holocaust and the importance of citizenship.

She is the author of five books. Among them is one the best biographies I have ever read, *All But My Life*, which recounts her experiences before and after the Holocaust. The award winning documentary, *One Survivor Remembers*, is based upon *All But My Life* and won an Emmy Award and the Academy Award for documentary short subject.

The glass is always half full with Mrs. Weissmann Klein. She has personally witnessed the very worst of humanity, yet she rises above it to promote courage, compassion, forgiveness, and the meaning of freedom.

I was fortunate to meet Mrs. Weissmann Klein when she was in Ohio to speak with a school group. She has spoken with many students throughout the country, including those in my own Congressional District in Southwest Ohio.

Mrs. Weissmann Klein will receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom in early 2011. I hope that all our colleagues in the House will join us in congratulating her on this well-deserved honor.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. I yield back the balance of my 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 agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1743, as amended.

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.

HARRY T. AND HARRIETTE MOORE POST OFFICE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5446) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 600 Florida Avenue in Cocoa, Florida, as the "Harry T. and Harriette Moore Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5446

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

SECTION 1. HARRY T. AND HARRIETTE MOORE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 600 Florida Avenue in Cocoa, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Harry T. and Harriette Moore 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 "Harry T. and Harriette Moore 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.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5446, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 600 Florida Avenue in Cocoa, Florida, as the Harry T. and Harriette Moore Post Office.

H.R. 5446 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Florida, Representative BILL POSEY, on May 27, 2010.

Mr. Speaker, Harry Tyson Moore was born in Houston, Florida, on November 18, 1905. He excelled in his schooling and graduated from Bethune-Cookman College in 1936. He soon after accepted a teaching position in a segregated school in Cocoa, Florida, and later became principal of the Titusville Colored School in Brevard County. There, he met Harriette Simms. The two married on Christmas Day, 1926, and had two daughters, Annie and Juanita.

After the birth of their two daughters, Harry and Harriette Moore founded the first branch of the NAACP in Brevard County, Florida, in 1934. They also helped the Florida State Conference of the NAACP in 1941, and Harry Moore took an unpaid position as its secretary.

The Moores led a successful effort to advance civil rights. In 1937, Harry Moore filed the first lawsuit in the Deep South to equalize salaries of black teachers with white teachers in public schools. This effort failed at first, but it laid the foundation for other lawsuits that succeeded.

In 1943, Moore began reviewing every incident of lynching involving black people in the State of Florida, taking affidavits from victims' families and launching investigations. He pursued this effort for the rest of his life.

In 1944, the Supreme Court ruled in *Smith v. Allwright* that all-white primaries in Texas and other States were unconstitutional, a major victory for the NAACP. Moore then organized a group called the Progressive Voters League and spent 6 years registering over 116,000 black voters in the Florida Democratic Party. This activism led the Florida public school system to fire and blacklist the Moores in 1946, after which Harry Moore became a full-time paid activist for the Florida NAACP.

In July 1949, he got involved in a police brutality case in Groveland, Florida, where he uncovered evidence that four black men accused of rape had been beaten. Moore leveled brutality charges against Lake County Sheriff Willis McCall. Three of the defendants were convicted in 1949, but two of the convictions were overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court. Lake County prepared to put the two on trial again, and

on November 6, 1951, while Sheriff McCall drove them back to Lake County for a pretrial hearing, he shot the two handcuffed men, killing one and critically wounding the second. Moore immediately called for Sheriff McCall to be suspended and indicted for murder.

Six weeks later, on Christmas Day, 1951, Harry Moore was killed when a bomb exploded beneath the floor joists under his bed. Harriette died of her injuries 9 days later. Harry Moore was the first NAACP official murdered in the civil rights struggle, and Harry and Harriette Moore remain the only married couple to be murdered for their activism in the era. The FBI was unable to file charges due to a lack of evidence, but it was suspected to be the work of central Florida members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Harry Moore has been called the first martyr of the 1950s civil rights movement. The Moores' murder sent a shock around the country and around the world, drawing attention to the movement.

Mr. Speaker, the extensive efforts of the Moores during the civil rights movement is worthy of our greatest praise. Let us now pay tribute to the life and work of Harry T. and Harriette Moore by designating the postal facility on Florida Avenue in Cocoa, Florida, in their honor. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 5446.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, let me simply say the majority has done a wonderful and thorough job of describing the justification for this bill. I commend Mr. POSEY, our colleague from Florida, for introducing this bill and urge support of this bill.

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in support of legislation I introduced earlier this year (H.R. 5446) to name the U.S. Post Office in Cocoa, Florida in honor of Harry T. and Harriette Moore.

Harry T. Moore and his wife Harriette Moore served as pioneer trailblazers of the modern civil rights movement, propelling the struggle for justice and equality far beyond the borders of their home in Brevard County, Florida. Remembered for their dignity, compassion, and emphasis on education, Mr. and Mrs. Moore left a legacy that remains close to the hearts of community members; one that is sure to outlast the lengths of their lives that were so tragically cut short.

Harry began his first job as an elementary teacher at Monroe Elementary School in Cocoa, Florida in 1925. It is only fitting that the Post Office in the community where he began his service to this community bear his name. Two years later, Harry began a decade of service as a High School Principal in Titusville. Then, from 1936–1946 he served as Principal and Fifth and Sixth Grade teacher in Mims.

The couple first met in Brevard County when Harry was serving as a principal in Titusville and Harriette was an elementary school teacher. They were married on Christmas Day in 1926. They were blessed with two daughters and they committed the duration of