

I want to congratulate Zippo on this tremendous accomplishment.

HONORING LEONA MARTENS

(Mr. GARDNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Leona Martens of Greeley, Colorado.

Leona faithfully served the community of Weld County for 22 years as the executive director of the Weld County Food Bank. While Leona lost her battle against cancer, her legacy and influence will continue the fight against hunger for generations to come. Under Leona's leadership, the Weld Food Bank grew its annual distribution from 40,000 to 8 million pounds of food. She expanded their operating facilities to 35,000 square feet, where they serve more than 10,000 residents each month.

The tremendous leadership, dedication, and passion she held for the citizens of Weld County is unrivaled, and the county has truly reaped the benefit of her work.

I had the opportunity to tour the food bank—part of it is named after her and in her memory—this past December and fully agree with her colleagues and friends who described Leona as “an amazing leader with tremendous vision,” a “tireless worker,” and “true friend.”

Thanks to Leona's passion and tireless effort, Weld County citizens are ensured continued service and dedication.

It is my honor to stand here today to remember and recognize Leona Martens for her incredible vision, hard work, and passion to improve the lives of the citizens of Greeley, Colorado.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE KAY GRANGER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KAY GRANGER, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
April 26, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, for deposition testimony.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

KAY GRANGER,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE PETE SESSIONS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Honorable PETE SESSIONS, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
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DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, for deposition testimony.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

PETE SESSIONS,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM SPECIAL ASSISTANT, THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Harry T. Spikes, II, Special Assistant, the Honorable ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for documents and testimony issued by the District Court of Maryland, Baltimore County, in connection with civil litigation currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that because the subpoena is not “material and relevant,” compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

HARRY T. SPIKES, II,
Special Assistant.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for documents and testimony issued by the District Court of Maryland, Baltimore County, in connection with civil litigation currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that because the subpoena is not “material and relevant,” compliance with the subpoena is incon-

sistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS,
Member of Congress.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

AUTHORIZING USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 105) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 105

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR EVENT TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on June 24, 2012, to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi.

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 105, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall on June 24 to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha, a legendary figure in Hawaiian history and culture.

On June 11, the people of Hawaii will celebrate the 96th annual Kamehameha Day, commemorating the life of Kamehameha the Great, who between 1795 and 1810 unified the islands into the kingdom of Hawaii. Known for being a fierce warrior who fought for unity and independence, King Kamehameha was highly regarded for ruling with fairness and compassion. His law, known as the Law of the Splintered Paddle, specifically protected civilians in wartime and is today a model for human rights throughout the world.

A statue of King Kamehameha graces the Capitol Visitor Center as part of the National Statuary Hall Collection. In adopting the resolution, we will authorize the use of this space for the celebration of his life and accomplishments.

I thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HANABUSA) for introducing this concurrent resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 105 authorizes the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a celebration on June 24, 2012. This will be the 43rd time that we have celebrated the birthday of King Kamehameha in the Nation's Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, Hawaii has a unique history. We are, of course, the 50th State, and we are the only State that comes with a kingdom as part of our history. June 11 is the recognized State holiday. King Kamehameha was born around 1758, and he unified the eight Hawaiian Islands by 1810. He is also known as King Kamehameha I. His birthday has been celebrated for about 140 years in my State, beginning in 1871 by his great-grandson King Kamehameha V.

The statue that you see in the Capitol Visitor Center today has also a fascinating history. It was commissioned for the then-kingdom by Thomas Gould, and he finished it in 1880. It was made in Italy. He was an American sculptor. The ship actually sank that was bringing the first Kamehameha statue to Hawaii, and in 1883, the second statue made its way to Hawaii. What stands in Emancipation Hall today is molded from the second statue. That is the official statue that stands in front of what we call Aliʻiōlani Hale, which is the home of the Hawaii Supreme Court. The first

statue was discovered and stands in the Big Island, which is the birthplace of King Kamehameha.

As you look at the statue—and I invite everyone to do that—you will see that it stands approximately 8½ feet tall. He has a helmet and a feather cape, and they are made from very rare bird feathers. His left hand has a spear, and that was his statement that he was ready to defend his kingdom. But his right hand is open in a gesture, and that is to welcome people, and that is what we call the gesture of, of course, aloha.

Lei draping is the customary celebration which will also happen on June 24 here, and what you see there is a tradition that has become almost uniquely Hawaii's. Lei is the way that we bond. And the lei draping is symbolic of the bonds that people have in Hawaii, and it is a very close and strong bond. The act of presenting a lei is something that many identify with Hawaii as they come to visit our beautiful islands.

As we all know, the President was born in Hawaii, and on June 20, 2010, he issued Proclamation 8534 in honor of the bicentennial of the uniting of the islands by King Kamehameha. This is what the President had to say in that proclamation:

On this bicentennial King Kamehameha Day, we celebrate the history and heritage of the Aloha State, which has immeasurably enriched our national life and culture. The Hawaiian narrative is one of both profound triumph and, sadly, deep injustice. It is the story of Native Hawaiians oppressed by crippling disease, aborted treaties, and the eventual conquest of their sovereign kingdom. These grim milestones remind us of an unjust time in our history, as well as the many pitfalls in our Nation's long and difficult journey to perfect itself. Yet, through the peaks and valleys of our American story, Hawaii's steadfast sense of community and mutual support shows the progress that results when we are united in a spirit of limitless possibility.

This particular celebration is also very special for the people of Hawaii, and I believe for Members of this House as well. Senator DANIEL K. AKAKA will be retiring at the end of his term, and as many of you are aware of, he served 14 years in this House and the last 22 in the United States Senate. He is the epitome of aloha. He is the epitome of everything that is good about Hawaii.

In honor of him, I would like to read a portion of what he said in the June 2009 Kamehameha Lei Draping Ceremony here because I think he gave a different perspective of King Kamehameha that many of us do not know.

□ 1610

He said:

As a military leader and statesman, Kamehameha was a brilliant visionary who pursued opportunities for progress. He pioneered military strategies that included unique flanking tactics and the use of cannons on the bow of his canoes. Those revolutionary concepts enabled Kamehameha to succeed in battle and are principles recognized and taught to this day at West Point. Beyond his

military accolades, Kamehameha understood that if his people were going to thrive, they must be unified. Through governance, Kamehameha brought Native Hawaiians together and established an environment where they could perpetuate their heritage and way of life. Under his leadership, the government strengthened its autonomy and self-sufficiency. These actions set the kingdom's framework for international commerce and diplomacy that brought peace and prosperity to his people.

As we all know, Senator AKAKA is the only Native Hawaiian who serves in the Congress of the United States.

It is very important for us to know that King Kamehameha was very thoughtful, even in the days that he was uniting the Hawaiian Islands. He is known in Hawaii for the Law of the Splintered Paddle, also called Kanawai Mamalahoe. What he basically said was that we have a responsibility to protect civilians at the time of war, that every human life was precious, and it was wrong for the powerful to mistreat the weak.

The context of this story is also very moving. Someone who didn't know who he was actually hit him on the head with a paddle and, of course, it splintered. When they found out that they had hit him, they all thought that their lives would come to an end. But instead, he decreed the Law of the Splintered Paddle. This is the visionary who united the Hawaiian Islands.

By this resolution, we honor this great person and also all that makes Hawaii special and unique.

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

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 105, to authorize the use of the Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the Lei Draping Ceremony on June 24, 2012, to celebrate the birthday of the great warrior, King Kamehameha.

I want to thank my colleagues, Ms. HANABUSA and Ms. HIRONO, for their leadership, and to all the members of the Hawaiian congressional delegation for their support of this important legislation. I also want to take this opportunity to commend my good friend, Senator DANIEL AKAKA, for his stewardship on this and many other issues benefiting the people of Hawaii. Senator AKAKA has been an integral part of the Lei Draping Ceremony for the past 36 years, and it is befitting that his outstanding service and dedication to the people of Hawaii will be recognized in next month's ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, for more than 40 years, the Hawaiian congressional delegation and the Hawaii State Society of Washington, D.C., has hosted the Lei Draping Ceremony on or about the second week of June to coincide with the celebration of King Kamehameha Day in

the State of Hawaii. Because King Kamehameha's statue has been moved to the Emancipation Hall of the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, it now requires the enactment of a congressional resolution to authorize this annual celebration; hence, House Concurrent Resolution 105 is being considered before the House today.

Mr. Speaker, for some 2,000 years, the Hawaiian Islands existed under some tremendous rivalries among the Native Hawaiian warring chiefs. After almost 10 years of fighting, King Kamehameha brought all of the Hawaiian Islands under one rule, thus fulfilling an ancient prophecy that one day a high chief will be born and will defeat the chiefs of the other islands and thereby bring all the eight Hawaiian Islands under one rule.

Mr. Speaker, King Kamehameha, while a mountain of a man—standing at 6 feet, 8 inches tall and weighing about 300 pounds and a great warrior of many feats—perhaps is better known for his foresight and for the peace and stability he brought to the Hawaiian Islands. He was shrewd in building prosperity for his people by encouraging agricultural development and promoting commercial trade in Europe, and even with the United States.

While he was open to new ideas, he was cautious and circumspect in the old ways. It was said that before the unification of the Hawaiian Islands in 1782, King Kamehameha, during a raid, came across two unarmed fishermen, and as he attempted to slay the fishermen, his foot was caught between two rocks. In defending themselves, the two fishermen immediately hit King Kamehameha on the head with a large paddle, broke it, and left him for dead. King Kamehameha survived, and some 12 years later, the fishermen were caught and brought before the King. Rather than seeking revenge on the fishermen, King Kamehameha set them free with gifts. From then on, King Kamehameha, declared what is known now today in Hawaiian history as the Law of the Splintered Paddle, or *Mamalahoe*, as known among the Hawaiian people. The Law of the Splintered Paddle has become the basis of many modern human rights laws regarding the treatment of unarmed men, women, and children and that they are not to be harmed when traveling along the roadside.

In his time, King Kamehameha strived to maintain the sovereignty of his people. He created a unified legal system and did not allow non-Hawaiians to own land. These efforts came at the height of colonialism in the Pacific region, when one after another Pacific island succumbed to the colonial powers.

Mr. Speaker, I submit to you and to my colleagues and to the American people that the Native Hawaiian, King Kamehameha, was one of the greatest warrior chiefs who has ever lived among the Polynesian people. For anyone who has ever visited the Hawaiian

Islands—now, proudly, the 50th State of our Nation—just think that during the late 1700s, he, with a fleet of some 900 war canoes and with some 20,000 warriors, embarked upon one of the greatest feats in military history—to unite the Hawaiian Islands under Kamehameha's rule, which took almost 10 years to achieve. And for some 100 years, King Kamehameha and his descendants ruled the Hawaiian Islands as an independent and sovereign nation.

King Kamehameha, indeed, was a true warrior of the first order. He was a master of the ancient Hawaiian martial arts, known to the Hawaiians as *lua*. We Samoans call it *limalama*. He fulfilled another prophecy, whereby anyone who would move what was known as the Naha Stone, which weighed only 4,500 pounds—Kamehameha moved the stone, again, fulfilling another prophecy that whoever was able to move the Naha Stone would rule the Hawaiian Islands. Kamehameha fulfilled that prophecy.

Of interest also, Mr. Speaker, King Kamehameha's military tactics are still being studied at our West Point Military Academy at New York.

In sports, he was a master surfer. In those days, the surfboards weighed over a hundred pounds. Can you imagine a 6-foot, 8-inch man surfing with a board that is about a hundred pounds in weight?

Another famous ancient Hawaiian sport was to jump off the high cliffs just to jump in the ocean. But one of the sports that King Kamehameha was very famous for—specialized in—was the idea that three spears would be thrown at you, and what he would do is let two spears pass you, then he would carry two spears, catch the other two spears, and bury the remaining two spears. Try that, Mr. Speaker, and see if you might be able to do this.

The bottom line, Mr. Speaker, is I want to thank the gentlelady from Hawaii (Ms. HANABUSA) for her sponsorship of this legislation. Let's pass House Concurrent Resolution 105.

And I thank my friend from Mississippi for his assistance in managing this bill.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I do not have any further requests for time, and I am prepared to close.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. However, I would like to, first of all, thank the gentleman from Mississippi for managing this legislation and bringing it to the floor; Speaker BOEHNER, Chairman LUNGREN, and Ranking Member BRADY for allowing it to come forward as well; and the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police, and all others who will assist in this matter. And, of course, the people of Hawaii.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we'll pass this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, Aloha. I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 105, which authorizes the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor's Center for the annual Kamehameha Day Lei Draping on June 24, 2012.

The event has been held on or around June 11th to coincide with the celebration of Kamehameha Day, a state holiday in Hawaii. The Kamehameha Day Lei Draping has been hosted by the Hawaii Congressional delegation and the Hawaii State Society of Washington DC since 1969; it parallels the lei draping ceremonies taking place at the Kamehameha statues on the islands of Oahu and Hawaii.

Commonly believed to be born in about 1758, Kamehameha came from a family of *alii* (chiefs) on the island of Hawaii and was raised to become a skilled warrior in the traditional ways of combat. In 1778, as a young man, Kamehameha met the world-renowned navigator, Captain James Cook, the first European to visit Hawaii. Kamehameha later led a successful campaign for control of his native island of Hawaii and subsequently conquered the islands of Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Kahoolawe, and Oahu. With the agreement by King Kaumuali'i of Kauai to accept Kamehameha's rule in 1810, the island chain became a united kingdom for the first time. The islands became known collectively as Hawaii from that point on.

Under Kamehameha's reign, the islands became more involved in international commerce and a center for the sandalwood trade. As his kingdom opened up to the world and began adopting many western ways, Kamehameha remained an ardent defender of traditional Hawaiian culture and way of life, including restoring sacred sites. In the words of famed British explorer Captain George Vancouver, King Kamehameha was a man with "an open, cheerful and sensible mind; combined with great generosity of disposition." Greatly mourned at the time of his passing in 1819, he continues to be revered in Hawaii and remains a respected historical figure today. A holiday in his honor was decreed by Kamehameha V, his great-grandson, in 1871.

This year marks the 43rd year of the annual Kamehameha Lei Draping Ceremony, which brings together people from Hawaii from all over the Washington area. Many also travel from the islands to take part in this beautiful showcase of traditional Hawaiian culture, including hula performances, traditional Hawaiian music, and honorary chants.

This yearly celebration would not be possible without the help and assistance of the outstanding staff of the Committee on House Administration, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and the Office of the Sergeant At Arms. We thank them again for their support this year.

A concurrent resolution must be passed to authorize the use of the space for this event due to the Kamehameha statue location in Emancipation Hall.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 105.

□ 1620

The SPEAKER *pro tempore*. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 105.

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. HANABUSA. 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, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR GREATER WASHINGTON SOAP BOX DERBY

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 106) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 106

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR SOAP BOX DERBY RACES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association (in this resolution referred to as the “sponsor”) shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, soap box derby races (in this resolution referred to as the “event”), on the Capitol Grounds.

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on June 16, 2012, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make such additional arrangements as may be required to carry out the event.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, with respect to the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 106.

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

There was no objection.

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

H. Con. Res. 106 would authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby on June 16, 2012.

This event occurs annually on the Capitol Grounds. The Soap Box Derby allows children to show off their dedication, hard work, and creativity as they compete for trophies. And as someone who has participated in derbies myself, Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill. The winners of each division are then qualified to compete in the National Soap Box Derby.

I am excited to urge my colleagues to support passage of this resolution.

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

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

I am delighted to support House Concurrent Resolution 106 which authorizes use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby on June 16, 2012. I would also like to offer my appreciation to the majority and to acknowledge the efforts of Mr. HOYER, who has been a consistent champion for his constituents in this event, and the entire delegation from this region, who supports this event every year.

On the date of the event, children and young adults from the Greater Washington area race down Constitution Avenue to test their craftsmanship in hand-designed and -constructed soap box vehicles in the Annual Soap Box Derby. Children between the ages of 8 and 17 will be competing for the opportunity to race in the National All-American Soap Box Derby held every August in Akron, Ohio.

Consistent with all events using the Capitol Grounds, this event is open to the public and free of charge. The organizers will work with the Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol to organize the details of the event.

I strongly support H. Con. Res. 106 and urge passage of this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. I thought that was compelling, Mr. Speaker, and I am very excited that we are going to hear next from a gentleman who has been a big champion of the Soap Box Derby for many moons now.

With that, I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may

consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. I thank the Representative of Washington, D.C., for yielding to me, the distinguished gentlelady, Ms. NORTON, and I want to thank my friend, Congresswoman HERRERA BEUTLER from Washington State who chairs the subcommittee, and thank her very much for facilitating this coming to the floor and thank her very much for her kind remarks as well.

Mr. Speaker—and I am pleased to call you “Mr. Speaker”—I rise in strong support of this resolution which I am proud to sponsor, and I have sponsored for many, many years. This resolution allows the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to hold its 71st Annual Greater Washington Soap Box Derby on the Capitol Grounds on June 16.

This is, and I think everybody who has been involved with the Soap Box Derby knows, a wonderful tradition that brings young people from around the area to the Capitol for a fun and educational event. It has taken place since 1938, when Norman Rocca won the inaugural race, besting 223 other contestants as his soap box racer crossed the finish line.

That race has continued for over 70 years, and it has inspired thousands of the region's young people to learn the physics behind gravity racing and the engineering used to design soap box racers.

As a Nation that wants to make things—and as the Speaker knows, I have a Make It in America agenda that I keep trying to sell that is bipartisan, and I think all of us agree that we want to make more things in America—if we are going to make more things in America and be able to export them, we will have to have people who make things. What a wonderful opportunity this is for young people to participate in making something that will then have them be successful, or, in this sense, in the race, make it, win the race.

So I think this is a wonderful enterprise. It brings young people together with their parents and teachers, and it teaches sportsmanship and hard work and pride of accomplishment. America's soap box derbies have been called the “greatest amateur racing event in the world,” and we continue celebrating that tradition June 16 here in Washington.

The spirit of competition that fuels these racers is the same spirit that has long energized our Nation's entrepreneurs and innovators. The young people who participate in these derbies are often sponsored by groups from their communities who recognize in them great promise for the future.

I continue to be incredibly proud of those from Maryland's Fifth District who participate, but, indeed, from the District of Columbia, Virginia, the surrounding areas. We have celebrated a number of soap box derby champions from the Fifth District, including the