

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 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 (Mrs. BLACK) 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 later.

CORPORAL JUSTIN D. ROSS POST
OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1228) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 Packerland Drive in Green Bay, Wisconsin, as the "Corporal Justin D. Ross Post Office Building", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1228

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

SECTION 1. CORPORAL JUSTIN D. ROSS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 South 9th Street in De Pere, Wisconsin, shall be known and designated as the "Corporal Justin D. Ross 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 "Corporal Justin D. Ross Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may be given 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

H.R. 1228, introduced by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RIBBLE), would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service, located at 123 South 9th Street, in DePere, Wisconsin, as the Corporal Justin D. Ross Post Office Building.

Army Specialist Justin Ross was killed in action while serving in Operation Enduring Freedom. Assigned to the 863rd Engineer Battalion, Army Reserve, Wausau, Wisconsin, he died on March 26 in Afghanistan. Justin was posthumously honored and promoted to corporal.

Corporal Ross was wounded when his unit came under small arms fire from insurgents while on a route clearance mission. He was the only casualty and the first of the unit. Only 22 at the time of his death, Corporal Ross was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and meritorious service medals.

Corporal Ross was a 2007 graduate of Bay Port High School and joined the military in October of 2007. Those close to him understood that serving in the Army was a lifelong dream of Justin's. His parents knew that he loved being part of the mission in Afghanistan.

His unit had high praise for their fallen brother. They said he was an outstanding soldier that loved being in the Army and loved working with his fellow soldiers. He will be remembered by his family, friends, church, community, and fellow soldiers as a wonderful man who was proud to serve his country.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to stand before this body today and honor the memory of a true American hero. I am grateful for the service of Corporal Ross and for all those who serve and protect us each and every day. I urge all Members to join me in strong support of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 1228, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 300 Packerland Drive, Green Bay, Wisconsin, as the Corporal Justin D. Ross Post Office Building.

The measure before us was introduced on March 15, 2013, by my colleague, Representative REID RIBBLE of Wisconsin.

In accordance to committee requirements, the bill before us is cosponsored by all members of the Wisconsin delegation. H.R. 1228 was reported out of House Oversight and Government Reform Committee by unanimous consent on March 12, 2014.

At this time, Madam Speaker, I would like to just thank the Ross family for their son giving the ultimate sacrifice in serving this country.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RIBBLE), my friend and colleague.

Mr. RIBBLE. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the chairman, the gentleman from Texas. I want to thank the gentleman from Missouri for letting me come down here, for recognizing the sacrifice of a family from Green Bay, Wisconsin.

This is always a difficult time. I can hear the emotions of the voices of my colleagues as they speak about Justin and about Corporal Ross and his family and the sacrifice.

I have to tell you, Madam Speaker, there is probably nothing more difficult to do than to try to craft some speech, some words, some language here today that would honor Corporal Ross and his family in a way that is sufficient to the sacrifice that this family had.

You have already heard a little bit about Corporal Justin David Ross. He was born on September 14, 1988, and served in the Army Reserve. He was a member of the 863rd Engineer Battalion in Wausau, Wisconsin.

Tragically, he was killed on March 26, 2011. The anniversary of his death, Madam Speaker, is just 2 days from now. That will be 3 years since this family lost their son and this country lost its hero.

Corporal Ross was the first servicemember from the 8th Congressional District of Wisconsin killed in the line of duty after I began my first term in Congress in 2011. I was sworn in, in January of 2011, and 90 days later, Justin was killed.

He served his country honorably. He earned numerous awards for his service, including the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star and nine other meritorious service awards.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform passed this bill by a voice vote without any objection. It is also, as was mentioned by the gentleman from Missouri, supported by virtually every member of the Wisconsin House delegation.

So how do we go about honoring Justin Ross? How do we go about honoring his mom and dad, Ron and Debbie? How do we honor his brothers?

It is almost impossible to do so because we have a tendency to almost falsely believe that Justin was about a chevron on a sleeve, a medal on his chest, or a service ribbon that he wore on his uniform.

Those are the things that Justin did and the accomplishments that Justin had. They weren't really who Justin was. Justin did serve as a soldier in the Army, and he did die in the line of duty on behalf of his country, but he was more than that.

Imagine a family back in 1988 welcoming their son to this Earth and picking him up and cradling him in their arms, not knowing that they were cradling a hero. They couldn't possibly

have known 22 years ago what would happen to their son. I thank them for their sacrifice. This means a lot to our country. It means a lot to this family.

I am sorry I get choked up, but this matters to us. It matters to our country. The loss that was there is significant, every single one. I knew Justin. His dad was a pastor. His grandfather was a pastor.

He lived under the teachings of those two men who taught him in the book of Thessalonians to lead a quiet life. He did that. If you listen to the way his friends and his family talked about him, they often mention how quiet, almost shy that Justin was. He did that.

He followed the teachings of the apostle Paul. When the apostle Paul told us that no greater love is this than to lay down a life for a friend, not only did he lay down his life for his friends and his comrades, he was doing a clearance mission.

Madam Speaker, he was going in front of our troops, clearing out IEDs and making the way safe. He gave his life so others didn't have to. He gave his life for people that he loved. There was no greater love than this, as we are taught by the apostle Paul.

Jesus himself said to love your neighbor as yourself, and Justin did just that. All through his life, he lived by the teachings of his faith; but what his grandfather taught him, what his dad taught him, what his mom taught him, he lived those values out every single day.

Now, I know that Justin would want one thing because Justin cared a lot about his comrades. He would be embarrassed to think that we were naming this post office in his name alone. There were four other soldiers that were killed in the 8th District of Wisconsin.

I want to remember them today as well because it is about them, too. Sergeant Paul Atim from Green Bay; Staff Sergeant Matthew Hermanson from Appleton; Staff Sergeant Eppinger from Appleton; and Staff Sergeant Bear from Elton, Wisconsin, all of these soldiers gave their lives on behalf of this country. Their brave and selfless service deserves to be remembered.

So what do we do? We take the time, and we say thank you, and then we blazon Justin's name on a post office, so that when the citizens of De Pere, Wisconsin, go into that post office, they see their hero's name and remember. That is what we should do today.

I thank my colleagues for supporting this bill.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I too am prepared to close.

I want to urge the passage of H.R. 1228, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I am moved by Mr. RIBBLE's speech. I am moved by the sacrifices that men

and women make every day serving this country. I do think nothing could be more appropriate than honoring the memory of Corporal Justin D. Ross by naming the post office building in De Pere, Wisconsin, after him.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in voting for this bill, H.R. 1228, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1228, 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.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam 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 motion will be postponed.

SERGEANT WILLIAM MOODY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3060) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 232 Southwest Johnson Avenue in Burleson, Texas, as the "Sergeant William Moody Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3060

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

SECTION 1. SERGEANT WILLIAM MOODY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 232 Southwest Johnson Avenue in Burleson, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Sergeant William Moody 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 William Moody Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Madam 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 materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 3060, introduced by the gentleman from Texas, Mr. ROGER WILLIAMS, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 232 Southwest Johnson Avenue in Burleson, Texas, as the Sergeant William Moody Post Office Building.

As a fellow Texan, I am proud to join my colleague, Mr. WILLIAMS, in urging this body to name this postal facility in honor of Sergeant William Moody.

□ 1615

Sergeant Moody went above and beyond the call of duty, serving in both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps. He served two tours of duty in Iraq while he was a marine, and he was finishing his second and last tour of duty in Afghanistan with the Army when a Taliban rocket attack on Bagram Air Force Base took his life on June 18 of 2013. William Moody was a 30-year-old husband and father of three.

Madam Speaker, I was particularly touched to read about the special homecoming surprise that Sergeant Moody had in store for his family. While deployed in Afghanistan, he contacted the fire department in Burleson and asked if he could surprise his children by picking them up from school in a fire truck on the day of his return. Of course, the chief and the firefighters responded with a resounding "yes" to this request, and they exchanged emails with Sergeant Moody, making plans for his return up until the afternoon of the day before his death. Even in the midst of a war zone, Sergeant Moody's thoughts and hopes were back home in Texas, with his wife and children, demonstrating his deep dedication to family. His example and his love of his family should move, touch, and inspire all of us, and it should be an example that we should all follow.

Sergeant Moody was a highly decorated soldier and marine. Among his honors were an Army Commendation Medal, a Combat Action Ribbon, an Army Good Conduct Medal, a Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart, just to name a few.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute before this body to a fellow Texan who gave his life in the defense of our country. I am grateful to Sergeant William Moody for his service, and I urge all Members to join me in the strong support of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

As a member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3060, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 232 Southwest Johnson Avenue, in Burleson, Texas, as the Sergeant William Moody Post Office Building.

This measure before us was introduced on August 2, 2013, by my colleague, Representative ROGER WILLIAMS of Texas. In accordance with