

our admiration for our country's Armed Forces, and will honor one of the many heroes who have sacrificed their lives in the name of freedom.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3472.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for his leadership, not just on this, but for those in Alden and throughout his district.

I urge all Members to support H.R. 3472, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I join Mr. MEADOWS in urging all of my colleagues to support the passage of this bill.

Just to comment, listening to Mr. COLLINS and to his predecessors—and we are going to have a few more—it is so amazing to think about these people that live in all of our districts, and what they did quietly with no expectation that anyone would notice or a post office would be named.

The thing I find inspiring, as I am listening to my colleagues, is that it is all really rooted in their local community. We are naming post offices, which is the center of activity for a lot of us, to recognize the everyday accomplishments of people who consider themselves to be everyday Americans, but who are quite extraordinary.

So I thank Mr. MEADOWS and Mr. COLLINS, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3472.

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.

THADDEUS STEVENS POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1865) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the "Thaddeus Stevens Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1865

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

SECTION 1. THADDEUS STEVENS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, shall be known and designated as the "Thaddeus Stevens 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 "Thaddeus Stevens Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. 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 materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today to urge support of H.R. 1865, introduced by Representative WELCH, my good friend from Vermont, which would designate the postal facility located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the Thaddeus Stevens Post Office.

Thaddeus Stevens was born in Danville, Vermont, on April 4, 1792. He attended nearby Peacham Academy and went on to study at the University of Vermont and Dartmouth College. After graduating from Dartmouth, Stevens moved to Pennsylvania to study law. He practiced law in Gettysburg and spent 4 years as a member of the Pennsylvania State legislature.

Thaddeus Stevens served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1849 to 1853 and from 1859 until his death in 1868. He is best remembered for being a fierce opponent of slavery and discrimination against African Americans. He was instrumental in the passage of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and fought for African American rights during Reconstruction.

I ask my colleagues to honor the courageous actions and momentous contributions of this great American by voting in favor of H.R. 1865.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I thank my colleague, Mr. MEADOWS. You spoke very well and eloquently about how Vermonters are very proud of Thaddeus Stevens. You gave so much of his biography that I am going to just embrace what you said, but I am going to give you one pronunciation hint: it is Peacham, Vermont. We are going to bring you up there and show you where Thaddeus Stevens was born.

Again, thank you so much for your very gracious remarks about Thaddeus Stevens. We in Vermont are very proud of him, as I think Americans are, for many reasons.

Vermont was the 14th State. We were the first State that banned slavery in its constitution. We were also the first independent republic that had become part of the Union.

Thaddeus Stevens, we would like to think, carried on what was a Vermont

conviction about the freedom of men and women, regardless of race. That conviction was to fight against slavery throughout the most tumultuous times of our republic: the years going up to the Civil War, the years during the Civil War, and then the post-Civil War Reconstruction period.

Some of the most important contributions by the United States Congress occurred after the Civil War, with the passage of, among other things, the 14th Amendment. Thaddeus Stevens was a leading proponent of that 14th Amendment that guaranteed due process of law to all of our citizens, regardless of race. This has been extremely important in our Constitution.

Thaddeus Stevens was a self-made person. He went to a local school. He attended Dartmouth and then went to Pennsylvania to make his mark. He becomes a State legislator. He was elected to Congress in one party, but he later changed. He began in the Anti-Masonic Party, later changed to the Whig Party, and then eventually joined the Republican Party.

All the while, he was guided by a conviction that all men and women are created equal. That is the test that each of us faces: How can we bring to life that constitutional commitment that all of us have embraced?

I would like to thank Senator SANDERS for his leadership in working with the Danville community to draft this bill. Senator SANDERS was also a transplant from Brooklyn, New York. He lived in the Danville area. He has been a lifelong admirer of Thaddeus Stevens.

Senator LEAHY, of course, was also a steadfast supporter in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this bill to acknowledge Thaddeus Stevens' public service and the steadfast dedication that his life represents to the equality of our citizens, regardless of race.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, my apologies to the residents of Peacham, Vermont. I thank my good friend from Vermont.

Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers. I urge all Members to support H.R. 1865, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1865.

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.

NATIONAL CLANDESTINE SERVICE OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY NCS OFFICER GREGG DAVID WENZEL MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 2112) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the “National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2112

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

SECTION 1. NATIONAL CLANDESTINE SERVICE OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY NCS OFFICER GREGG DAVID WENZEL MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, shall be known and designated as the “National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial 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 “National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Vermont.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 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 North Carolina?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2112, introduced by Representative SEAN PATRICK MALONEY, which would designate the postal facility located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office.

Mr. Wenzel joined the CIA in the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks on his native New York City, driven by a call to serve his country and a purpose greater than himself.

He was tragically killed in a car accident in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on July 9, 2003, leaving behind his parents, Gladys and Mitchell; three sisters and brothers-in-law; and many nieces, nephews, and other family members and friends.

Born in Manhattan, Mr. Wenzel grew up in the Bronx and Monroe, New York, and graduated from Binghamton University and the University of Miami School of Law. Prior to his service in the CIA, Mr. Wenzel was a public de-

fender in Miami and worked for the Florida Bar Association, where he tried supreme court cases. He was also a police academy instructor for the Miami-Dade Community College.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Wenzel was a person of remarkable accomplishments. In addition to his successful career, he finished 10 marathons, 3 Ironman competitions, and was a world traveler. He was also affiliated with and volunteered for many organizations.

I ask my colleagues to honor Gregg David Wenzel’s sacrifice and service to his country by voting in favor of H.R. 2112, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 2112, to designate a facility of the United States Postal Service as the National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office.

I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise today to honor the service and pay tribute to Gregg David Wenzel, a National Clandestine Service officer of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Gregg graduated from Monroe-Woodbury High School in my district and from SUNY Binghamton. He then went on to graduate from the University of Miami School of Law in the mid-nineties.

Choosing a life of public service, he worked as a public defender in Miami before taking a job with the Florida Bar Association. After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Gregg joined the CIA. He was a member of the first post-9/11 class.

Serving in his very first assignment abroad in 2002, at the age of only 33, he lost his life in service to our country in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on July 9, 2003. The CIA honored Gregg and his service by placing a star on their memorial wall at the CIA headquarters, but it was not until later in 2009 that the full story of his service could be shared publicly.

Gregg Wenzel represents an entire generation who bravely served their country by answering the call to service following the attacks of September 11. He sought a career at the Agency for two reasons: to serve his country and to “live for a greater purpose than himself.” That is a legacy and expression of service that we can all learn from.

Recognized as a leader by CIA Director Leon Panetta and known for his sense of humor and desire to make a difference, Gregg served on the front lines of our intelligence operation abroad and ultimately sacrificed his life in defense of the freedoms we all too frequently take for granted.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to Gregg and his family, including his

mother, Gladys; his father, Mitchell; and his sisters, Maura, Rachel, and Heather.

With passage of H.R. 2112, a post office in Monroe, New York, will be named in his honor. For generations to come, his hometown will be reminded of his service and sacrifice, and my neighbors will continue to be inspired by this man’s deep devotion to his country.

Although no one can ever fully repay his family for their tragic loss, I hope this bill will come as some small comfort and tribute to his memory.

Mr. Speaker, with honor and respect for the life of Gregg David Wenzel, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2112.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support passage of H.R. 2112, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2112.

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.

JAMES “JIM” KOHNEN POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1671) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the “James ‘Jim’ Kohnen Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1671

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

SECTION 1. JAMES “JIM” KOHNEN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, shall be known and designated as the “James ‘Jim’ Kohnen 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 “James ‘Jim’ Kohnen Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

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