

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 4416, introduced by Representative ANN KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, would redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza was born in Arizona in 1922. Mendoza entered the United States Army in November of 1942, at the outset of the U.S.'s entry into World War II. Mendoza was a highly decorated soldier. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his action on Mount Battaglia in Italy on October 4, 1944, where it is said he broke up a German counterattack on his own. Mendoza also served with distinction in the Korean war. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Mendoza earned a number of other medals and the Bronze Star. Staff Sergeant Mendoza passed away in 2001.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from Arizona, Representative ANN KIRKPATRICK, for introducing H.R. 4416, a bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building.

Manuel Verdugo Mendoza was born in 1922 in Miami, Arizona. Manuel was known as a man who worked hard to provide for his family.

He married his wife, Alice Gaona, in August 1942, and was drafted into the Army in November of that same year.

Just this year, Manuel was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on October 4, 1944, in Italy. On that day, Staff Sergeant Mendoza is credited with breaking up a German counterattack of 200 troops.

After World War II, Staff Sergeant Mendoza went on to serve with distinction in the Korean war before being honorably discharged in 1954.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza passed away at the age of 79 in 2001. He was survived by his wife, two daughters, and a son. In addition to the Medal of Honor, he also received the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, and a host of other honors and distinctions.

We should pass this bill today to recognize Staff Sergeant Mendoza's service to our Nation and bravery in combat.

With that, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. KIRKPATRICK), my distinguished colleague, the sponsor of the legislation.

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the late

Staff Sergeant Manuel Mendoza, an American hero, who was born in my Arizona district, and to urge support for my bill to rename the United States Post Office in Miami, Arizona, in his honor.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza was born in 1922 in the eastern Arizona mining town of Miami. At the age of 20, he was drafted into the United States Army, where he was nicknamed "the Arizona Kid" for his heroism in battle.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza posthumously received the Medal of Honor for singlehandedly repelling a 1944 German assault on Italy's Mount Battaglia during World War II. That afternoon, the Germans launched a fierce counterattack against Allied forces, but due to Staff Sergeant Mendoza's determination, bravery, and selflessness, he was able to kill 30 enemy troops and successfully defend the Allied position.

Later in his service, he went on to fight in Korea. After retiring from the Armed Forces, Mr. Mendoza returned to Mesa, Arizona, where he died in 2001. He is survived by his wife and three children.

It is my honor to introduce H.R. 4416, which redesignates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza's service was in keeping with the highest traditions of military service, as he demonstrated outstanding heroism above and beyond the call of duty.

To name a U.S. post office in my district after such a man is not only a credit to him, but to the State of Arizona and our Armed Forces.

On behalf of Arizona's entire delegation, I thank you, Mr. GOSAR, for your support on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4416 when it comes to a vote later today.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for acknowledging all the members of the Arizona delegation for looking forward to the post office in Miami to be looked at in fond remembrance of "the Arizona Kid." It is fitting that today is an Arizona day for post offices here on the House floor.

With that, I ask all Members of Congress to pass H.R. 4416, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAMALFA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4416.

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.

## VINCENT R. SOMBROTTO POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2291) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2291

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

### SECTION 1. VINCENT R. SOMBROTTO POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Vincent R. Sombrotto 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 "Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 2291, introduced by Representative CAROLYN MALONEY of New York, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office.

Vincent Sombrotto was born in Manhattan in 1923. Mr. Sombrotto was a longtime advocate for postal workers. He joined the National Association of Letter Carriers in 1947 and served as its 16th president from 1978 to 2002. He passed away in 2013 at the age of 89.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY of New York, for introducing H.R. 2291, and I join her in supporting this bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office.

Mr. Vincent Raymond Sombrotto was born in New York on June 15, 1923. He joined what was then known as the Post Office Department in 1947 as a

part-time letter carrier after serving with distinction in the Navy during World War II.

In 1971, Sombrotto was elected president of the New York City branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers. In 1978, he was elected as NALC's national president, a position he held until 2002.

He was an active supporter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, helping to raise millions of dollars to fight neuromuscular diseases.

Sombrotto passed away in 2013 at the age of 89. He was survived by his wife, seven children, and 14 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), the distinguished sponsor of the legislation.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership on the Oversight Committee. I thank him and Chairman ISSA for moving this legislation through the committee. It would rename a United States Postal Service facility located in my district at 450 Lexington Avenue after Vincent R. Sombrotto, who is one of the most significant labor leaders of his generation.

Like many of his Postal Service colleagues, Vincent Sombrotto traded his military uniform for a letter carrier's uniform, and he wore both with great distinction.

As a letter carrier at New York City's Grand Central Station in the district I represent, Mr. Sombrotto led the 1970 wildcat postal strike that led Congress to reorganize the modern United States Postal Service.

Later elected as president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, their 16th president, serving from 1978 to 2002, Mr. Sombrotto worked to increase letter carrier wages, moving them from poverty level into middle class levels.

In 1992, he began the National Association of Letter Carrier's food drive, which has developed into the country's biggest 1-day food drive in the entire country. Since it started, the drive has provided more than 1.2 billion pounds of food for food banks in communities throughout the United States.

As a firm believer in civic responsibility, Mr. Sombrotto worked with the United States Postal Service and emergency services organizations to establish Carrier Alert. Carrier Alert is a nationwide program allowing postal carriers to perform humanitarian deeds on their routes, including saving lives, finding missing children and pets, and looking after the elderly.

I urge my colleagues to honor Mr. Sombrotto, who worked to improve the lives of letter carriers, their families,

and their communities by supporting H.R. 2291.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. With that, I urge all Members to vote in favor of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2291.

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.

#### ALL CIRCUIT REVIEW EXTENSION ACT

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4197) to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4197

*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 "All Circuit Review Extension Act".

#### SEC. 2. JUDICIAL REVIEW OF MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD DECISIONS RELATING TO WHISTLEBLOWERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7703(b)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking "2-year" and inserting "5-year".

(b) DIRECTOR REVIEW.—Section 7703(d)(2) of such title is amended by striking "2-year" and inserting "5-year".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

In November 2012, the President signed into law the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act. This legislation was needed to update existing law

to better help protect whistleblowers from retaliation for helping expose waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government.

Unfortunately, some managers were using loopholes in existing law to punish well-intentioned employees for bringing bad behavior to the light of day. These actions likely dissuaded some whistleblowers from coming forward to end wasteful or corrupt activities.

In addition, during the Oversight Committee's work on this legislation, it became apparent that many whistleblowers also may not have been getting a fair shake in Federal circuit court. Therefore, the legislation created a 2-year pilot allowing for all circuit review of whistleblower appeals, enabling whistleblower cases to be appealed outside the Federal circuit.

In the 18 months since the law's enactment, very few appeals have been heard outside of the Federal circuit, giving Congress an insufficient sample size to judge whether the various courts are appropriate venues for whistleblower appeals.

H.R. 4197 simply extends the 2-year all circuit review pilot for an additional 3 years. Extending the pilot will provide additional evidence for Congress to consider as we seek to determine the fairest and most efficient way for whistleblower cases to be handled under the Federal court system.

We must do everything in our power to help defend those who seek to do the right thing by protecting Americans and their hard-earned tax dollars.

I want to thank Chairman ISSA and Ranking Member CUMMINGS for their work on this legislation, and I support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I introduced this bipartisan bill to protect important due process rights for whistleblowers. I want to thank the original cosponsors of this bill, Oversight Committee Chairman DARRELL ISSA, Federal Workforce Subcommittee Chairman BLAKE FARENTHOLD, Ranking Member GERRY CONNOLLY, and longtime whistleblower advocate and fellow Member from the State of Maryland, Representative CHRIS VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 4197 extends a provision in the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act that was signed into law on November 27, 2012. Under that law, whistleblowers were allowed to file appeals in any circuit court of appeals with jurisdiction during the 2 years following enactment. The 2-year period will expire on November 27 of this year.

This bill would extend the all circuit review provision for an additional 3 years. Without this provision, whistleblowers could only appeal a decision by the Merit Systems Protection Board to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal circuit.

The Federal circuit has become increasingly restrictive of whistleblower