

Aurora, Illinois, as the “Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building,” was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2891

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

SECTION 1. KENNETH M. CHRISTY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 525 North Broadway in Aurora, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the “Kenneth M. Christy 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 “Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building”.

CAMP PENDLETON MEDAL OF HONOR POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 136) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1103 USPS Building 1103 in Camp Pendleton, California, as the “Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

W. RONALD COALE MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 1132) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1048 West Robinhood Drive in Stockton, California, as the “W. Ronald Coale Memorial Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

LIONEL R. COLLINS, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 2458) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5351 Lapalco Boulevard in Marrero, Louisiana, as the “Lionel R. Collins, Sr. Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

HAROLD GEORGE BENNETT POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 2928) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 B Street in Perryville, Arkansas, as the “Harold George Bennett Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

DARYLE HOLLOWAY POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3082) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5919 Chef Menteur Highway in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the “Daryle Holloway Post Office

Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

FRANCIS MANUEL ORTEGA POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3274) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4567 Rockbridge Road in Pine Lake, Georgia, as the “Francis Manuel Ortega Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MELVOID J. BENSON POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3601) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7715 Post Road, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, as the “Melvoid J. Benson Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MAYA ANGELOU MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3735) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Town Run Lane in Winston Salem, North Carolina, as the “Maya Angelou Memorial Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

FIRST LIEUTENANT SALVATORE S. CORMA II POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3866) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1265 Hurffville Road in Deptford Township, New Jersey, as the “First Lieutenant Salvatore S. Corma II Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SECOND LT. ELLEN AINSWORTH MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 4046) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 East Oak Street, Glenwood City, Wisconsin, as the Second Lt. Ellen Ainsworth Memorial Post Office, was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SGT. 1ST CLASS TERRY L. PASKER POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 4605) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 615 6th Avenue SE in Cedar Rapids, Iowa as the “Sgt. 1st Class Terry L. Pasker Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SPECIALIST ROSS A. MCGINNIS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 433 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 433) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 523 East Railroad Street in Knoxville, Tennessee, as the “Specialist Ross A. McGinnis Memorial Post Office.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 433) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

PATENTS FOR HUMANITY PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1402 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1402) to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferable.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today the Senate is passing legislation to strengthen an important humanitarian innovation prize created by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PTO. Since 2012, the Patents for Humanity Award has recognized selected patent holders who use their inventions to address humanitarian needs. The legislation the Senate passed today will strengthen the award program and encourage innovators to continue using their work for humanitarian goals.

The innovations that are recognized by the Patents for Humanity Award program help underserved people throughout the world. Award winners have worked to improve nutrition, provide clean drinking water, fix broken bones in remote hospitals that lack x-ray technology, bring solar-powered energy to villages that are off the power grid, and combat the problem of dangerous counterfeit drugs, among other achievements. Winners of the Patents for Humanity Award demonstrate that our patent system does more than drive economic gain for individual companies; it can incentivize research and discoveries that promote humanitarian good.

Winners of the Patents for Humanity Award receive a one-time certificate to accelerate a process or application at the PTO, as described in the program rules. For several years, small businesses and global health groups have told me that the prize would be more usable, particularly for small business innovators, if the acceleration certificates awarded were transferable to a third party. Award winners who are not able to use the acceleration certificate themselves will be able to transfer the certificate to another inventor, including through sale, allowing the winner to receive a cash benefit. By making the certificates transferable, we are increasing the value of this humanitarian innovation prize without using a single taxpayer dollar.

The thoughtful structure of the Patents for Humanity Award program, set forth in its founding documents in the Federal Register, will ensure that this program remains sustainable and does not unduly burden the PTO or other patent applicants whose applications are pending before the Office. The award is granted to only a select number of patent holders per year—approximately 10 or fewer, with a further 20 applications receiving honorable mentions—and the PTO has provided clear guidance on the types of processes for which the certificates may be used. Program judges are selected based on recognized subject matter expertise, with clear competition criteria, and rules in place to prevent conflicts of interest. These practices and safeguards, which are described in detail in the Federal Register at 79 Fed. Reg. 18670 and 77 Fed. Reg. 6544, will ensure that the program continues to operate appropriately and well.

The Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act is a straightforward and bipartisan bill that will strengthen this valuable innovation program and encourage inventions to be used for humanitarian good. I thank other Senators for supporting this bill and urge the House to pass it without delay.

Mr. McCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1402) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1402

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 “Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act”.

SEC. 2. TRANSFERABILITY OF ACCELERATION CERTIFICATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A holder of an acceleration certificate issued pursuant to the Patents for Humanity Program (established in the notice entitled “Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program”, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012)), or any successor

thereto, of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, may transfer (including by sale) the entitlement to such acceleration certificate to another person.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—An acceleration certificate transferred under subsection (a) shall be subject to any other applicable limitations under the notice entitled “Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program”, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012), or any successor thereto.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE CHALLENGES OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER-CARE SYSTEM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 466.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 466) recognizing National Foster Care Month as an opportunity to raise awareness about the challenges of children in the foster-care system, and encouraging Congress to implement policy to improve the lives of children in the foster-care system.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the month of May gives us the chance to raise awareness about the challenges of children in the foster care system and to consider ways to improve policies and practices to ensure that children are in safe, loving, and permanent homes. There are nearly 415,000 children living in foster care; more than 255,000 entered the foster care system in 2014 alone.

According to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, AFCARS, data for fiscal year 2014, the vast majority of foster children reside with a foster parent: 29 percent live in the foster family home of a relative, and 46 percent live in the foster family home of a non-relative. The rest live in institutions, 8 percent; groups homes, 6 percent; pre-adoptive homes, 4 percent; trial home visits, 5 percent; supervised independent living, 1 percent; or are runaways, 1 percent.

As co-founder and co-chair of the Senate Caucus on Foster Youth, I led a bipartisan and bicameral group of colleagues in introducing legislation recognizing May as National Foster Care Month. The resolution aims to bring foster care issues to the forefront and recognize the essential role that foster parents, social workers, and advocates have in the lives of children in foster care.

While there have been vast improvements over the years, there are many challenges still facing our Nation's youth. These children have experienced abuse or neglect, often both. They can

be moved from home to home, transferred from one school to the next, and endure trauma and mental health challenges. Older foster youth face difficult challenges as well. They deal with separation from their parents, educational instability, separation disorders, and depression, as well as challenge of transitioning to adulthood on their own. Whereas youth in foster care are much more likely to face educational instability with 65 percent of former foster children experiencing at least seven school changes while in care. The number of youth who age out of foster care has steadily increased for the past decade as well.

The resolution encourages Congress to implement policy that further the goals of safety and permanency. The resolution currently has 24 co-sponsors.

Because there are so many issues that affect youth in the foster care system, it is important that members of Congress understand the realities beyond the beltway. That is why I helped form the Senate Caucus on Foster Youth. Our caucus was created to be a clearinghouse for members in the Senate to discuss policy issues that cross many committee jurisdictions. Our caucus was also created to help generate better ideas and best practices. We want people to learn from both youth and experts. And we want these ideas to be put into practice. Today, 21 Senators are committed members of the Foster Youth Caucus. It is a bipartisan caucus that focuses on understanding the challenges that foster youth face and finding solutions that can improve their lives.

Because of the challenges facing older youth, I held a hearing as chairman of the Judiciary Committee to examine the interplay between the foster care system and the juvenile justice system when children are involved with both systems. The hearing focused on what data, or lack thereof, currently exists about children involved in both systems, the risk factors associated with foster children who become exposed to the juvenile justice system, and how to improve on current best practices implemented by the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

My goal for holding this hearing was to spark innovative solutions and to forge relationships between two distinct groups—the juvenile justice system and child welfare system. The experts in these fields must come together to help dually involved youth who are in need of services.

It was also a renewed call for Congress to pass the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act, which I helped author. If this measure is enacted, States participating in the juvenile justice formula grants program couldn't lock up foster care children merely for running away from a foster home. Some of these runaways are fleeing abusive situations and detention isn't the right place for them. Our bill, which awaits action by the full Senate, also encourages States