

and property is Job No. 1 of the City Council, the City Manager, and the highly respected public employees of Foster City.

In addition to serving as City Manager and Parks and Recreation Director, Kevin Miller has participated in economic development, housing and other activities during his time in public service. He has the confidence of the business community because he runs a business-like operation at city hall.

It was many years ago that Kevin graduated from Chico State with a bachelor's degree in parks and recreation administration. He ultimately assumed statewide leadership positions in the Parks and Recreation Association, served on the county's library authority, and assumed positions of regional oversight.

He now says that he wishes to spend more time with Loretta, his wife of 35 years, and their adult children, Jacqueline and Leslie. He's earned it, and we understand if he does more golfing in the future than he has in the past. However, he will be missed. If they could, even the seagulls would give thanks for his leadership because, despite admonishments by their parents to the contrary, children in the parks that Kevin created still love to feed the gulls.

So let me take a moment to note these salutes to the thoughtfulness and professional judgment of Kevin Miller—from the children whose smiles he helped to nurture, from the parents whose homes he helped to secure, from the city employees whose spirits he elevated, from the public safety personnel he strongly supported, from the city councilmembers whose confidence he earned, and from the wildlife who eat well because Kevin left room for their needs when he planned public spaces.

Mr. Speaker, Kevin Miller is the John Philip Sousa of public management. The public is inspired by his work, and he'll leave this chapter of his life with everyone who knows him tapping their toes and moving to his beat as he goes through the door.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER AND SERVICE OF NORTH BALTI- MORE'S BONNIE KNAGGS

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the commitment and dedication of long-time reporter and editor, Bonnie Knaggs, who recently retired as editor of the North Baltimore News. Bonnie has dedicated more than half of her life to reporting the news and has done a wonderful job serving the North Baltimore community.

A Bloom Township native and graduate of North Baltimore High School, Bonnie has been a village resident for 80 years. What initially began as a hobby taking picture out of her apartment windows soon transitioned into a career in newspapers. In 1959, Bonnie started work at North Baltimore News selling newspaper subscriptions before being named editor just six years later.

Throughout her decades-long career, Bonnie has served as a bookkeeper, photographer, and reporter. Her work as editor for the newspaper helped ensure that residents

could stay up-to-date on what was happening in their community.

Bonnie helped cover some of the most important moments in her community including the installation of the first traffic lights and a massive fire at the Trout furniture building downtown. I want to thank her for her years of service to North Baltimore and wish her all the best in her well-earned retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 6076

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, with fourteen legislative weeks left in 2018, it is imperative the Congress take up legislation to provide the United States Postal Service with the legislative relief that it needs to stabilize its finances, modernize its business model, and return to solvency in order to continue to provide dependable service to millions of Americans across this country who rely on it.

Last year, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform approved the Postal Service Reform Act of 2017 (H.R. 756) by voice vote. Throughout the process, the Committee worked with the United States Postal Service, private sector stakeholders, and the postal unions in order to report a bill that has near unanimous support. Unfortunately, shortly after the Oversight and Government Reform Committee approved H.R. 756, then-Chairman Chaffetz retired from the House of Representatives, leaving the bill without a primary sponsor.

That is why I am pleased to join my friend Representative MARK MEADOWS to re-introduce the Postal Service Reform Act (H.R. 6076) with the language that the Oversight and Government Reform reported out last year. Like last year's bill, H.R. 6076 would sustain six-day delivery, which provides vital services to millions of Americans and thousands of businesses across the nation. The bill would require the Postal Service to establish and follow a rigorous, empirical, and transparent process when evaluating whether to close postal retail or processing facilities, while empowering the Postal Regulatory Commission with the authority to review and overturn closure decisions. Additionally, the bill would authorize the Postal Service to modernize its business model through innovative service enhancements, such as co-locating retail and government services with postal facilities. This reform would not only boost revenue, but increase convenience to everyday Americans who would benefit from being able to simultaneously renew their drivers licenses while mailing a package. Most importantly, the bill would fix a problem Congress created by providing the Postal Service with relief from the onerous and unnecessarily high prepayment requirements for the Postal Retirement Health Benefit.

The Postal Service plays an important role in the lives of every American and a critical role for our country's economy. Unlike private companies who pick and choose their customers, set their own rates, and can decide to deliver mail and packages only where it is financially beneficial, the Postal Service has a universal service obligation to deliver mail six

days a week to every part of America—rural or urban—for the same price. In fact, companies such as FedEx and UPS use the Postal Service to do "last mile" delivery for many packages in rural areas. And for many Americans, the Postal Service is the only option for them to pay their bills or receive communication and packages, including medicine and goods that they may not otherwise have access to.

Postal Service operations are solely funded by sales revenue from postal products and services. However, the Postal Service faces two obstacles as it attempts to find financial stability and even become profitable. First, with the rise of electronic communications, the Postal Service has experienced a drastic decline in mail volume. In 2008, the USPS delivered 202.7 billion pieces of mail. In each year since 2008, mail volume has declined and in 2017, that number had fallen to 149.5 billion pieces of mail. Unfortunately, the Postal Service mail volume is likely to continue to decline and it is difficult to imagine a scenario where mail volume will go back to the same levels as last decade.

The main driver of the Postal Service's dire financial situation is the requirement that it, unlike any other federal entity, is required to prepay all employee health care benefits, 75 years into the future. The Postal Service first raised concerns about the aggressive payment plan mandated under the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (P.L. 109-435) in 2010. That problem was not created by the U.S. Postal Service, the Postmaster General, or its hardworking men and women. Rather, it was Congress that imposed this short-sighted policy decision. For that reason, the responsibility falls on Congress to restore financial stability to the Postal Service.

Without Congressional action to relieve the Postal Service of the pre-funding requirement or a drastic change in mail volume, the Postal Service has reported a financial loss for 11 straight years. In fiscal year 2017, the Postal Service posted a loss of \$2.7 billion. More recently, the Postal Service reported a net loss of \$1.3 billion for the second quarter of fiscal year 2018 alone, more than doubling its losses in the same period a year ago. With declining revenues and increasing unfunded liabilities, the Postal Service is being forced into a downward spiral of cutting services, losing revenue, further downsizing, and eventual bankruptcy.

However, there is room for hope. While mail volume is declining, the Postal Service's package delivery service has been one of the few areas of growth in Postal Service revenues, experiencing double-digit increases in recent years and accounting for nearly 30 percent of its operating revenue in fiscal year 2017. In fact, the demand for the Postal Service to deliver packages for Amazon, FedEx, UPS, and other retailers is so great, that package delivery has expanded to seven days—a competitive edge for the Postal Service. The Postal Service's package delivery services not only help mitigate losses in other areas, but provide the American people with low-cost services for retail purchases.

After more than 9 years and many stalled efforts, leaders in Congress have arrived at a bipartisan framework for postal reform. The effort enjoys support from industry, labor, Democrats, and Republicans—not an insignificant feat. Is it perfect? Did every stakeholder get

exactly what they wanted? Of course not. But tackling big issues demands collaboration and compromise. While it is easy to identify the many challenges that ail the Postal Service, missing from almost any serious diagnosis is the fundamental albatross around the Service's neck. Some would advocate that there is a simple, easy, and perfect solution to restore the Postal Service. They offer their own purity test, impervious to new information, pragmatic considerations, and all context, for what must be included in a reform bill. It would be foolish to let perfect be the enemy of the good. Rather than re-litigate the discrete disagreements that guarantee its demise, our coalition has a worthy proposal that can save the Service. That should be the focus.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA POLICE HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Police Home Rule Act. This bill is necessary to eliminate the President's authority to federalize the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the local District of Columbia police department. The President has no authority to federalize any other local or state police department, and no president has tried to federalize MPD. Under the Home Rule Act, "whenever the President . . . determines that special conditions of an emergency nature exist which require the use of the [MPD] for Federal purposes, he may direct the Mayor to provide him, and the Mayor shall provide, such services of the [MPD] as the President may deem necessary and appropriate."

Under the section of the Home Rule Act that would be repealed by this bill, the President may federalize MPD for a period of not more than 30 days, unless a resolution passed by

Congress extending such federalization is enacted into law. Congress may also terminate the federalization at any time by enacting a resolution. This bill is necessary, even with these protections, because, under the principle of home rule, the President should not have control over the District's local police department.

While it does not appear that a President has exercised this authority over MPD, this latent power is totally unnecessary, should not exist and is an affront to MPD, which has always voluntarily assisted federal authorities. MPD's first responsibility is to protect District residents and visitors, and it must always remain under the authority of the D.C. mayor to accomplish its mission. Moreover, federalization is outdated in light of current practice. MPD regularly assists the federal government as a matter of comity, not as an arm of the federal government, just as I am sure other local police departments do in the region. There are approximately 30 federal police departments under the President's control in the District. In the case of a federal emergency, the President can unilaterally deploy these federal officers, as well as the D.C. National Guard, to address it, and also request the support of our local police department, as the President would do in any other jurisdiction.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF JACK VAN DUNCAN

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Jack Van Duncan of Buncombe County, North Carolina. I would like to express my gratitude to Sheriff Duncan for his 32 years of serving and protecting the citizens of Western North Carolina.

Sheriff Van Duncan was born in Spruce Pine, North Carolina and graduated from Mitchell County High School. Sheriff Van Duncan began his career in Law Enforcement in 1986, after graduating from Western Carolina University with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Sheriff Van Duncan went on to graduate from the Administrative Officer's Management Program at North Carolina State University in 1993.

Over the course of his career, Sheriff Van Duncan has worked at the Weaverville and Asheville police departments, as well as the Biltmore Estate, where he served as chief of company police for six years. While with the Buncombe County Sheriff's office, he proudly served as a Patrolman, Patrol Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, and Detective during his years as a Deputy. He worked as an Instructor in the Management and Supervision Section for the North Carolina Justice Academy for two and a half years before being elected Sheriff in 2006. Sheriff Van Duncan has served as Sheriff for Buncombe County for 12 years.

Sheriff Van Duncan has had many accomplishments as Sheriff over the last 12 years. He earned the respect of his colleagues by leading with integrity and restoring good order within the Sheriff's Department. Not only that, he has been an innovator for helping the children in Buncombe County by starting the On Track Leadership Program to help rising eighth and ninth graders with good decision-making skills. He has also been instrumental in starting a juvenile diversion program that will help young people avoid obtaining a criminal record.

Sheriff Van Duncan has consistently displayed professionalism and candor during his time in office and focused on meeting the needs of the people in Buncombe County. He has deeply impacted the lives of the people he proudly served for 12 years, and it is my distinct honor to recognize his outstanding work and express the best wishes of the people of Western North Carolina to Sheriff Van Duncan on the occasion of his retirement.