

unsanitary conditions, thousands of veterans, both Union and Confederate, died at Andersonville.

Of course, in more recent years, Andersonville has been designated as the National Prisoner of War Memorial for our country, and, in that stead, we erected and funded the National Prisoner of War Museum, which is located on the grounds of Andersonville. The facilities there are controlled totally by the National Park Service.

Currently, when veterans are buried in some of the Federal cemeteries, as you have heard, a number of the families are left to pay the burial costs that typically would be afforded them under other circumstances.

Current law requires that when a veteran is buried in a national cemetery under the control of the National Cemetery Administration, that the VA will provide an outer burial receptacle, known in other terms as a grave liner, or it will provide reimbursement to the family for purchase.

However, the current law inexplicably excludes national cemeteries that are under the control of the National Park Service. The Andersonville National Cemetery, located in my district, is one of the two remaining national cemeteries controlled by the National Park Service.

Today, we are taking steps for Congress to correct this oversight and to ensure that veterans buried in cemeteries controlled by the National Park Service, and their families, are provided all of the benefits to which they are entitled, not only for my district but for all of our veterans and their families who have selflessly served our country.

I applaud Senator ISAKSON's successful effort to push this legislation through the Senate under unanimous consent. It is now time for the House to take action, and by voting for this legislation, we can fix this oversight and ensure that all of our veterans and their families are provided appropriate benefits in all of our Federal cemeteries.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 4910, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation of Mr. SCOTT and Mr. BISHOP, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4910, 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. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. 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.

#### SERVICEMEMBER FAMILY BURIAL ACT

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4335) to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for headstones and markers for, and interment in national cemeteries of, deceased spouses and dependent children of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4335

*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 "Servicemember Family Burial Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PROVISION OF HEADSTONES AND MARKERS FOR, AND INTERMENT IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES OF, SPOUSES AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY.

(a) HEADSTONES AND MARKERS.—Section 2306(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, or the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty under conditions other than dishonorable, as shown by a statement from a general court-martial convening authority, at the time of the spouse's death if such death occurs before October 1, 2024” after “veteran”; and

(2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, or the eligible dependent child of a member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty under conditions other than dishonorable, as shown by a statement from a general court-martial convening authority, at the time of the child's death if such death occurs before October 1, 2024” after “veteran”.

(b) INTERMENT IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES.—Section 2402(a)(5) of such title is amended by inserting “, and the spouse, minor child, and, in the discretion of the Secretary, unmarried adult child of a member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty under conditions other than dishonorable, as shown by a statement from a general court-martial convening authority, at the time of the spouse's or child's death if such death occurs before October 1, 2024” after “paragraph (7)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 4335, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4335, the Servicemember Family Burial Act, which was introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA), a member of our committee.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation allows for a veteran's spouse, minor children, and certain other dependents to be interred in a VA national cemetery, even while the veteran is still alive. This ensures that a family may be laid to rest together if the veteran chooses to use a national cemetery.

But there is an unfortunate gap in the law that prevents Active-Duty servicemembers from burying their loved ones in a VA national cemetery. Mr. CORREA's bill would extend VA burial benefits to Active-Duty servicemembers who lose their family members before they leave the military.

To comply with budgeting rules, the manager's amendment would sunset this bill on September 30, 2024.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1645

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

Mr. Speaker, when the VA provides burial and headstones or markers for eligible family members who predecease Active-Duty servicemembers, it is always under tragic and difficult circumstances.

Of course we want to provide these benefits as seamlessly as possible so our servicemembers can move on with their lives. This bill codifies current practice to ensure VA's process of handling these issues with dignity, sensitivity, and compassion.

I want to thank the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee Chairman MIKE BOST and Ranking Member ELIZABETH ESTY for their part in supporting and helping to bring this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 4335, the Servicemember Family Burial Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members to support this commonsense bill, H.R. 4335, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4335, 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. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. 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.

#### MARVIN GAYE POST OFFICE

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1496) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4040 West Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the "Marvin Gaye Post Office", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1496

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

#### SECTION 1. MARVIN GAYE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3585 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, shall be known and designated as the "Marvin Gaye 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 "Marvin Gaye Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSSELL. 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 material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to speak in support of H.R. 1496, as amended, introduced by Congresswoman KAREN BASS. The bill names the United States Post Office at 3585 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, after Marvin Gaye.

Marvin Gaye was born in Washington, D.C., in 1939. After serving in the United States Air Force, he joined Motown Records and went on to compose and record some of the most memorable music in American history. His rendition of the national anthem at the 1983 NBA All-Star game was an instant classic.

His life was, tragically, cut short only 4 years later, 1 day before his 45th birthday.

Marvin Gaye was posthumously inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Mr. Gaye's music will endure for generations.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1496, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3585 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the Marvin Gaye Post Office.

As Members know, Marvin Gaye is a national treasure. I join my colleagues in supporting this designation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the 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 Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1496, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3585 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the 'Marvin Gaye Post Office'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### J. ELLIOTT WILLIAMS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4301) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the "J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4301

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

#### SECTION 1. J. ELLIOTT WILLIAMS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "J. Elliott Williams 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 "J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSSELL. 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 material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4301, introduced by Congressman NORMAN. The bill names the United States Post Office at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, after Chief Petty Officer James Elliott Williams.

Petty Officer Williams was born in Fort Mill, South Carolina, on November 13, 1930. He joined the United States Navy at the young age of 16 and served for 20 years.

Chief Petty Officer Williams was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968 for his actions during the Vietnam war. He is just one of three sailors of Native American heritage to receive the Medal of Honor in the 20th century.

Chief Petty Officer Williams is an American hero, and we thank him and owe a great debt of gratitude for his service. I look forward to hearing more about Chief Petty Officer Williams from the sponsor of the bill, Congressman NORMAN, in a few minutes, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 4301, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building.

James Williams led a life of service dedicated to our country. He served 20 years in the U.S. Navy and in both the Korean and Vietnam wars.

In addition to receiving every sea service award for heroism, James was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968.

After retiring from the military, James served as a U.S. marshal for 20 years.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor James Williams' lifelong service to his country. I urge the passage of H.R. 4301, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1700

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill H.R. 4301, A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street, in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the "J. Elliot Williams Post Office Building."

James Elliot Williams was born in Fort Mill, South Carolina and lived an extraordinary life, in service to our nation. James served in the United States Navy for 20 years. During his tenure, James served in and during the Cold