

(H.R. 4722) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, as the "Maurice D. Hinchey Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4722

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

**SECTION 1. MAURICE D. HINCHEY POST OFFICE BUILDING.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Maurice D. Hinchey 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 "Maurice D. Hinchey 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 have 5 legislative days 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, it is my privilege to support H.R. 4722, introduced by my friend and colleague Mr. FASO. The bill names the United States Post Office at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, after Maurice D. Hinchey.

Maurice Hinchey served in the United States Navy and subsequently entered a life of public service. He started his political career in 1975 as a State assemblyman and served for nine terms until he was elected to the United States Congress.

He served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 10 terms. I thank my colleagues for supporting the effort to name a post office after Maurice Hinchey, who spent his life serving his country and community. I look forward to hearing more about Maurice Hinchey from the sponsor of the bill, Congressman FASO, 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. 4722, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 Market Street as Maurice D. Hinchey Post Office Building.

For two decades, Maurice Hinchey served in this Chamber representing

New York's 22nd Congressional District after beginning his political career 4 years earlier as a State assemblyman. Representative Hinchey was a strong advocate for the environment, conducting an investigation into the Love Canal toxic waste site in New York and leading the charge that passed the Nation's first regulations related to acid rain.

Throughout his career, he fought for the preservation of the Hudson River, and worked to better the lives of his constituents through his focus on agriculture, economic development, and veterans' issues.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to recognize the contributions Maurice Hinchey made to this House and to the lives of those he represented here. I urge the passage of H.R. 4722, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, it is now my privilege to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. FASO), my friend and colleague and the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Oklahoma, and my colleague, the gentleman from Illinois, as well, for their fine comments in relation to this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer support for H.R. 4722, a bill to designate the postal facility at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, as the Maurice D. Hinchey Post Office Building.

Congressman Hinchey was a lifelong New Yorker and a true public servant. He passed away in his home in Saugerties, New York, on November 22, 2017. He is survived by his wife, Ilene Marder, and his three adult children.

He is fondly remembered as a staunch advocate for what he believed, including care for our military veterans and the environment through his support of the Clean Air Act and the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, among many other accomplishments.

The week of his passing, I took to the House floor with the entire New York delegation to mourn the death of our colleague. Today, I stand here with this legislation as a token of remembrance for a father, a husband, a veteran, and a distinguished Member of this House who was dedicated to his constituents and all the people of our Nation.

Mr. Hinchey served 3 years in the U.S. Navy, 18 years in the New York State Assembly, and 20 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, during which time he represented a broad swath of New York State from the Hudson Valley and the Catskill Mountains over to the southern tier of our State as well.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to have served 6 years in the New York State Assembly with Mr. Hinchey, and I am also honored to represent many of the same areas of upstate New York here in Congress as Maurice Hinchey did. I

am joined by 27 bipartisan cosponsors, including the entire New York congressional delegation, to offer this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I especially want to thank Liam Fitzsimmons, who served on the staff of Congressman Hinchey as well as on the staff of the late Congresswoman Louise Slaughter. Congresswoman Slaughter assisted and was a colead on this legislation, and I know she would be pleased by the House passage today of this bill.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge the passage of H.R. 4722, 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. 4722.

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.

**REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3671 AND H.R. 1742**

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor from H.R. 3671 and H.R. 1742.

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

There was no objection.

**SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ALWYN CRENDALL CASHE POST OFFICE BUILDING**

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4840) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 East Franklin Street in Oviedo, Florida, as the "Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4840

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

**SECTION 1. SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ALWYN CRENDALL CASHE POST OFFICE BUILDING.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 East Franklin Street in Oviedo, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe 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 "Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe 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 have 5 legislative days 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, it is my honor today to support H.R. 4840, introduced by Congresswoman STEPHANIE MURPHY. The bill names the United States Post Office at 567 East Franklin Street, Oviedo, Florida, after Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe.

Sergeant First Class Cashe served in the United States Army and was stationed in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was killed on November 8, 2005, as a result of injuries sustained while rescuing his fellow soldiers from an improvised explosive device explosion. With severe burns, Sergeant First Class Cashe returned repeatedly to the vehicle, determined to save his fellow soldiers.

For his heroic actions, he was awarded the Silver Star. Sergeant First Class Cashe exemplified bravery and sacrifice, and he died putting his comrades before himself.

I had the privilege to know and serve with his commander, then-Lieutenant Colonel Gary Brito, who is now a serving general officer. I should also point out, Mr. Speaker, that Sergeant First Class Cashe has been considered and recommended for the Medal of Honor, but to date, no actions have been taken. It is my hope that his case will be reviewed and come under further scrutiny.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill to name a post office in honor of Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1715

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. 4840, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 East Franklin Street in Oviedo, Florida, as the "Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe Post Office Building".

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MURPHY) so that she may tell us more about Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe.

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, President Kennedy once said that a

nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces but also by the men it honors, the men it remembers. Consistent with that principle, my bill would designate a U.S. Post Office building in Oviedo, Florida, after Sergeant First Class Alwyn Cashe.

Sergeant First Class Cashe died in 2005 as a result of wounds suffered while serving in Iraq. When I recount the actions this American soldier and son of Oviedo performed and what he endured in the process, it will take your breath away. The word "hero" is ascribed to many people in our society, perhaps a bit too casually, but this was heroism in its purest and most profound sense.

Let me start the story at the beginning: Alwyn was born in 1970 in Sanford, Florida, and was raised in Oviedo, attending Oviedo High School. He was the youngest of nine children: five girls and four boys. The family didn't have much money, but they had plenty of pride. When Alwyn was 6, his father passed away. Alwyn's mother, Ruby Mae, worked long hours at demanding jobs: working on an assembly line and later as a custodian at Florida Tech, since renamed the University of Central Florida.

One of Alwyn's sisters, Kasinal, described her brother as the baby of the family: rambunctious; a little spoiled by his siblings; and, of course, deeply loved. Alwyn enlisted in the military after high school. Kasinal said it had a transformational effect, turning this somewhat aimless boy into a resolute man, the civilian into a soldier. And not just any soldier but a soldier's soldier, a tough-as-nails infantryman, and an old-school leader in the best sense of the term.

As Kasinal put it, Alwyn "bled Army green" right from the start. The Army gave him a second family with even more brothers and sisters, bound together by the American flag on their uniform and the events they experienced and endured together from boot camp to combat.

On October 17, 2005, Alwyn, now Sergeant First Class Cashe, was on his second deployment to Iraq. That fateful day, the Bradley Fighting Vehicle carrying him, six other American soldiers, and the squad's Iraqi interpreter struck an IED. The blast instantly killed the interpreter and ruptured the vehicle's fuel cell. Flames engulfed the vehicle.

Initially only lightly injured but covered in fuel, Sergeant First Class Cashe descended into the hull, extracted the driver, who was on fire, and extinguished the flames. At this point, multiple soldiers remained in the vehicle, one of whom managed to open the rear hatch. With no regard for his own safety, Sergeant First Class Cashe rushed to the back of the vehicle, reached into the hot flames, and started pulling out soldiers. His fuel-soaked uniform caught fire, and the flames spread quickly over his body.

Despite what must have been terrible pain, he returned to the vehicle twice

more to extract his soldiers, all while he was still on fire and exposed to enemy gunfire. By the time he had extracted all of his soldiers from the vehicle, Sergeant First Class Cashe had the most severe injuries. Second- and third-degree burns covered 72 percent of his body. Nevertheless, he refused to be evacuated until all of his soldiers were medevacked out before him.

When he arrived at the U.S. military hospital at Balad Air Base in Iraq, he was still fully conscious. What remained of his uniform had melted to his skin, yet he tried to fight off the nurses, insisting that they treat everyone else first. Despite determined efforts to save his life at various hospitals abroad and in the United States, he eventually succumbed to his wounds on November 8, 2005, surrounded by members of both his biological family and his Army family.

Scripture teaches us that there is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friends, and Sergeant First Class Cashe made the ultimate expression of love. After his passing, he received the Silver Star, the third highest combat award that the Army confers. Over the past years, there has been a painstaking effort to have Sergeant First Class Cashe's Silver Star upgraded to the Medal of Honor, an award no African American has received since 1969.

Notably, this effort has been led by the battalion commander who nominated Sergeant First Class Cashe for the Silver Star. This individual, now a 2-star general, came to believe that Sergeant First Class Cashe deserves the highest award for valor that our Nation bestows. I strongly agree with this conclusion and have written to the Secretary of the Army to express my view.

We cannot bring Sergeant First Class Cashe back or erase the pain felt by his sister Kasinal, his other family members, and the men and women in uniform who served beside him; but we can pay tribute to his life and legacy. We can engrave his name on a plaque and designate a Federal building in his honor so the American public never forgets this remarkable man who laid down his life for his friends in service of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make the gentleman from Illinois aware that I have no further speakers and am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I strongly urge the passage of H.R. 4840, 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. 4840.

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.

# SECURELY EXPEDITING CLEARANCES THROUGH REPORTING TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2017

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3210) to require the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau to submit a report on the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act of 2018" or the "SECRET Act of 2018".

## SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term "Bureau" means the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office;

(2) the term "Director" means the Director of National Intelligence acting as the Security Executive Agent; and

(3) the term "Office" means the Office of Personnel Management acting as the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent.

## SEC. 3. REPORT ON BACKLOG OF PERSONNEL SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATIONS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter for 5 years, the Director of the Bureau, in coordination with the Director, shall submit to Congress a report on the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations at the Bureau for the most recent full calendar quarter, which shall include—

(1) the size of the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations of the Bureau, including, for each sensitivity level—

(A) the number of interim clearances granted;

(B) the number of initial investigations for Federal employees;

(C) the number of periodic reinvestigations for Federal employees;

(D) the number of initial investigations for employees of Federal contractors;

(E) the number of periodic reinvestigations for employees of Federal contractors;

(F) the number of initial investigations for employees of, and employees of contractors of, the Department of Defense;

(G) the number of periodic reinvestigations for employees of and employees of contractors of the Department of Defense;

(H) the number of employees of the Bureau conducting background investigations for the Bureau; and

(I) the number of employees of contractors of the Bureau conducting background investigations for the Bureau;

(2) the average length of time, for each sensitivity level, for the Bureau to carry out an initial investigation and a periodic reinvestigation;

(3) a discussion of the factors contributing to the average length of time to carry out an initial investigation and a periodic reinvestigation;

(4) a backlog mitigation plan, which shall include—

(A) the identification of the cause of, and recommendations to remedy, the backlog at the Bureau;

(B) the steps the Director of the Bureau shall take to reduce the backlog;

(C) process reforms to improve efficiencies in, and the quality of, background investigations by the Bureau; and

(D) a projection of when the backlog at the Bureau will be sufficiently reduced to meet required timeliness standards; and

(5) a description of improvements in the information and data security of the Bureau.

## SEC. 4. REPORT ON SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATIONS OF PERSONNEL OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Administration of the Executive Office of the President, in coordination with the Director and the Director of the Office, shall submit to Congress a report that explains the process for conducting and adjudicating security clearance investigations for personnel of the Executive Office of the President, including personnel of the White House Office.

## SEC. 5. REPORT ON COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH BIFURCATED BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION SYSTEMS.

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office, in consultation with the other members of the Suitability and Security Clearance Performance Accountability Council established under Executive Order 13467 (73 Fed. Reg. 38103) and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, shall submit to Congress a report on the cost of maintaining comprehensive background investigations capability within the Office under the control or direction of the Bureau and a background investigations capability for Department of Defense personnel under the control or direction of the Department of Defense for implementation of the plan referenced in section 925 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91), as compared to the cost of sustaining a single Government-wide background investigations enterprise.

## SEC. 6. REPORTS ON CONTINUOUS EVALUATION, RECIPROCITY, AND TIMELINESS MEASURES.

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to Congress reports that provide—

(1) the status of implementing continuous evaluation Government-wide, including—

(A) the number of agencies with continuous evaluation programs and how many of those programs are currently conducting automated records checks of the required data sources as identified by the Director; and

(B) a discussion of the barriers for agencies to implement continuous evaluation programs, including any requirement under a statute, regulation, Executive Order, or other administrative requirement;

(2) a detailed explanation of efforts by agencies to meet requirements for reciprocal recognition to access classified information, including—

(A) the range of the length of time for agencies to grant reciprocal recognition to access classified information;

(B) additional requirements for reinvestigations or readjudications, by agency; and

(C) any other barriers to the timely granting of reciprocity, by agency, including any requirement under a statute, regulation, Executive Order, or other administrative requirement; and

(3) a review of whether the schedule for processing security clearances under section 3001 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C. 3341) should be modified.

## SEC. 7. REVIEW AND UPDATE OF POSITION DESIGNATION GUIDANCE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term "agency" has the meaning given the term in Executive Order 13467 (73 Fed. Reg. 38103), or any successor thereto;

(2) the term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

(3) the term "background investigation" means any investigation required for the purpose of determining the—

(A) eligibility of a covered individual for logical and physical access to Federally controlled facilities or information systems;

(B) suitability or fitness of a covered individual for Federal employment;

(C) eligibility of a covered individual for access to classified information or to hold a national security sensitive position; or

(D) fitness of a covered individual to perform work for or on behalf of the United States Government as a contractor employee; and

(4) the term "covered individual"—

(A) means a person who performs work for or on behalf of the executive branch or seeks to perform work for or on behalf of the executive branch;

(B) is not limited to Federal employees;

(C) includes all persons, not excluded under subparagraph (D), who require eligibility for access to classified information or eligibility to hold a sensitive position, including, but not limited to, contractors, subcontractors, licensees, certificate holders, grantees, experts, consultants, and government employees; and

(D) does not include—

(i) the President;

(ii) employees of the President under section 105 or 107 of title 3, United States Code (except to the extent otherwise directed by the President);

(iii) the Vice President; or

(iv) employees of the Vice President under section 106 of title 3, United States Code, or an annual legislative branch appropriations Act (except to the extent otherwise directed by the Vice President).

(b) REVIEW AND UPDATING.—

(1) INITIAL REVIEW AND UPDATE OF GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director and the Director of the Office shall review and make recommendations to Congress and the President as appropriate to issue guidance to assist agencies in determining—

(A) position sensitivity designation; and

(B) the appropriate background investigation to initiate for each position designation.

(2) REVIEWS AND REVISIONS OF POSITION DESIGNATIONS.—Not less frequently than every 4 years, the President, acting through relevant agencies (as determined by the President) and in accordance with the guidance described in paragraph (1), shall review and, if necessary, revise the position designation of positions within agencies.

(c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after completing a review under subsection (b)(2), the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

(1) any issues identified in the review; and

(2) the number of position designations revised as a result of the review.

(d) NO CHANGE IN AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section limits or expands the authority of any agency to designate a position as sensitive or as requiring its occupant to have access to classified information.

Mr. RUSSELL (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the Senate amendment.

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