

to use the information in them to make sound policy. It also would encourage agency compliance with reporting requirements. Finally, it would support timely access to the reports by State and local governments, students, academics, and others, with the additional benefit of decreasing the burden on agencies to process FOIA requests.

The Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act has been endorsed by over 25 organizations from across the political spectrum. I have a letter from those groups that I include in the RECORD.

JULY 16, 2019.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, REPUBLICAN LEADER McCARTHY, AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: We, the 27 undersigned organizations, write to express our strong support for the bipartisan Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act ("ACMRA") and to respectfully urge you to vote in favor of the legislation on the House floor. If enacted, the ACMRA will strengthen Congressional oversight and improve government transparency.

The ACMRA will establish a central repository of agency reports submitted to Congress and will track whether agencies have submitted required reports. This will improve Members of Congress's access to the reports and ensure Congress knows when they become available.

The ACMRA also directs agencies to provide the Government Publishing Office (GPO) any report that is both required by law to be submitted to Congress and is releasable under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), subject to certain limitations. The legislation will not change what information is in the public sphere, but it will improve accessibility. Nor does the legislation affect in any way what information is provided to Congressional committees or place any burden upon them.

Under the ACMRA, agency reports will become publicly available on GPO's website within 30 days of submission to Congress, and will be redacted in accordance with FOIA's provisions, which include the removal of classified or otherwise confidential material. Reports will be assigned a unique identifier that will make it easy to track reports as new editions are released.

Additionally, the Congressional Research Service will supplement work already performed by the Clerk of the House to identify all agency reports the law requires be submitted to Congress. This will tell us whether an agency has complied with its obligation to submit reports in a timely fashion.

The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee favorably reported a similar version of the bill in April. Additionally, the legislation was repeatedly favorably reported by both the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform during prior Congresses.

The ACMRA was first introduced in 2010, and we are hopeful it will become part of this Congress's transparency legacy.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the measure and are hopeful the ACMRA will be enacted shortly.

Sincerely yours,

American Association of Law Libraries, American Library Association, Americans for Prosperity, Campaign for Accountability, Center for Data Innovation, Center for Responsive Politics, Demand Progress, Data Coalition, Essential Information, Free Government Information, Freedom Works, Government Information Watch, GovTrack.us, Judicial Watch.

Liberty Coalition, Lincoln Network, National Coalition for History, National Immigrant Justice Center, National Security Archive, PEGI Project, Project On Government Oversight, R Street Institute, Senior Executives Association, Society of Professional Journalists, Sunlight Foundation, Taxpayers for Common Sense, Win Without War.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, legislation similar to this bill has been introduced in the Senate and favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 736, the Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act sponsored by my colleague from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY).

Federal agencies are required to produce numerous reports to Congress each year. The reports cover a wide range of topics that give valuable insight into government activities.

While some reports are posted on agency websites, most are not available online. It is incredibly difficult for the general public to find reports, especially older reports. Keep in mind that these are reports that the taxpayers paid for in the first place.

H.R. 736 will solve this problem. The bill directs the Federal Government to compile all congressionally mandated reports in a central location.

The Government Publishing Office would be required to establish an online database where agencies would submit congressionally mandated reports. In order to protect sensitive information, the bill allows agencies to redact information in reports that would otherwise not be releasable to the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

The database would provide access to reports free of charge. The reports would be searchable, sortable, and available to be downloaded in bulk.

H.R. 736 ensures that these taxpayer-funded reports are transparent and accessible. It will make it easier for both the public and Congress to review and evaluate Federal agency activities. Increased transparency under this bill will allow the public to help Congress hold the government accountable.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY), a distinguished Member and sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I will keep my comments brief because this bipartisan, commonsense bill is simple.

H.R. 736 would make all agency reports to Congress, and releasable under FOIA, available on one website at no cost to the American public.

Each year, Federal agencies submit thousands of reports to Congress that contain a wealth of information that enables the public to better understand how Federal agencies are, or are not, fulfilling their respective missions, from ensuring the safety of our drugs and food supply to protecting the environment and monitoring the soundness of our financial institutions.

Unfortunately, many, if not most, of these reports simply sit collecting dust in the committees they are delivered to or are posted in numerous and confusing places on dozens of agency websites, rarely to be seen or thought of again.

In fact, the only comprehensive list of congressionally mandated reports is printed in paper format each year by the Clerk of the House and is available only by request, provided that one knows it exists.

My bill would, for the first time, create a single website where the public and Members of Congress can easily search, sort, and download all congressionally mandated reports from agencies.

Ultimately, this will help us conduct better research and oversight of these agencies and will allow the public to learn about what agencies are doing with their hard-earned tax dollars.

This bill is meant to be a window into the workings of government to ensure that the government's business is done transparently and is accountable to the people it serves.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this straightforward, commonsense bill and vote "yes" on H.R. 736.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge my colleagues to support 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 California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 736, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LUCAS LOWE POST OFFICE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1250) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11158 Highway 146 North in Hardin, Texas, as the "Lucas Lowe Post Office", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1250

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

SECTION 1. LUCAS LOWE MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11158 Highway 146 North in Hardin, Texas, shall be known and designated as the “Lucas Lowe Memorial 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 “Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1545

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1250 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11158 Highway 146 North in Hardin, Texas, as the Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office.

Chief Warrant Officer Lucas Lowe's life was defined by a call to service. On July 6, 2004, Lucas enlisted in the United States Army. He was deployed to Afghanistan for 11 months from 2005 and 2006, and Iraq for 14 months from 2007 to 2008. Lucas later attended Warrant Officer Candidate School at Fort Rucker, Alabama, where he also enrolled in flight school to become an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter pilot.

On December 28, 2016, Chief Warrant Officer Lucas Lowe passed away during a training flight with the Army National Guard. Lucas demonstrated in his short life the kind of commitment to service that should be an example to all of us. He leaves behind to cherish his memory his wife, Kami; sons, Clayton, Lance, and Logan; and daughters, Alysen and Tenley Lowe.

Naming a post office in Lucas Lowe's honor in Hardin, Texas, is a fitting tribute to honor and remember a young man who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to all of us.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1250, a bill to designate the U.S. Postal Service facility in Hardin, Texas, as the “Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office”.

As my colleagues know, to fast-track a postal legislation, we collect co-

sponsorships from every other member of the State's delegation. When you come from a State as large as the State of Texas, this can certainly be easier said than done. Although everything is bigger in Texas, I am proud to inform you that we have the support of all 36 members of the Lone Star State of Texas' delegation to honor this American hero, Lucas Maurice Lowe, with the naming of a memorial post office.

Chief Warrant Officer 2nd Lucas Lowe of Hardin, Texas, was tragically lost to us during a training flight just after Christmas in 2016 during his time in the Texas Army National Guard. A hardworking man who loved being in the service, Lowe especially loved to fly.

After enlisting in the Army in 2004, Lowe completed an 11-month tour in Afghanistan in 2005 to 2006 and a 14-month tour in Iraq in 2007 to 2008. He later attended Warrant Officer Candidate School in Fort Rucker, Alabama, where he also attended flight school to become an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter pilot. He was an amazing soldier who faithfully served both God and his country.

However, when the world lost Lucas, we lost more than a dedicated pilot. We lost a man who always went out of his way to lift others' spirits and encouraged them to reach for higher success in life.

Lucas was a wonderful family man who loved his wife, his children, and his family more than anything else. He loved his children more than life itself. He loved camping in the woods, hunting, fishing, campfires, and good music. He enjoyed dancing, playing golf, cooking, and singing to brighten someone's day. He always had a way of making someone's day better.

Admired by all, his courage and dedication made him a natural-born leader. He touched the lives of all who knew him, and he lived his life with an optimistic spirit, always ready to take on the next big challenge.

Lucas is survived by his wife, Kami; and five children, Clayton, Lance, Alysen, Logan, and Tenley.

He is dearly, dearly missed throughout the Texas Guard, the entire Hardin community and Liberty County, and by those family and friends he left behind.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1250 introduced by Representative BABIN. The bill names a post office located in Hardin, Texas, in honor of Army Chief Warrant Officer Lucas Lowe.

Lucas Lowe joined the United States Army in 2004. He served an 11-month deployment in Afghanistan, followed by a 14-month deployment in Iraq. While deployed, Lowe served as a field artillery radar operator and then as a paratrooper.

When he returned home, Lowe attended Warrant Officer Candidate School and flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Chief Warrant Officer Lowe was then assigned to the 149th Aviation Regiment in the Texas National Guard.

On December 28, 2016, Chief Warrant Officer Lowe lost his life during a training accident while flying an Apache helicopter.

He left behind a wife, three sons, and two daughters.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, I urge all the Members to support 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 California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1250, 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 11158 Highway 146 North in Hardin, Texas, as the ‘Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office’.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EVA G. HEWITT POST OFFICE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1526) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, as the “Eva G. Hewitt Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1526

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

SECTION 1. EVA G. HEWITT POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, shall be known and designated as the “Eva G. Hewitt 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 “Eva G. Hewitt Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam 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 this measure.