

“One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind,” but I hope we’ll say, “Today the Moon, tomorrow the stars.”

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Representative GRAYSON and the nearly 300 cosponsors of H.R. 2245, the New Frontier Congressional Gold Medal Act. As we know, this legislation authorizes the President, on behalf of Congress, to issue gold medals to Neil Armstrong, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, Michael Collins and John Glenn in recognition of their accomplishments, and pave the way for future missions.

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Moon landing, we recognize President Kennedy’s vision to support the great explorers of our lifetime, like the Christopher Columbuses, the Magellans and the Marco Polos before them. President Kennedy proved to the world that the free enterprise system of the United States of America would outperform the socialist Soviet Union in the international challenge of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to Earth.

One of the highlights of my life was the opportunity to work on the Apollo program as a young man when McDonnell Douglas was the contractor for the third stage. What a privilege it was to work alongside the thousands of men and women who helped make that historic achievement possible.

And you know, from a personal perspective I will always cherish this little medallion that they gave each member of the launch team, the metal part of which was carried to the Moon and back by the Apollo 11 astronauts.

You know, it’s one of those points in time where everyone old enough to be aware of their surroundings knows where they were when man took that historic first step. It was before, as Congressman GRAYSON said, the largest viewing audience in history. I was holding up my 3-month-old daughter in front of the TV so that she might some day be the last person living to have witnessed that historic thing. Just what a marvelous event it was for all.

Let us remember also that their legacy continues in today’s exemplary space shuttle workforce, those who safely and efficiently worked to ensure the completion of the shuttle’s remaining flight manifest. As we hear many times, America’s space program is the only thing for which the United States is undeniably, unequivocally, and universally respected for around this globe.

We sometimes take for granted the thousands of technological spinoffs we enjoy from space exploration, but let us take a moment to recognize the explorers of our lifetime and appreciate how all of us have been inspired by their pursuits and benefited from America’s advances in space.

Hopefully we will continue to maintain the leading edge in space under the leadership of President Obama.

I yield back my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to note that what the accomplishment was here was to make America number one in space exploration, and I look forward to the time when we are number one in health care, when we are number one in education, when we are number one in meeting our human needs and making a 21st-century workforce.

The thing that inspired people from President Kennedy’s words was the desire to be number one, and that’s something that we can and will accomplish, not only in this particular part of human endeavor but across the board.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to support H.R. 2245, the “New Frontier Congressional Gold Medal Act”, which authorizes the President to award Congressional Gold Medals to Neil A. Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., who took great risks to lead our nation and society to new frontiers in outer space.

Historic moments in space exploration, such as the 40th anniversary of the first lunar landing by humans that we are celebrating this week, and the first orbiting of the Earth by an American, inspired a generation of young people to devote their careers and lives to the scientific and human exploration of outer space and created a multiplier effect that has benefited American society, including our educational system, our economy, and our national security.

The Apollo 11 mission of Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins and the path-finding Mercury mission of John Glenn continue to spark the excitement and anticipation of what is possible for our nation as explorers of outer space.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Gold Medal is a fitting recognition of the unique and lasting imprint that these gentlemen have made on society, and I am pleased that so many of my colleagues in Congress have joined together in their support.

I thank the gentleman from Florida, Mr. GRAYSON, for his leadership in introducing this bill.

Ms. GIFFORDS. Mr. Speaker, today Congress is considering legislation to honor the Astronauts of Apollo 11 and Mercury Astronaut John Glenn with the Congressional Gold Medal, and as a proud cosponsor, I rise to urge support of this bill to recognize the trail-blazing accomplishments of these brave American heroes.

Their courage and the success of their missions have become symbols of what we as Americans can accomplish when we come together and put all of our energy and hard work into reaching a goal in which we all believe.

The launch of Sputnik in 1957 initiated the Space Race of the 1960s between the United States and the Soviet Union. Just 12 years later, this Space Race culminated with Apollo 11’s historic touchdown on the Moon’s Sea of Tranquility in July of 1969.

Even though NASA and the goal of landing men on the Moon were in some sense directly inspired by Cold War rivalries, the Apollo 11 lunar landings and John Glenn’s orbital flight

became a means of uniting all of us here on Earth in a collective adventure of humanity.

Moreover, the lessons learned and the technology developed for John Glenn’s orbital flight and the flight of Apollo 11 to the Moon spawned countless advances which have directly contributed to a better quality of life here on Earth.

In the decades since, many important technologies can be traced back to our space program. For even though the goal landing humans on the Moon had been attained, NASA went on to undertake world-leading research and development initiatives in Earth and space science, aeronautics, and human space flight.

Yet, ultimately it comes down to people—hard-working, dedicated men and women who made it all possible.

That is why I am pleased to join my colleagues in support of legislation to bestow one of the nation’s highest honors, the Congressional Gold Medal, to Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Michael Collins, and John Glenn.

In closing, I want to commend Representative GRAYSON for introducing this bill, and I urge Members to pass it.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2245.

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. POSEY. 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 and the Chair’s prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

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#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 5 o’clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

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□ 1832

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. HALVORSON) at 6 o’clock and 32 minutes p.m.

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#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby notify the House of my intention to offer a resolution as a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of my resolution is as follows: