

large American flag had survived the assault, still flying proudly over Fort McHenry. He knew the American forces had successfully defended the city of Baltimore at the fort. The next day, he was inspired to pen his famous poem in honor of that event.

His brother-in-law, Judge Joseph H. Nicholson, set the poem to the tune of a popular British melody. A few days later, it was printed in Baltimore and quickly spread to newspapers from New Hampshire to Georgia. The song gained popularity and was often played at public events and Fourth of July celebrations. However, it would be many years before the "Star-Spangled Banner" became our official national anthem.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson ordered that the song be played at military events and other official occasions. By the late 1920s, a consensus formed across the country that America needed an official anthem. John Philip Sousa, a famous U.S. composer, argued in favor of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and on March 3, 1931, President Hoover signed legislation adopting it as the national anthem for the United States of America. For more than 75 years, the "Star-Spangled Banner" has evoked pride and patriotism among Americans.

I hope this collectable coin will inspire more Americans to learn the lyrics of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and the role Baltimore played in the history of our Nation during the War of 1812.

All Americans are welcome to come to Baltimore to visit Fort McHenry. Right now, Americans can enjoy the rich history of this country. There are Civil War battlefields being preserved; a Star-Spangled Banner trail being created which runs through Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia; and the War of 1812 Commissions being organized in States from New York to Georgia.

Folks can visit the original Star-Spangled Banner flag here in Washington at the American Museum of National History.

I ask that my colleagues vote for H.R. 2097 and join me in honoring Francis Scott Key, "The Star-Spangled Banner," and the War of 1812—an event that changed the history of our Nation.

Mr. LEE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time.

I yield back.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters regarding H.R. 2097.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2009.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Financial Services Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK: I am writing regarding H.R. 2097, the "Star Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act."

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over bills that raise revenue. H.R. 2097 contains a provision that establishes a surcharge for the sale of

commemorative coins that are minted under the bill, and thus falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, as part of our ongoing understanding regarding commemorative coin bills and in order to expedite this bill for Floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of Conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 2097, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Record.

Sincerely,

CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2009.

Hon. CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHARLIE: I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2097, the "Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act," which was introduced in the House and referred to the Committee on Financial Services on April 23, 2009. It is my understanding that this bill will be scheduled for floor consideration shortly.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters. However, I appreciate your willingness to forego committee action on H.R. 2097 in order to allow the bill to come to the floor expeditiously. I agree that your decision to forego further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance.

BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I simply encourage my colleagues to support this historic bill and thank Mr. RUPPERSBERGER for its introduction.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2097.

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. WATT. 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.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WATT. 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 the bill just under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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APPOINTING FRANCE A. CORDOVA TO BOARD OF REGENTS OF SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 9) providing for the appointment of France A. Córdova as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

S.J. RES. 9

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring by reason of the resignation of Eli Broad of California is filled by the appointment of France A. Córdova of Indiana. The appointment is for a term of 6 years, effective on the later of April 7, 2009, or the date of enactment of this joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this joint resolution will appoint Dr. France Córdova as a citizen regent of the Smithsonian Institution for a 6-year term beginning on the day of its enactment into law. The appointment would fill a long-standing vacancy and would bring the Board of Regents back up to full strength again for the first time in several years.

Dr. Córdova is the president of Purdue University in Indiana. She also served as chief scientist at NASA in the 1990s. The members of the Committee on House Administration met with her in July, and we found her to be very qualified to represent the

American people on the Smithsonian's governing body.

I urge approval of the joint resolution so that Dr. Córdova can assume her seat in time for the Regents' next meeting later this month.

I now reserve the balance of my time. Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Administration Committee, I am pleased to support the appointment of Dr. France Córdova to be a citizen regent of the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Córdova recently joined committee members to discuss her extensive educational background and ongoing work which will be of inestimable benefit to the ongoing mission of the Smithsonian. Because she is so distinguished and is involved in many activities, I did ask her whether she could give the time to this appointment that it deserves, and she assured us that she could. She recognized the importance of the Smithsonian Institution and felt that this was a more than worthy obligation on her part and felt that it was a contribution she would make to the American people.

In addition to the many national boards of which she is a member, Dr. Córdova serves as the 11th president of Purdue University in Indiana. She was the first woman chancellor of a University of California campus, but perhaps also indicative of her leadership, in the area of discovery, she was, I'm informed, the youngest chief scientist at NASA.

As a scientist, administrator, and ongoing researcher, the richness of her background in academic exploration would be difficult to overstate. As the Smithsonian Institution continues toward new achievements, I am confident that Dr. Córdova will be a critical piece in ensuring that James Smithson's original intent, that the institution would be "an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge," is preserved with excellence.

I would urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Dr. Córdova's appointment to the Smithsonian's Board of Regents.

Since I have no other speakers, I would yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I thank the ranking member on the House Administration Committee for his cooperation, as always.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. France A. Córdova on her nomination by the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents and appointment by joint resolution of Congress to serve as one of the Smithsonian's nine citizen regents. Her outstanding scientific contributions in the areas of observational and experimental astrophysics, multi-spectral research on x-ray and gamma ray sources, and space-borne instrumentation make her an ideal candidate for this prestigious position.

Born in France, Dr. Córdova attended high school in California and went on to graduate cum laude from Stanford University in less

than four years. She then earned a PhD in Physics from the California Institute of Technology, and in 1997, she was awarded an honorary doctorate by Loyola Marymount University. In 2007, Dr. Córdova moved to the Hoosier State and was appointed the eleventh president of Purdue University, as well as professor of physics and astronomy for the University.

Again, I commend the excellent work of Dr. Córdova and her many scientific contributions. Hoosiers are blessed to have the talent and expertise of Dr. Córdova at Purdue University, and her appointment to the Smithsonian's Board of Regents is a true honor for Indiana. I am confident that she will prove a valuable asset in her new position at the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, S.J. Res. 9.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR CELEBRATION OF CITIZENSHIP DAY

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 136) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 136

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS TO CELEBRATE CITIZENSHIP DAY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (in this resolution referred to as the "sponsor") shall be permitted to sponsor a public event (in this resolution referred to as the "event") on the Capitol Grounds to celebrate Citizenship Day.

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on September 17, 2009, or on such other day as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to

erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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 H. Con. Res. 136.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 136 authorizes use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day. This event will be sponsored by the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium. The bill is sponsored by Congresswoman WATSON and has bipartisan support.

The Capitol Hill event will be part of a national program for Korean Americans who will gather in Washington on that day. The date for the event is planned for September 17, 2009. September 17 marks the anniversary of the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and is commemorated as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. Citizenship Day was authorized by P.L. 108-447. As is required of all events on the Capitol Grounds, this event will be free and open to the public.

I support this resolution and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I might yield my time to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) to control.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. The chairwoman has just explained this legislation, and it is obviously one that I support. It authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day, something that many people take for granted and yet we should not take for granted. This is the freest, the most wonderful, the most generous country that God has ever allowed men and women to create on this planet, and nothing is more sacred than citizenship of this wonderful land.