

braille by supporting House Resolution 1034. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which celebrates braille and which pays much needed attention to braille literacy in America. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1034, expressing support for the designation of July 2010 as Braille Literacy Month.

The braille language was developed by Louis Braille in 1821. Unbeknownst to many, each braille character is comprised of six raised dots that, when put in various positions, form 64 possible combinations, combinations which allow individuals to communicate in most written languages as well as in mathematics and in musical scores.

Literacy involves the ability to acquire information, to understand it, and to communicate it with others. It is the ability to gain access to written information, information that is stored so that it can be referred to again and again. The braille code gives the blind the gift of literacy—the ability to communicate through reading and writing.

Despite the advantages of learning and knowing braille, only 10 percent of blind children today are learning the braille code. In 1960, 50 percent of legally blind school-aged children were able to read braille. The decline in braille literacy is a cause for concern. According to a 2007 study, there are over 57,000 legally blind children in the United States. Just as television and computers cannot replace the written word, technology cannot replace the benefits of learning the braille code for thousands of blind children and adults.

Supporting the designation of July 2010 as Braille Literacy Month highlights the importance of braille literacy and of the benefits it offers to blind children. I urge all of my colleagues to support House Resolution 1034, expressing support for designating July 2010 as Braille Literacy Month.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume the sponsor of this resolution, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, literacy is a fundamental building block for individuals to thrive in our society and in a constantly changing world. Literacy can have an impact on an individual's ability to be self-sufficient, and it is essential in overcoming social and economic barriers. Low literacy skills, on the other hand, are associated with poor health, lower income levels, and social exclusion.

Braille is an internationally recognized method of reading and writing for the blind community and is the key to literacy. It provides the blind community with the tools they need to succeed and to improve their lives. Yet braille literacy has declined to 10 per-

cent in the United States compared to 50 percent in the 1960s.

House Resolution 1034, which I was proud to introduce and which has co-sponsorship among both Republicans and Democrats, recognizes the importance of braille for success and adult independence. Studies show that braille literacy leads to higher educational levels, better employment, and increased financial independence. While 70 percent of blind adults face unemployment, 85 percent of those who are employed are able to read and write braille fluently.

I am pleased to have worked with the National Federation of the Blind in developing this resolution that calls attention to the need for a renewed commitment to braille literacy. The National Federation of the Blind, which is the Nation's largest blind membership organization and is headquartered in my congressional district, helps blind persons achieve self-confidence and self-respect, and it acts as a vehicle for collective self-expression by the blind community. The NFB has been a champion of braille literacy over the years, and I would like to congratulate them on their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, literacy provides individuals with basic life skills that can lead to access to higher educational opportunities and economic success. By promoting literacy within all communities, we can help our Nation and its citizens reach their full potential. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this resolution.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the House move in favor of H. Res. 1034.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1034, as amended.

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

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: "Expressing support for the importance of Braille in the lives of blind people."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1140

SUPPORTING NATIONAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT WEEK

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1373) expressing support for designation of the week beginning May 2, 2010, as "National Physical Education and Sport Week".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1373

Whereas the week beginning May 2, 2010, is observed as National Physical Education and Sport Week;

Whereas a decline in physical activity has contributed to an unprecedented epidemic of childhood obesity in the United States, which has more than tripled since 1980;

Whereas regular physical activity is necessary to support normal and healthy growth in children and is essential to their continued health and well-being;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, overweight adolescents have a 70 to 80 percent chance of becoming overweight adults, increasing their risk for chronic disease, disability, and death;

Whereas physical activity reduces the risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and certain types of cancers;

Whereas type 2 diabetes can no longer be referred to as "late in life" or "adult onset" diabetes because it occurs in children as young as 10 years old;

Whereas the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, published by the Department of Health and Human Services, recommend that children engage in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on most, and preferably all, days of the week;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only 17 percent of high school students meet that goal of 60 minutes of physical activity a day;

Whereas children spend many of their waking hours at school and therefore need to be active during the school day to meet the recommendations of the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 4 children in the United States does not attend any school physical education classes and fewer than 1 in 4 children in the United States engage in 20 minutes of vigorous physical activity each day;

Whereas teaching children about physical activity and sports not only ensures that they are physically active during the school day, but also educates them on how to be physically active and the importance of being physically active;

Whereas, according to a 2006 survey by the Department of Health and Human Services, 3.8 percent of elementary schools, 7.9 percent of middle schools, and 2.1 percent of high schools provide daily physical education classes or the equivalent for the entire school year, and 22 percent of schools do not require students to take any physical education classes at all;

Whereas, according to that survey, 13.7 percent of elementary schools, 15.2 percent of middle schools, and 3.0 percent of high schools provided physical education at least 3 days per week, or the equivalent thereof, for the entire school year for students in all grades in the school;

Whereas research shows that fit and active children are more likely to thrive academically;

Whereas increased time in physical education classes can improve children's attention and concentration and result in higher test scores;

Whereas participation in sports teams and physical activity clubs, which are often organized by schools and run outside the regular school day, can improve students' grade point averages, attachment to schools, educational aspirations, and the likelihood of graduating;

Whereas participation in sports and other physical activities also improves self-esteem and body image in children and adults;

Whereas children and youth who take part in physical activity and sports programs develop improved motor skills, healthy lifestyles, improved social skills, a sense of fair play, strong teamwork skills, and self-discipline and avoid risky behaviors;

Whereas the social and environmental factors affecting children are in the control of the adults and the communities in which children live, and therefore the Nation shares a collective responsibility in reversing the childhood obesity trend;

Whereas efforts to improve the fitness level of children who are not physically fit may also result in improvements in academic performance; and

Whereas the House of Representatives strongly supports efforts to increase physical activity and participation of youth in sports: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of “National Physical Education and Sport Week”;

(2) recognizes the central role of physical education and sports in creating healthy lifestyles for all children and youth;

(3) encourages school districts to implement local wellness policies, as described in section 204 of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 1751 note), that include ambitious goals for physical education, physical activity, and other activities addressing the childhood obesity epidemic and promoting child wellness; and

(4) encourages schools to offer physical education classes to students and to work with community partners to provide opportunities and safe spaces for physical activities before and after school and during the summer months for all children and youth.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1373 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1373, which recognizes the critical importance of physical education and physical activity for all of our Nation’s children and youth by celebrating National Physical Education and Sport Week. Participation in physical education and sports programs not only helps children stay physically fit, but contributes to a range of academic, social, and personal gains. With the observance of this week, coaches, educators, and parents around the country will promote greater youth participation in physical education and help tackle the growing problem of childhood obesity.

Since 1980, the childhood obesity rate in America has more than tripled. The

increase in obesity is, in large part, due to a decrease in regular physical exercise. Fewer than one in five adolescents now meet the Center for Disease Control’s recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day. Many children do not have the opportunity to participate in physical education. Only a fraction of the Nation’s elementary, middle, and high schools are provided regular physical education classes.

Physical activity reduces the risk of heart attack, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and certain types of cancer. Research shows that children who have the opportunity to engage in physical activity regularly are more likely to thrive academically and graduate. In addition to improved academic performance, participation in sports teams and other physical activities can improve behavior, increase self-esteem, develop social skills, and help kids lead a healthy lifestyle as an adult. We are responsible for educating our children about physical education and for providing opportunities for fitness. National Physical Education and Sport Week reaffirms the importance of healthy bodies and healthy minds in our communities and schools.

Mr. Speaker, I once again express my support for House Resolution 1373, the National Physical Education and Sport Week. I thank Congressman ALTMIRE for introducing this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support this fine resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1373, expressing support for designating the week beginning May 2, 2010, as National Physical Education and Sport Week. Today, childhood obesity rates are alarmingly high and continue to increase. Over 33 percent of America’s elementary school children are overweight or obese and 13 percent of America’s high school children. These increasing rates are associated with increased rates of diseases in children that were only seen in adults until recently. Obese children have been shown to be at an increased risk of coronary heart disease, diabetes, respiratory problems, and numerous other debilitating diseases. In addition childhood obesity can significantly increase the risk that a child will be obese in adulthood.

Physical activity is key to preventing these kinds of illnesses in both children and adults. Regular physical activity substantially reduces the risk of coronary heart disease, strokes, colon cancer, diabetes, and high blood pressure. It’s important to treat and address obesity and begin and sustain the weight loss process. Physical activity need not be strenuous to be beneficial, but America’s youth are participating at an ever decreasing rate.

Physical education and sports encourage children to participate in physical activity on a regular basis in

a group setting that can foster teamwork, competition, and a sense of accomplishment. Participation of children in organizing sports has grown in recent decades. However, the percentage of children participating in daily physical activity has declined. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that children engage in 60 minutes of physical activity on most or all days of the week. However, only 17 percent of high school students are meeting this recommendation.

National Physical Education and Sport Week highlights the benefits of physical education and sports in the lives of America’s children. Highlighting the importance of such benefits encourages our children to begin healthy physical activity and habits that continue throughout their lives. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of H. Res. 1373, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE).

Mr. ALTMIRE. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my resolution to honor National Physical Education and Sport Week. More than one-third of America’s elementary school children are overweight or obese, and more than 13 percent of America’s high school children are overweight or obese. As a result, these children are now developing diseases and vascular conditions that were once thought to affect only the middle-aged, such as type II diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. In addition, research has shown that children that participate in physical activity perform better in the classroom. So the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that children engage in 60 minutes of physical activity 5 or more days per week. However, only 35 percent of our Nation’s children regularly meet this recommendation.

This resolution, which I introduced, acknowledges that physical activity and sports play a central role in creating an opportunity for children to build lifelong healthy habits. And it’s for this reason, Mr. Speaker, that I introduced this resolution, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support it.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I just wanted to commend my colleague, Congressman ALTMIRE, for introducing this resolution to designate the week beginning May 2 as National Physical Education and Sport Week.

Today, the President is going to be launching at Bell Multicultural High School in Columbia Heights, here in

the District of Columbia, the President's Council on Fitness, Sport, and Nutrition, which expands on the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, which has been in place since the Kennedy administration, the Eisenhower administration. It brings the kind of focus to physical fitness and sports and nutrition that Congressman ALTMIRE has signaled with this resolution.

Again, I commend him for bringing that attention to this issue, and I urge support of this resolution.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time but would like to urge that House Resolution 1373 be passed. We also in my district on Saturday will be having a community meeting dealing with obesity, in line with the President and First Lady Obama's initiative to battle obesity. We've been doing this now for the past decade. It's in epidemic proportions in some districts. So we do urge the people to come out to Metropolitan Church on Saturday to participate. But we believe that this is very important. The health of our Nation is at stake. And so I certainly urge support of the National Physical Education and Sport Week, House Resolution 1373, and urge passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1373.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 5551, by the yeas and nays;
House Resolution 1434, by the yeas and nays;

House Resolution 1369, de novo.

Remaining postponed proceedings will resume later.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

REQUIRING CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5551) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to make a certification when making purchases under the Small Business Lending Fund Program, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. KOSMAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 411, nays 0, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 379]

YEAS—411

Ackerman	Chandler	Gerlach
Aderholt	Childers	Giffords
Adler (NJ)	Chu	Gingrey (GA)
Akin	Clarke	Gohmert
Alexander	Clay	Gonzalez
Altmire	Cleaver	Goodlatte
Andrews	Clyburn	Gordon (TN)
Arcuri	Coble	Granger
Austria	Coffman (CO)	Graves (GA)
Baca	Cohen	Graves (MO)
Bachmann	Cole	Grayson
Bachus	Conaway	Green, Al
Baird	Connolly (VA)	Green, Gene
Baldwin	Conyers	Grijalva
Barrow	Cooper	Guthrie
Bartlett	Costa	Gutierrez
Barton (TX)	Costello	Hall (NY)
Bean	Courtney	Hall (TX)
Becerra	Crenshaw	Halvorson
Berkley	Critz	Hare
Berman	Crowley	Harman
Berry	Cuellar	Harper
Biggert	Culberson	Hastings (FL)
Bilbray	Cummings	Hastings (WA)
Bilirakis	Dahlkemper	Heinrich
Bishop (GA)	Davis (CA)	Heller
Bishop (NY)	Davis (IL)	Hensarling
Bishop (UT)	Davis (KY)	Herger
Blackburn	Davis (TN)	Herseth Sandlin
Blumenauer	DeFazio	Higgins
Blunt	DeGette	Himes
Boccieri	Delahunt	Hinchey
Boehner	DeLauro	Hinojosa
Bonner	Dent	Hirono
Bono Mack	Deutch	Holden
Boozman	Diaz-Balart, L.	Holt
Boren	Diaz-Balart, M.	Honda
Boswell	Dicks	Hoyer
Boucher	Dingell	Hunter
Boustany	Djou	Inslee
Boyd	Doggett	Israel
Brady (PA)	Donnelly (IN)	Issa
Brady (TX)	Doyle	Jackson (IL)
Braley (IA)	Dreier	Jackson Lee
Bright	Driehaus	(TX)
Broun (GA)	Duncan	Jenkins
Brown, Corrine	Edwards (MD)	Johnson (GA)
Brown-Waite,	Edwards (TX)	Johnson (IL)
Ginny	Ehlers	Johnson, E. B.
Buchanan	Ellison	Johnson, Sam
Burgess	Ellsworth	Jones
Burton (IN)	Emerson	Jordan (OH)
Butterfield	Engel	Kagen
Calvert	Eshoo	Kanjorski
Camp	Etheridge	Kaptur
Campbell	Farr	Kennedy
Cantor	Fattah	Kildee
Cao	Filner	Kilpatrick (MI)
Capito	Flake	Kilroy
Capps	Fleming	Kind
Capuano	Forbes	King (IA)
Cardoza	Fortenberry	King (NY)
Carnahan	Foster	Kingston
Carney	Fox	Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Carson (IN)	Frank (MA)	Kissell
Carter	Franks (AZ)	Klein (FL)
Cassidy	Frelinghuysen	Kline (MN)
Castle	Fudge	Kosmas
Castor (FL)	Gallegly	Kratovil
Chaffetz	Garrett (NJ)	Kucinich

Lamborn	Murphy, Tim	Scott (GA)
Lance	Myrick	Scott (VA)
Langevin	Nadler (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Larsen (WA)	Napolitano	Serrano
Larson (CT)	Neal (MA)	Sessions
Latham	Neugebauer	Sestak
LaTourette	Nunes	Shadegg
Latta	Nye	Shea-Porter
Lee (CA)	Oberstar	Sherman
Lee (NY)	Obey	Shimkus
Levin	Olson	Shuler
Lewis (CA)	Oliver	Shuster
Lewis (GA)	Ortiz	Simpson
Linder	Owens	Sires
Lipinski	Pallone	Skelton
LoBiondo	Pascrell	Slaughter
Loeback	Pastor (AZ)	Smith (NE)
Lofgren, Zoe	Paul	Smith (NJ)
Lowey	Paulsen	Smith (TX)
Lucas	Payne	Smith (WA)
Luetkemeyer	Pence	Snyder
Lujan	Perlmutter	Space
Lummis	Perriello	Speier
Lungren, Daniel	Peters	Spratt
E.	Peterson	Stark
Lynch	Petri	Stearns
Mack	Pingree (ME)	Stupak
Maffei	Pitts	Sullivan
Maloney	Poe (TX)	Sutton
Manzullo	Polis (CO)	Tanner
Marchant	Pomeroy	Taylor
Markey (CO)	Posey	Teague
Markey (MA)	Price (NC)	Terry
Marshall	Quigley	Thompson (CA)
Matsui	Radanovich	Thompson (MS)
McCarthy (CA)	Rahall	Thompson (PA)
McCarthy (NY)	Rangel	Thornberry
McCaul	Rehberg	Tiahrt
McClintock	Reichert	Tiberi
McCollum	Reyes	Tierney
McCotter	Richardson	Titus
McDermott	Rodriguez	Tonko
McGovern	Roe (TN)	Towns
McHenry	Rogers (AL)	Tsongas
McIntyre	Rogers (KY)	Turner
McKeon	Rogers (MI)	Upton
McMahon	Rohrabacher	Van Hollen
McMorris	Rooney	Velázquez
Rodgers	Ros-Lehtinen	Visclosky
McNerney	Ross	Walden
Meek (FL)	Rothman (NJ)	Walz
Melancon	Roybal-Allard	Wasserman
Mica	Royce	Schultz
Michaud	Ruppersberger	Waters
Miller (FL)	Ryan (OH)	Watson
Miller (MI)	Ryan (WI)	Watt
Miller (NC)	Salazar	Waxman
Miller, Gary	Sánchez, Linda	Weiner
Miller, George	T.	Welch
Minnick	Sanchez, Loretta	Westmoreland
Mitchell	Sarbanes	Whitfield
Mollohan	Scalise	Wilson (OH)
Moore (KS)	Schakowsky	Wilson (SC)
Moore (WI)	Schauer	Wittman
Moran (KS)	Schiff	Wolf
Moran (VA)	Schmidt	Woolsey
Murphy (CT)	Schock	Wu
Murphy (NY)	Schrader	Yarmuth
Murphy, Patrick	Schwartz	Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—21

Barrett (SC)	Hill	Platts
Brown (SC)	Hodes	Price (GA)
Buyer	Hoekstra	Putnam
Davis (AL)	Inglis	Ruskam
Fallin	Kirk	Rush
Garamendi	Matheson	Wamp
Griffith	Meeks (NY)	Young (FL)

□ 1217

Mr. CLEAVER changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). The unfinished business is