

DOROTHY I. HEIGHT POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6118) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C., as the "Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building," as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6118

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

SECTION 1. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, in Washington, D.C., shall be known and designated as the "Dorothy I. Height 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 "Dorothy I. Height Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to present H.R. 6118 for consideration. This measure designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE in Washington, D.C. as the "Dorothy I. Height Post Office."

H.R. 6118 was introduced by our colleague, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, Representative ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, on September 14, 2010. It was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on September 23, 2010.

Mr. Speaker, this chamber mourned the loss of one of America's most celebrated civil rights leaders, Dr. Dorothy I. Height, earlier this year. Today, we have the opportunity to continue to honor her life and achievements by giving her name to the post office in Washington, DC's historic Postal Square Building.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the minority will support this bill. Ms. Height actually had bipartisan support in her life. She got an award from one of the greatest, Ronald Reagan, and one of the more re-

cent, Bill Clinton. And I think that in that spirit we should try, in a bipartisan effort, to support this bill.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this legislation naming a post office in Washington, D.C. after the godmother of the civil rights movement and a champion of social justice: Dr. Dorothy I. Height.

I thank Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON for providing us with the opportunity to honor Dr. Height's commitment and compassion, grace and patriotism.

In her memoir, "Open Wide the Freedom Gates," Dr. Height wrote, "It is in the neighborhood and communities where the world begins. That is where children grow and families are developed, where people exercise the power to change their lives."

Today, we have the opportunity to ensure that Dr. Height's name will live on in the neighborhoods and communities of our nation's capital. And when we do so, we will have named the first public building in Washington's history after an African American woman.

I think it is particularly appropriate that the Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building will be just four blocks from the United States Capitol—where Dr. Height tirelessly lobbied on behalf of social justice, human rights, and equality. It is almost as if she is keeping a watchful eye over us.

Men and women of every race and faith are heirs to the work, passion, and legacy of Dorothy Height. Together, we must continue to help build the America that Dr. Height envisioned: a nation defined by equality, shaped by civil rights, and driven by the pursuit of justice for all.

Hundreds of people came to the Washington National Cathedral to pay their last respects to Dr. Height—ordinary residents of the nation's capital, dignitaries, and even the President of the United States. As President Barack Obama said that day, "May God bless Dr. Dorothy Height and the union that she made more perfect"

I urge my colleagues to join me in making our union more perfect by honoring Dr. Height today.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman TOWNS for moving my bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 21 Massachusetts Avenue, NE in Washington, D.C., as the "Dorothy I. Height Post Office" through committee, and Speaker PELOSI and Majority Leader HOYER for bringing it to the House floor.

Dr. Dorothy I. Height, the longtime president of the National Council of Negro Women who died this year, was never a public official, but she spent her life in service of African Americans, especially African American women, and in service of the people of the United States of America. So strong was the power of her example that she was a role model to generations of women beyond her reach. Dorothy Height was a visionary and a civil rights leader known as the "Godmother of the Civil Rights Movement." She championed countless efforts for basic justice in our country, particularly equal rights for women and people of color, from equal pay to the integration of the nation's governmental institutions and its societal norms.

Dr. Height was recognized with virtually every significant national honor, from the

NAACP Spingarn Medal to the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal. Dorothy Height was also a proponent of strong family life, and organized the annual Black Family Reunion, which is held yearly. The Black Family Reunion for this region was held on Saturday, September 11, 2010, on the National Mall and is an African-American celebration held throughout the nation during the summer.

Please join me in honoring Dr. Height's immensely productive and impactful life by designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, in Washington, D.C., as the "Dorothy I. Height Post Office."

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask for an affirmative vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6118, as amended.

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. BILBRAY. 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.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1617) supporting the goals and purpose of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is observed on the last Sunday in September of each year in remembrance of the supreme sacrifice made by mothers who lose a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1617

Whereas the American Gold Star Mothers have suffered the supreme sacrifice of motherhood by losing a son or daughter who served in the Armed Forces, and thus perpetuate the memory of all whose lives are sacrificed in war;

Whereas the American Gold Star Mothers assist veterans of the Armed Forces and their dependents in the presentation of claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs and aid members of the Armed Forces who served and died or were wounded or incapacitated during hostilities;

Whereas the services rendered to the United States by the mothers of America have strengthened and inspired Americans throughout the history of the United States;