

sports announcing. I do want to thank my 52 colleagues, cosponsors of the resolution, including many Members who are fans of other teams. I have to say, though, the majority of us were over a certain age that certainly remembered Bob. Additionally, the resolution commends Mr. Sheppard for his 52 years of service in the field of sports announcing and his dedication to spreading his knowledge and skill through teaching speech at both the high school and the college levels.

Today, we do salute Bob Sheppard. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1529.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1450

JESSE J. MCCRARY, JR. POST OFFICE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5655) to designate the Little River Branch facility of the United States Postal Service located at 140 NE 84th Street in Miami, Florida, as the "Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Post Office."

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5655

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

SECTION 1. JESSE J. MCCRARY, JR. POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Little River Branch facility of the United States Postal Service located at 140 NE 84th Street in Miami, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. 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 "Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) 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 in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I present H.R. 5655 for consideration. This measure designates the Little River Branch facility of the United States Postal Service, located at 140 Northeast 84th Street, in Miami, Florida, as the Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Post Office.

H.R. 5655 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Florida, Mr. KENDRICK MEEK, on June 30, 2010. It was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on July 28, 2010. It enjoys the support of the entire Florida delegation to the House.

Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. was the first African American member of the Florida cabinet since the end of Reconstruction, being appointed to that post in 1978. He is also remembered for his work as a civil rights activist, leading lunch counter sit-ins in Tallahassee during his days studying at Florida A&M. Mr. McCrary also had an esteemed legal career, serving as Florida's first African American assistant attorney general in 1967. He was renowned for his knowledge of constitutional law and for his skill at debate and argument.

In 2003, 2 years after Mr. McCrary suffered a disabling stroke, the Florida House passed a resolution honoring him as a "living legend" and as a "pre-eminent authority on constitutional law who won 10 landmark cases presented before the Florida Supreme Court." His colleagues remember him as a dedicated public servant and as a fierce advocate for underserved communities. Sadly, Mr. McCrary died of lung cancer on October 29, 2007.

Mr. Speaker, let us now take time to honor the memory of this great public servant, Jesse J. McCrary, Jr., through the passage of H.R. 5655, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5655, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of the bill, the gentleman from Florida, Representative KENDRICK MEEK.

(Mr. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Mr. Speaker, Jesse McCrary was an outstanding American, and I believe the chair did a very fine job in outlining his track record of what he was able to accomplish on behalf of not only this country, but of the State of Florida. He was a trailblazer in the first of many areas, a barrister of all

barristers in the State of Florida, his memory being one of creating organizations for those who walked the trail that he actually made.

He started at the Wilkie Ferguson Bar Association, which is in south Florida. It is a place for young African American lawyers who join the legal field in the south Florida area. It is a place where they can go and share notes and can talk about experiences. They also receive professional advice from those who came before them.

Jesse McCrary was an American who believed in serving. Even though he was a legal eagle, he took time to talk to people in the public defender's office. He took time to talk to young lawyers in the State attorney's office. He took time to talk to 501(c)(3) lawyers and to share with them the importance of the legal community.

So I am very honored that we are moving this legislation forward to recognize his memory and enshrine it in south Florida, and I know the south Florida community will be forever grateful of the House of Representatives' endorsement of his memory and of his purpose.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, may I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5655.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REDUCING WAITING PERIOD FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL ELECTIONS

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5702) to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to reduce the waiting period for holding special elections to fill vacancies in the membership of the Council of the District of Columbia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5702

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

SECTION 1. TIMING OF SPECIAL ELECTIONS FOR LOCAL OFFICE IN DISTRICT OF CO- LUMBIA.

(a) COUNCIL.—

(1) CHAIRMAN.—Section 401(b)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (sec. 1-204.01(b)(3), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "one hundred and fourteen days" and inserting "seventy days".

(2) MEMBERS ELECTED FROM WARDS.—Section 401(d)(1) of such Act (sec. 1-204.01(d)(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking

"one hundred and fourteen days" and inserting "seventy days".

(3) MEMBERS ELECTED AT LARGE.—Section 401(d)(2) of such Act (sec. 1-204.01(d)(2), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "one hundred and fourteen days" and inserting "seventy days".

(b) MAYOR.—Section 421(c)(2) of such Act (sec. 1-204.21(c)(2), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "one hundred and fourteen days" and inserting "seventy days".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall apply with respect to vacancies occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) 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 in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5702, which reduces the waiting period for special elections to fill certain vacancies in elected positions in the District of Columbia government from 114 to 70 days. I introduced this measure on July 1, 2010, and the Oversight and Government Reform Committee ordered the bill reported on September 23.

Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that, I have to apologize, comes before the House. I hope that in the next session of Congress such trivial matters—"trivial" as far as Congress is concerned but of great moment to the District of Columbia—no longer have to come before you. They come before you because matters involving the structure of the District of Columbia are contained in the charter. Although the bill before you has been passed by the city council, charter bills have to be passed by Congress.

I don't think anybody cares how many days it takes to fill elected positions once a position becomes vacant in a particular city, in this case, the District of Columbia. Of course, the residents of the District of Columbia care mightily. We had two council members who were elected to other positions, and the ward council members' seats were vacant for 114 days. We get to the 70 days because that's what the council wants. I don't think anyone wants to have vacancies go on for very long in a democracy, because that means that these wards would be unrepresented in the D.C. council.

□ 1500

On the other hand, it takes time for people to gear up to run for new seats. So the council, in its wisdom, decided to reduce the time in half, and I don't

think anyone in Congress would want to second-guess what a local jurisdiction believes on such a locally based issue. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5702.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the gentlelady from the Federal district's proposal. I think that not only does this fall within the category of article I, section 8, but I think that it also falls into a category that we would be more familiar with, especially those of us in California, where you have over 400 cities that have these type of regulations regulated by the State legislature, not by the city councils, basically limiting how often and when you can move.

I think it's quite appropriate that we review this and have the final say on this, but I think it is appropriate that we modify it as proposed by the gentlelady from the Federal district and make sure we address this thing appropriately. Just as a State legislature would do that for any other city, I think it's appropriate that this body at this time make this modification.

With that, I will again ask for support for the proposal.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. I appreciate the gentleman's remarks, and I certainly appreciate his support of the bill. I do want him to know that the Home Rule Act does delegate decisions precisely like this to the D.C. Government. I believe that the State government analogy is inapposite here. I don't think any Member of Congress believes that he or she is in a position to revise in any way what the local government would do in this regard, and I do believe that this kind of matter does clutter the committee calendar. It clutters the calendar of the House of Representatives at a time when we have very serious issues. I should think we would be looking for matters that have no concern for every single Member of this House except me.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5702, 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 was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to reduce the waiting period for holding special elections to fill vacancies in local offices in the District of Columbia."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

KINGMAN AND HERITAGE ISLANDS ACT OF 2010

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 6278) to amend the National Children's Island Act of 1995 to expand allowable uses for Kingman and Heritage Islands by the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6278

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Kingman and Heritage Islands Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ISLAND ACT OF 1995.

(a) EXPANSION OF ALLOWABLE USES FOR KINGMAN AND HERITAGE ISLAND.—The National Children's Island Act of 1995 (sec. 10-1401 et seq., D.C. Official Code) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 7. COMPREHENSIVE AND ANACOSTIA WATERFRONT FRAMEWORK PLANS.

"(a) COMPLIANCE WITH PLANS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, it is not a violation of the terms and conditions of this Act for the District of Columbia to use the lands conveyed and the easements granted under this Act for recreational, environmental, or educational purposes in accordance with the Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan and the Comprehensive Plan.

"(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

"(1) ANACOSTIA WATERFRONT FRAMEWORK PLAN.—The term 'Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan' means the November 2003 Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan to redevelop and revitalize the Anacostia waterfront in the District of Columbia, as may be amended from time to time, developed pursuant to a memorandum of understanding dated March 22, 2000, between the General Services Administration, Government of the District of Columbia, Office of Management and Budget, Naval District Washington, Military District Washington, Marine Barracks Washington, Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, National Park Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, National Capital Planning Commission, National Arboretum, and Small Business Administration.

"(2) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.—The term 'Comprehensive Plan' means the Comprehensive Plan of the District of Columbia approved by the Council of the District of Columbia on December 28, 2006, as such plan may be amended or superseded from time to time."

(b) MODIFICATION OF REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—Paragraph (1) of section 3(d) of the National Children's Island Act of 1995 (sec. 10-1402(d)(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "The transfer under subsection (a)" and all that follows and inserting the following: "Title in the property transferred under subsection (a) and the easements granted under subsection (b) shall revert to the United States upon the expiration of the 60-day period which begins on the date on which the Secretary provides written notice to the District that the Secretary has determined that the District is using any portion of the property for a use other than recreational, environmental, or educational purposes in accordance with National Children's Island, the Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan, or the Comprehensive Plan. Such notice shall be made in accordance with chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code (relating to administrative procedures)."