

Both in our Nation's Capitol and in eastern North Carolina, Walter was known for his humility and kindness. In fact, Walter was voted the nicest Member of Congress in 2004 in a survey conducted by the Washingtonian among top Capitol Hill staffers.

Of course, Walter was known for his vigorous support of our military and particularly thousands of marines based in eastern North Carolina at Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps air stations in Cherry Point as well as New River, along with FRC East.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee, he began a letter-writing campaign, ultimately sending over 11,000 letters of condolences to families and extended family members of fallen soldiers. Outside of his office—and now my office—are hundreds of photos of those who have fallen for the freedom of this Nation.

This was the kind of man he was: admirable, selfless, and caring.

Additionally, some of Walter's greatest achievements while serving in Congress included the work to ensure autistic children of military families received a proper education. He also advocated for the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat veterans with traumatic brain injury and to protect the beautiful wild horses on Shackleford Banks and North Carolina's beaches. He had compassion and respect for these beautiful animals on the eastern shores.

Walter left behind a legacy that epitomized what we all should aspire to be as a public servant. So it is my privilege to introduce this bill honoring such a great American like Walter Jones.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the entire North Carolina delegation for joining as original cosponsors of this piece of legislation, and I urge Members to adopt H.R. 5037, which would permanently name the post office after him in Farmville.

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Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD), my colleague.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time and for her leadership and willingness to give time on this very important bill.

I thank my colleagues, Congressman GREG MURPHY and Congressman MARK MEADOWS, for advancing this bill. I remember how well-connected they were to Walter B. Jones, Jr.—both of them—and I thank them for this legislation.

It is my honor to join with Congressman GREG MURPHY in cosponsoring this legislation, and so I support H.R. 5037.

Congressman Walter B. Jones, Jr., was a devoted man of great faith. He was my personal friend, Mr. Speaker, for more than 40 years.

My colleagues will recall that, as Walter was beginning to decline in

health, he was unable to come to the floor to have the oath of office administered to him, and Walter asked that I come to his home. The Speaker of the House authorized me to do so, and I went to his living room that day and administered the final oath of office to him. He was so appreciative, and we had a wonderful conversation that I shall never ever forget.

Walter Jones was a lifetime public servant, serving in the National Guard for 4 years, in our general assembly for 10 years, and here in Congress for 24 long years as Representative of the Third Congressional District.

Since I joined Congress in 2004, I watched Walter cast many difficult votes with conviction. I would sit right here to my left, and Walter would come by and, in his own way, he would say, "Mr. Chairman," and we would have a wonderful laugh about that. But he would stand firm in what he believed was right for his constituents and the American people.

Although Walter is no longer with us, he left an indelible mark on eastern North Carolina. He left a mark on this House and the Nation. Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in honoring Walter Jones.

I was particularly moved that so many of our colleagues traveled by military aircraft as we went to his funeral that day. The Speaker of the House authorized the airplane, and we flew down to Greenville that day.

The airplane was full of colleagues in a bipartisan manner. Democrats and Republicans both attended the funeral. And it was bicameral. You may remember that Senator Byrne and Senator TILLIS were there as well.

So I thank them very much for honoring this great man.

And to the Jones family, to Joe Ann and Ashley, may God bless you, and may we keep the memory of Walter B. Jones, Jr., alive.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, all of us have come together to give a little bit of what we got in big doses, and that was compassion and care from a man who was not only strongest in his convictions, but resolute in those convictions as well.

So I rise in support. I appreciate my colleagues opposite for their support of this. I appreciate Congressman MURPHY for his leadership as well, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today just always in awe of the history of this House and those who have served, knowing personally the sacrifices and the skill set that is needed to be successful. To be able to honor one of our own is something that I support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 5037, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Representative Walter B. Jones, Jr., a fierce champion for North Carolina, a diligent public servant, and a personal friend to many across this body.

Representative Jones passed away on February 10, 2019, his 76th birthday. He worked tirelessly on behalf of our great state and served four years in the North Carolina National Guard, ten years in the North Carolina General Assembly, and was a member of the House of Representatives for over three decades.

A man of profound integrity, Representative Jones fought each and every day for what he believed was right. From championing our men and women in uniform to protecting our coastline, he was always a steadfast voice for the people of eastern North Carolina.

Today I am proud to join the North Carolina Congressional Delegation in supporting H.R. 5037, to designate a facility of the United States Postal Service as the "Walter B. Jones, Jr. Post Office," located in his hometown of Farmville, North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring the life and legacy of Representative Walter B. Jones, Jr.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5037.

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.

SCIPIO A. JONES POST OFFICE PORTRAIT

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3317) to permit the Scipio A. Jones Post Office in Little Rock, Arkansas, to accept and display a portrait of Scipio A. Jones, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3317

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

SECTION 1. SCIPIO A. JONES POST OFFICE PORTRAIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The postmaster of the Scipio A. Jones Post Office, located at 1700 Main Street in Little Rock, Arkansas, may accept and display, in the lobby of such Post Office, a painting, by artist Wade Hampton, of a portrait of Scipio A. Jones.

(b) COSTS; GIFTS.—The United States Postal Service shall not be responsible for any costs of carrying out subsection (a), including the costs of displaying the painting. The postmaster referred to in such subsection is authorized to accept on behalf of the Government the painting and any services necessary to display the painting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, 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 this matter.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 3317, to permit the Scipio A. Jones Post Office in Little Rock, Arkansas, to accept and display a portrait of Scipio A. Jones.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative FRENCH HILL for introducing the measure to honor this civil rights icon.

Scipio Jones was born in 1863 near Tulip, Arkansas. He would later argue two civil rights cases before the Arkansas Supreme Court.

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3317, introduced by my good friend, Representative FRENCH HILL.

Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from North Carolina. I thank him particularly for his help in shepherding this bill through the committee.

I am grateful, too, to our late, good friend Elijah Cummings for his support and the opportunity to thank him on the floor for his service in the House.

Also, I thank my good friend from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) for her support of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, in 1919, American doughboys returning from the European front and its brutality were committed to benefiting from the opportunity and liberty they secured at great risk and sacrifice to themselves. Many took that commitment to autonomy and freedom home to small towns and communities and homesteads where their families and livelihoods remained.

Just over 100 years ago, as September bled over into October in 1919, few eyes in this country were turned to a small agrarian community in northeast Arkansas. There, Black sharecroppers, spurred in part by the tales of opportunity and liberty spun by these returning brave veterans of the war to end all wars, dared to discuss fair pay for their crops.

To this day, an accurate account of the tragic loss of life that took place during the Elaine massacre, when White mobs killed more than 100 African Americans, remains widely unknown.

But one of the heroic stories that emerged from the ashes of the Elaine massacre was that of Scipio Africanus Jones, one of the great lawyers in Arkansas history. Jones' skillful legal defense saved the lives of 12 unfairly charged sharecroppers from the Elaine massacre who were originally sentenced to death by an Arkansas State court.

Jones' actions resulted in the landmark Supreme Court decision in Moore v. Dempsey, establishing that Federal courts could review criminal convictions in State courts under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that this legislation today that I have sponsored to honor his legacy, the Scipio A. Jones Post Office Portrait Act, is being considered on the House floor.

Today's measure is a simple one. It authorizes a portrait of Scipio Jones to be displayed at the U.S. Post Office in Little Rock, Arkansas, that bears his name. It has the support of the entire Arkansas delegation.

Scipio Jones' fight for civil rights and equality is an important part of Arkansas' history and something that we are deeply proud of in our State.

The Elaine massacre had a profound impact on the soul of our State that can be felt a century later. However, history always teaches us that we can learn from our past. We have an opportunity, today, with this legislation, to write a new chapter on Arkansas history that recognizes the legacy of the tragedy, honors the victims, and seeks to heal longstanding wounds. I am delighted to draft and sponsor this bill that helps accomplish that goal.

Our friend from North Carolina, the late Elijah Cummings, I am grateful for their help and the staff of the Committee on Oversight and Reform. I appreciate it for the quick markup, and I am grateful for the support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this measure's passage.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I urge the bill's passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the passage of H.R. 3317, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3317.

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.

MELINDA GENE PICCOTTI POST OFFICE

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4279) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 445 Main Street in Laceyville, Pennsylvania, as the "Melinda Gene Piccotti Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4279

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

SECTION 1. MELINDA GENE PICCOTTI POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 445 Main Street in Laceyville, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "Melinda Gene Piccotti 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 "Melinda Gene Piccotti Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 4279, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 445 Main Street in Laceyville, Pennsylvania, as the Melinda Gene Piccotti Post Office.

I thank FRED KELLER, a distinguished member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for this measure to honor a distinguished military veteran.

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4279, introduced by Representative FRED KELLER. Certainly, his leadership on this is to be applauded.

I also thank the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) for her willingness to not only lead on this, but manage the floor for Chairwoman MALONEY.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER).

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4279, to name the post office in Laceyville, Wyoming County, Pennsylvania, after Melinda Gene Piccotti.

A native of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District, Mindy was an Air Force veteran who knew the struggles of combat veterans and wounded soldiers. She knew the struggles they faced when returning home from duty.

Starting in 2009, at the age of 60, Mindy highlighted her commitment to our Nation's Armed Forces by founding Hunts for Healing, based out of Laceyville.