upon society into contributors to society. Like the library and museum portion of H.R. 1720, these provisions were included in the CAREERS legislation which is stalled in the Senate. It deserves our support.

PRIVATIZING SALLIE MAE

Sallie Mae, the Student Loan Marketing Association, is a Government-sponsored enterprise, owned by private stockholders, that provides a secondary market for student loan financing. When President Clinton advanced his Direct Lending initiative, it limited Sallie Mae's traditional market, and impacted Sallie Mae stockholders.

I oppose President Clinton's direct lending plan because, over 7 years, it costs taxpayers $1 billion more to provide the same number of student loans as private markets. And while the President has sought to have direct lending replace private markets, Congress has limited the growth of direct lending. Nevertheless, direct lending is a fact of life today. Its existence unfairly impacts the thousands of senior citizens, private pensions, and other Americans who own stock in Sallie Mae.

Allowing Sallie Mae stockholders the opportunity to vote to privatize is simply a matter of fairness. The legislation structures any privatization carefully, so taxpayers and citizens alike get their money's worth.

PARTIAL RESOLUTION OF 85–15

This legislation also contains a partial resolution of the so-called 85–15 issue. The 85–15 policy enacted by Congress has been implemented retroactively on for-profit institutions of higher learning. Such schools are made responsible for their compliance with regulations before they were published on May 1, 1994. This kind of retroactive enforcement is simply un-American.

Our bill ends retroactive, preregulatory enforcement of the 85–15 rule.

Unfortunately, H.R. 1720 does not make a further necessary reform which I support. The measure does not exclude Federal training money from the 15 percent of a forprofit school's income coming from sources other than the Higher Education Act. As we all know, Federal training programs are not authorized by the Higher Education Act. They are authorized under other legislation. But the Department of Education has been enforcing 85–15 contrary to the will and intent of Congress. I am confident we will revisit this issue.

SUPPORT OF 1720

I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 1720. It is good for libraries and museums, for our children and our seniors, for students, and for many of our excellent forprofit educational institutions. Thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROBERTS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1720, the Government-Sponsored Enterprise Privatization Act of 1996. In particular, I am pleased that H.R. 1720 includes the privatization of the Student Loan Marketing Association, or Sallie Mae.

Sallie Mae has fulfilled the mission of its Federal charter. However, as a for-profit, stockholder owned company, Sallie Mae wishes to continue to operate without the support of U.S. taxpayers and without restrictions from the U.S. Government. Sallie Mae's interest in privatization clearly shows that it remains committed to continuing its strong record in providing student loan servicing for hundreds of thousands of Americans.

H.R. 1720 is an excellent example of how a properly managed Government program can use Federal resources to serve the American public and successfully make the transition to private business without Government assistance.

Mr. MCKEON. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GREENE of Utah). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MCKEON], that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1720, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds of those having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to reorganize the Student Loan Marketing Association, to privatize the College Construction Loan Insurance Association, to amend the Museum Services Act to include provisions improving and consolidating Federal library service programs, and for other purposes.''

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCKEON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1720.

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

There was no objection.

WATER DESALINATION ACT OF 1996

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 811) to authorize research into the desalinization and reclamation of water and authorize a program for States, cities, or qualifying agencies desiring to own and operate a water desalinization or reclamation facility to develop such facilities, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 811

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 ''Water Desalination Act of 1996''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(1) DESALINATION OR DESALTING.—The terms ''desalination'' or ''desalting'' mean the use of any process or technique for the removal and, when feasible, adaptation to beneficial use, of organic and inorganic elements and compounds from saline or biologically impaired waters, by itself or in conjunction with other processes.

(2) SALINE WATER.—The term ''saline water'' means sea water, brackish water, and other mineralized or chemically impaired water.

(3) UNITED STATES.—The term ''United States'' means the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories and possessions of the United States.

(4) USUABLE WATER.—The term ''usable water'' means water of a high quality suitable for environmental enhancement, agricultural, industrial, municipal, and other beneficial consumptive or nonconsumptive uses.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF RESEARCH AND STUDIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to determine the most cost-effective and technologically efficient means by which usable water can be produced from saline water or water otherwise impaired or contaminated, the Secretary is authorized to award grants and to enter into contracts, to the extent provided in advance in appropriation Acts, to conduct, encourage, and assist in the financing of research to develop processes for converting saline water into water suitable for beneficial uses. Awards of research grants and contracts under this section shall be made on the basis of a competitive, merit-reviewed process. Research and study topics authorized by this section include—

(1) investigating desalination processes;

(2) ascertaining the optimum mix of investment and operating costs;

(3) determining the best designs for different conditions of operation;

(4) investigating methods of increasing the economic efficiency of desalination processes through dual-purpose co-facilities with other processes involving the use of water;

(5) conducting or contracting for technical work, including the design, construction, and testing of pilot systems and test beds, to develop desalting processes and concepts;

(6) studying methods for the recovery of byproducts resulting from desalination to offset the costs of treatment and to reduce environmental impacts from those byproducts; and

(7) salinity modeling and toxicity analysis of brine discharges, cost reduction strategies for constructing and operating desalination facilities, and the horticultural effects of desalinated water used for irrigation.

(b) PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.—As soon as practicable and within three years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall recommend to Congress desalination demonstration projects or full-scale desalination projects to carry out the purposes of this Act and to further evaluate and implement the results of research and studies conducted under the authority of this section. Recommendations for projects shall be accompanied by reports on the engineering and economic feasibility of proposed projects and their environmental impacts.

(c) AUTHORITY TO ENGAGE OTHERS.—In carrying out research and studies authorized in this section, the Secretary may engage the necessary personnel, industrial or engineering firms, Federal laboratories, water resources research and technology institutes, other facilities, and educational institutions suitable to conduct investigations and studies authorized under this section.

(d) ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.—In carrying out the purposes of this Act, the Secretary shall ensure that at least three separate technologies are evaluated and demonstrated for the purposes of accomplishing desalination.

SEC. 4. DESALINATION DEMONSTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to further demonstrate the feasibility of desalination processes investigated either independently or in research conducted pursuant to section 3,

the Secretary shall administer and conduct a demonstration and development program for water desalination and related activities, including the following:

(1) DESALINATION PLANTS AND MODULES.—Conduct or contract for technical work, including the design, construction, and testing of plants and modules to develop desalination processes and concepts.

(2) BYPRODUCTS.—Study methods for the marketing of byproducts resulting from the desalting of water to offset the costs of treatment and to reduce environmental impacts of those byproducts.

(3) ECONOMIC SURVEYS.—Conduct economic studies and surveys to determine present and prospective costs of producing water for beneficial purposes in various locations by desalination processes compared to other methods.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—Federal participation in desalination activities may be conducted through cooperative agreements, including cost-sharing agreements, with non-Federal public utilities and State and local governmental agencies and other entities, in order to develop recommendations for Federal participation in processes and plants utilizing desalting technologies for the production of water.

SEC. 5. AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.

All information from studies sponsored or funded under authority of this Act shall be considered public information.

SEC. 6. TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE.

The Secretary may—

(1) accept technical and administrative assistance from States and public or private agencies in connection with studies, surveys, location, construction, operation, and other work relating to the desalting of water, and

(2) enter into contracts or agreements stating the purposes for which the assistance is contributed and providing for the sharing of costs between the Secretary and any such agency.

SEC. 7. COST SHARING.

The Federal share of the cost of a research, study, or demonstration project or a desalination development project or activity carried out under this Act shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the project or research or study activity. A Federal contribution in excess of 25 percent for a project carried out under this Act may not be made unless the Secretary determines that the project is not feasible without such increased Federal contribution. The Secretary shall prescribe appropriate procedures to implement the provisions of this section. Costs of operation, maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of facilities funded under the authority of this Act shall be non-Federal responsibilities.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) SECTION 3.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 3 of this Act $5,000,000 per year for fiscal years 1997 through 2002. Of these amounts, up to $1,000,000 in each fiscal year may be awarded to institutions of higher education, including united States-Mexico binational research foundations and interuniversity research programs established by the two countries, for research grants without any cost-sharing requirement.

(b) SECTION 4.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 4 of this Act $25,000,000 for fiscal years 1997 through 2002.

SEC. 9. CONSULTATION.

In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Secretary shall consult with the heads of the Federal agencies, including the Secretary of the Army, which have experience in conducting desalination research or operating desalination facilities. The authorization provided for in this Act shall not prohibit other agencies from carrying out separately authorized programs for deslination research or operations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] and the gentleman from California [Mr. FARR] will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE].

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

(Mr. DOOLITTLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, the Water Desalination Research and Development Act of 1996 passed at that point on May 3, 1996. It was referred to the Committee on Resources and, in addition, to the Committee on Science and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

The bill was reported out of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, as well as the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, to bring the bill to the floor in its current form. We have also worked to coordinate with the minority in both Houses to ensure final passage. It is our expectation that the bill in its present form will be taken up by the Senate immediately.

The bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to consult with the heads of relevant Federal agencies, to conduct a basic research and development program for desalination, and to participate in demonstration projects.

As amended, the bill contains the following provisions: First, research on key subjects that will advance our ability to provide supplemental high-quality water in various water-short areas throughout the country;

Second, an evaluation of at least three alternative technologies to achieve desalination;

Third, an authorization for $55 million between now and the year 2002. This compares to an authorization of $75 million in the Senate-passed version.

Last, a funding formula which limits the Federal cost share to 50 percent, with a specific justification required for anything exceeding 25 percent.

I want to express my appreciation to the other committees that have worked with us to craft this legislation, and urge support for the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FARR of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FARR of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARR of California. Madam Speaker, the distinguished chair of our Committee on Resources, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE], I want to also commend him on bringing this bill to the floor. The purpose of this bill, as amended, is to authorize the Federal program to finance strategies to encourage new research and development for methods and technologies for water desalinization.

The bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with other agencies, to award, as it was spelled out, contracts for studies regarding the desalinization of water and water reuse and demonstration projects, as so outlined.

I see all these students in the gallery, and I am thinking that when I was a student one of the poems we were all required to learn is the Coleridge ''Ancient Mariner,'' where the great line is, ''Water, water, everywhere, but not a drop to drink.''

This bill allows us to drink that water, because what it does is it allows us to find the technology to solve the problems of water shortages and water contamination. Many people do not realize, but desalination of chemically and biologically impaired water can often be useful in solving problems of drought, of contamination, and an overappropriation of supplies.

Both the speakers are from the State of California. Our coastline is surrounded by salt water. The coastal communities of our great State do not have any benefit from the great water project that we have in California. We rely on the water that comes from the heavens.

Unfortunately, more and more people are living on the coast, and we are having a tremendous amount of water shortages. Everybody realizes it is only a matter of time before the technology of desalinization and the price for that technology will become available, so we can indeed tap into that great resource.

The United States, interestingly, was once the leader of this technology. No other country knew it better. The world beat a path to our door. But severe budget cuts since 1981 have all but eliminated the funds for desalinization research.

I want to really credit this bill to its author, to Senator PAUL SIMON, who pursued the desalination legislation with great determination for several years. Senator SIMON, as we know, is retiring, and has made a significant contribution to the field of water desalination, and his efforts will be appreciated for many years.

Therefore, the enactment of this bill will once again allow the United States to pursue water desalination as a means of reducing stress on our limited water supplies. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this important piece of legislation.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of S. 811, the Water Desalination Act of 1996 and to clarify its effect on programs and authorities of the Army Corps of Engineers.

First let me congratulate the proponents of this legislation, particularly the gentleman from

Illinois, Senator PAUL SIMON. He has worked tirelessly with others to promote desalination research, technologies, and demonstrations. This legislation will help to do that, and as a result advance environmentally protective water conservation, reuse, and efficiency policies.

Second, I should clarify the role of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee regarding S. 811 and our committee's intent regarding the Army Corps of Engineers. In order to expedite consideration of S. 811, our committee agreed to be discharged. We also agreed to the revisions made by the Resources Committee to limit the scope of the bill to the programs and authorities of the Secretary of the Interior. In no way should this be construed as a statement of congressional policy that the Department of the Interior is the only appropriate or most appropriate Federal entity to carry out desalination research, development, and demonstrations.

In fact, at the request of the leadership of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the leadership of the Resources Committee included in the manager's amendment a specific requirement to consult with the Corps of Engineers on activities carried out under the act and included a statement that authorizations in this act are not intended to affect other agency programs or authorizations. I appreciate the cooperation of the Resources Committee and their acknowledgment that the Corps of Engineers has experience and expertise in desalination research, development, and demonstration.

I also congratulate the gentlelady from California, Representative ANDREA SEASTRAND, for her involvement in shaping and improving this bill. At her suggestion and based on the experience of the city of Santa Barbara, the manager's amendment includes specific references to key areas for desalination research.

Again, I thank my colleagues on the Resources Committee, as well as the Science Committee, for their efforts and cooperation and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I urge an ''aye'' vote.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 811, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds of those present having voted in favor therefore) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: ''An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct studies regarding the desalination of water and water reuse, and for other purposes.''

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

DAVID H. PRYOR POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3877) to designate the U.S. Post Office building in Camden, AR, as the ''Honorable David H. Pryor Post Office Building,'' as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3877

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

SECTION 1. DAVID H. PRYOR POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Post Office building located at 351 West Washington Street in Camden, Arkansas, shall be known and designated as the ''David H. Pryor Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''David H. Pryor Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH].

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

Madam Speaker, the legislation before us, H.R. 3877 was unanimously approved as amended by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. H.R. 3877 designates the United States Post Office building located at 351 Washington Street in Camden, AR, as the ''Honorable David H. Pryor Post Office Building''. The amendment simply corrects the address and makes stylistic changes to make this bill conform with other Post Office naming bills passed by the House. H.R. 3877 as amended designates the United States Post Office building located at 351 West Washington Street in Camden, AR, as the ''David H. Pryor Post Office Building'' and makes necessary changes to the title of the bill.

This is purely a post office naming bill and, as the United States Postal Service is off budget, there would be no budgetary implication. The Congressional Budget Office has informed the committee that the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. Additionally, the legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The original bill was introduced by the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. DICKEY] and was cosponsored by the entire House Delegation from the State of Arkansas, pursuant to committee policy.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 3877 honors Senator DAVID H. PRYOR who served as former Chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Post Office and Civil Service, and currently serves as that panel's ranking minority member. His other committee assignments include: Agriculture, Finance, and Aging.

The Senator is a favorite son of the city of Camden, the county seat of Ouachita, AR—having been born and raised there. He was founder, publisher and editor of the Ouachita Citizen from 1957–61. He earned his law degree at the University of Arkansas and was a practicing attorney from 1964–66. Ouachita County elected him to the State legislature in 1960 at age 26. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1966. In 1972 he ran for the Senate but was defeated in a runoff by John McClellan. However, he was elected Governor of Arkansas in 1974 and in 1976. DAVID PRYOR won the U.S. Senate seat in 1978 and has retained it for three terms. He has announced his retirement from elective office at the end of this term.

As a matter of record, Madam Speaker, the aldermen of the city of Camden passed a resolution ''on behalf of each and every resident of the community expressing appreciation to the Honorable DAVID H. PRYOR for his devotion and dedication to the citizens of this community in the performance of this public service during the terms of his various elected capacities.''

Madam Speaker, I urge our colleagues to support H.R. 3877 as amended, a bill to honor a former Member of this body, Senator DAVID H. PRYOR, who has spent the major part of this life in service to our country and to his community of Camden, AR.

□ 1400

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I would like to express my support for H.R. 3877, as amended, which designates the U.S. Post Office in Camden, Arkansas, as the David H. Pryor Post Office Building. It is cosponsored by the Arkansas delegation and is a fitting honor and duly notes the political contributions of this dedicated public servant, DAVID PRYOR.

DAVID PRYOR is considered one of the most influential advocates in Washington for older Americans. Starting in 1989, he served for 6 years as chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging and now serves as the top ranking Democrat on that committee. He also is a nationally recognized leader in the fight to save the Social Security system, to reform our nursing home industry, to bring down prescription drug prices and to make government institutions preserve the essential dignity of the senior citizens in this country.