

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, this past July, the United States Congress and our entire nation were gripped by a terrible tragedy, the deaths of the Capitol Police Officers Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson. Officers Chestnut and Gibson gave their lives defending the United States Capitol, all of us who work in this complex and the American people who visit it to see their democracy in action. They died heroically while defending our democracy.

The outpouring of affection and gratitude for these two men was as deep and genuine as any I have witnessed, and I am certain that the many tributes to them served as a comfort to their families.

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Of course, no words or tributes can replace their loss. In the aftermath of this tragedy and the heartfelt sympathy of the American people, we in this body were briefly changed. We came together as one family to pay our respects, to reflect on the almost surreal tragedy of that July afternoon and, for a time, respect, civility and comity ruled the day.

In fact Pastor Marcom, in delivering Officer Chestnut's eulogy, remarked on the change that tragedy had on our relations with one another, and he speculated that probably the next week it would be business as usual. In the weeks and months since this time, I have thought long and hard about what we all experienced. I am convinced that what we admired about Officer Gibson and Officer Chestnut and what made them heroes is not the way they died but the way in which they lived.

Officers Chestnut and Gibson were honest, genuine, hard-working family men who loved their jobs and loved their country. In an age where too many people seem consumed by life's most superficial pleasures, they showed us that America is populated by common men of the most substantial and admirable character.

Of course, the great tragedy is that it took their deaths for us to recognize what heroes they had been all along.

Mr. Speaker, there is a lesson here. We would do well to learn it. While we too often argue, bicker and consume ourselves with political maneuvering and intrigue, the Nation cries out for real leadership, not in words but in deeds. These complicated times demand a Congress dedicated to integrity, good works and behavior that reflects admirably, not just on ourselves but on our sacred rights and responsibilities as constitutional officers. But that is too rarely the case.

Simply put, Mr. Speaker, we are too much like a caricature of ourselves and too little like Officers Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson. We are too much like adversaries and too little like we were in the days after the gun fire erupted in the Capitol.

This resolution asks that we honor those officers by living our lives and

performing our duties with the same dignity, love and respect with which these men lived their lives and performed their duties.

This resolution asks us to honor them by honoring the people they protected and the people we represent, by living up to a standard of service and behavior that we can be proud of, as much as we were proud of the service of these two men. This resolution asks us to exemplify what is best in America, to lead rather than follow. If one thinks about it, it is really not much to ask, and it is long, long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the honorable gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), my friend, for his assistance with this resolution, as well as the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the honorable majority whip, for his continued courage in the aftermath of a tragedy that struck him so close to home.

Mr. Speaker, in drafting this resolution, we consulted the United States Capitol Police and the Chestnut and Gibson families, who believe it to be appropriate and fitting.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

Whereas Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson of the United States Capitol Police laid down their lives for their country and all of us;

Whereas beyond the devotion of Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson to duty, honor, and country was their commitment to respect;

Whereas Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson were simple, humble, private men who deeply moved this nation simply by doing their jobs;

Whereas the focus on their exemplary personal character could not have come at a time of greater need as many in our country seem more and more dedicated to self-indulgence; and

Whereas the Members of Congress have an unparalleled opportunity to be urgently needed role models of respect and dignity with no loss of personal principles: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring).* That Members of Congress should follow the example of Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson by living lives of love, respect, and integrity every day at all times, including on the floor of the Senate and House of Representatives, and should deserve the title "Honorable" by setting an example so that Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson did not die in vain.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 4(b) OF RULE XI WITH RESPECT TO SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (during consideration of conference report

on H.R. 6) submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-754) on the resolution (H. Res. 558) waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of Friday, September 25, 1998, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Friday, September 25, 1998, the conference report is considered as having been read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of Friday, September 25, 1998, at page H8978).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING).

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

I rise in support of the conference report on H.R. 6, the Higher Education Amendments of 1998. I want to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the conference committee for the efforts they put forth in resolving the differences between the House and the Senate bill. This has truly been a bipartisan, bicameral effort.

Particularly I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) for their efforts in putting this legislation together and for their determination in finding a solution to the 1998 interest rate problem.

Without their efforts, millions of students could not begin this academic year with the student loans they need to pay for college. Also I want to thank the ranking member of the committee the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for his efforts in resolving this issue and many others that arose throughout the process.

I especially want to thank the Speaker of House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGRICH), the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), and chairman of the Committee on the Budget, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH). Without their help, this interest rate solution would not have been possible. All three contributed to ensuring that we could pay for this provision, which is now budget neutral, without passing any of the costs on to students.

Considering H.R. 6, we will complete a process that began in subcommittee