

ago. So we want to thank him for his leadership.

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1832, the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act.

I grew up as a young boy living in south Louisiana. The first television set in our community came to my grandfather's house, and some of my earliest bonding memories with my dad and grandfather were when we got together with our friends from the whole community and gathered around that only television set in our area to watch the great boxing fights of our day.

Perhaps the greatest fighter in all of boxing history is Muhammad Ali. Muhammad Ali gave his name to this legislation because he believes it is absolutely critical to help protect boxers and clean up the sport from the occasional unscrupulous individuals who have recently given it a bad name.

Last June, my Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing on this legislation to get input from various State boxing commissioners, promoters, managers, boxing fans, and boxers. Coincidentally, the hearing took place just after an extremely controversial decision in a fight between Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis, in which an International Boxing Federation judge awarded the title to Mr. Holyfield, the IBF champion, instead of to Mr. Lewis, the World Boxing Council champion and clear apparent winner according to most boxing commentators. At our hearing, one witness said the decision by the IBF judge was dishonest, two said it was incompetent, the third called it "highly influenced", and Middleweight Boxer Alfonso Daniels simply replied, "Lewis was robbed".

We are all robbed when this kind of corruption and incompetence touches on this great sport. Since that time there have continued to be indictments and allegations of corruption in the sport. The Miami Herald reported that over 30 prize fights have been fixed or tainted with fraud in the last dozen years. A Los Angeles Times investigation found that boxing ranking were sometimes sold by sanctioning bodies and that boxing promoters and managers make thinly disguised bribes to improve their boxers' standings and to get them more lucrative fights.

In fact, the week before the House passed an earlier version of this legislation last November, a Federal grand jury issued a 32-count indictment against the President and three officials of the International Boxing Federation on charges of taking bribes from promoters and managers to manipulate rankings, as well as racketeering and money laundering. According to the Federal prosecutor, "In the IBF, ranking were bought, not earned . . . completely corrupt[ing] the . . . ranking system."

This legislation will remove the few rotten actors that have been giving a bad name to the numerous honest and hardworking individuals that have made this sport so great. It is good for boxing and good for boxing fans. We will now all be able to trust in the integrity of the sport, and enjoy without suspicion boxing's championship fights, just like I did with my father and grandfather many years ago.

In conclusion, I would like to thank some of the people who have worked so hard on this legislation to make it a reality, including ABC President Greg Sirb, promoter Tony Holden,

Senate Commerce Committee staff Paul Feeney, George Otto with the Quarry Foundation, and of course the Great One, Muhammad Ali, without whose persistence and support we would not be able to achieve what we are about to accomplish here today.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 1832.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE TO HONOR MEN AND WOMEN WHO DIED IN PURSUIT OF FREEDOM AND PEACE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 302) calling on the people of the United States to observe a National Moment of Remembrance to honor the men and women of the United States who died in the pursuit of freedom and peace.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 302

Whereas the preservation of basic freedoms and world peace has always been a valued objective of this nation;

Whereas thousands of American men and women have selflessly given their lives in service as peacemakers and peacekeepers;

Whereas greater strides should be made to demonstrate appreciation for these loyal Americans and the ultimate sacrifice they each made;

Whereas Memorial Day is an appropriate day to remember American heroes by inviting the people of the United States to honor these heroes at a designated time;

Whereas Memorial Day needs to be made relevant to both present and future generations of Americans; and

Whereas a National Moment of Remembrance each Memorial Day at 3:00 p.m., local time, would provide the people of the United States an opportunity to participate in a symbolic act of American unity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) calls on the people of the United States to observe a National Moment of Remembrance to honor the men and women of the United States who died in the pursuit of freedom and peace; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe such a National Moment of Remembrance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) and the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 302.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, President Calvin Coolidge once said, "The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten."

President Coolidge's words highlight the reason we must never forget those who have sacrificed everything for the defense of this country. They are also one of the main reasons why I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 302, sponsored by our colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA).

This bipartisan resolution calls upon the American people this Memorial Day to join together and observe a National Moment of Remembrance to honor the men and women who died in the pursuit of freedom and peace. The resolution also asks the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe at 3 p.m. local time a National Moment of Remembrance for all those who fought for our country.

To put it succinctly, Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this resolution is to put the "memorial" back in "Memorial Day." It is intended to serve as a reminder that a day has been set aside for us to formally recognize and give thanks for the efforts of those who have served in uniform.

Unfortunately, the meaning of this special day is slowly fading from our national conscience. In May 1996, children touring Lafayette Park here in our Nation's capital were asked about the meaning of Memorial Day. Their answer was "That's the day the pools open."

That exchange, which occurred right across the street from the White House, sparked the idea of a Moment of Remembrance to remind us all why we celebrate Memorial Day. This movement has been led by one of America's premier humanitarian organizations, No Greater Love.

Thanks to the efforts of this dedicated organization, 1997 was the first day in our history that "Taps" was played at 3 p.m. on Memorial Day in locations throughout the country. This simple but meaningful remembrance continued in 1998 and 1999. And how appropriate that dignified ceremony is.

No one can hear that solitary bugle's music without reflecting on the many fallen heroes at whose funerals it has been played over the years. These heroes were men and women who, in this century alone, saw us through two world wars, conflicts in Korea and