

rising to become the Speaker of this great House. And there was a debate that raged in Congress over whether or not television should be allowed into this Chamber, and it was a debate that went on and on behind closed doors catalyzed by Brian Lamb, who had this idea that he could bring the United States House of Representatives to the American people. And of course the younger Members felt that that was a great idea because we had all grown up watching television. But the older Members, they were not quite so sure that that was a great idea, that the cameras would roam around and look for a Member who is nodding off, look for a Member reading a newspaper on the floor. And so this debate continued until a compromise was reached that the cameras would just focus upon the locations where the Members were speaking. And it was an incredible discussion.

But going back that 25 years, it is now clear that C-SPAN has long served the American people by opening the House of Representatives, the Senate, and thousands of congressional hearings and public safety discussions around the U.S. and the globe for the American public to see and to hear. And it is all because of this decision made by Tip O'Neill, Massachusetts' great man of the House, that all of this was made possible.

As we honor Brian Lamb and C-SPAN for 25 years of televised coverage of the House floor proceedings, we must also honor the memory of Tip O'Neill, whose singular decision it was to begin televising House proceedings, bringing the House of Representatives into the television age. Tip took an enormous risk in opening the House floor to the cameras. Television coverage had been debated for years; and many of, as I said, the more senior Members of the House were vehemently against it. The discussions raged in the well of the House for months on end over whether or not it was a good decision. There were those who preferred the status quo and resisted opening the House floor proceedings to television. But one of Tip's first decisions after he assumed the House Chair was to turn on the cameras. Tip intuitively knew it was an idea whose time had come. And when Brian Lamb went to Tip with his idea to take the television feed and send it across the Nation, gavel to gavel, and Tip agreed, neither of them quite knew what they had wrought.

Jack Farrell and his great biography, "Tip O'Neill and the Democratic Century," has Brian Lamb tell his story of his visit with the Speaker: "I was a nervous wreck. I was shaking." He said, "I don't think to this day that" Tip "understood what was going to happen, and I'll never understand why he did what he did. He had nothing to win in the process except a little openness."

I would say that Tip achieved a world of openness and brought great credit to this institution by allowing the Amer-

ican public to see for the first time what had previously been restricted to those who travel to Washington and come to visit us in the visitors' gallery. Tip let the people all across our country get a chance to see the people's House at work. Why did he do it? I would say it was his instinct kicking in about what was the right thing to do. And we could always trust Tip's instinct. He was right to let C-SPAN in 25 years ago, and today we join in expressing our appreciation for Tip's decision and our appreciation to Brian Lamb and C-SPAN for asking Tip to create this huge revelation which has brought democracy into the homes of every single American as well as people around the world. And I think that much of the revolution that has happened over the last 25 years in the world relates to their ability to see how we create our laws and our country. And Tip O'Neill and Brian Lamb deserve the credit.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just wanted to thank again the dean of the New England delegation and of Massachusetts for his thoughtful comments about the beloved Tip O'Neill and again associate myself with the remarks of the esteemed chairman from Ohio. Indeed, this is a very important event and certainly one where both Mr. Lamb and Mr. O'Neill deserve justified recognition.

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

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

Let me say in closing, again, I think this is a great day, and considering the holiday, and, in fact, my relatives came here under the name O'Ney, I would like to thank also the late Speaker, Tip O'Neill, our current Speaker O'HASTERT and Congressman O'LARSON for joining us today in honoring C-SPAN.

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution honoring the service of C-SPAN for the past 25 years.

Since first broadcasting daily floor proceedings of the U.S. House of Representatives in 1979, C-SPAN has fulfilled a great service for the American people. C-SPAN did the extraordinary and unthinkable—it brought the Federal Government into the homes of millions across the country. No longer were the proceedings of the House a mystery—the veil was finally lifted and Americans could now see their Government in action.

C-SPAN has continued to grow with the changing face of technology. In 1986, service was expanded to cover the Senate and beginning in 1997, C-SPAN launched live web coverage of the House and Senate proceedings.

In particular, I would like to salute the creative work of Brian Lamb, founder and CEO, for bringing C-SPAN to life. He is a native

Hoosier and hails from Indiana's Fourth Congressional District. Brian still speaks of the small town values he learned while growing up in Indiana and talks of the encouragement he received from family and teachers for having a tremendous impact on his life. He has not forgotten his roots and I thank him for his service to this country and to the Congress.

The vision of C-SPAN was for it to educate the country about the Federal Government and how it works on behalf of all of us. And for a quarter of a century, C-SPAN has connected people and government in a manner that puts the politics aside and focuses on the substantive issues. C-SPAN lives by the maxim that the better informed, the better we are as a society.

I am pleased to support this resolution commending Brian, C-SPAN, and its staff of 275 employees for 25 years of service and education to the American people.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 551.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of H. Res. 551.

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

There was no objection.

MYRON V. GEORGE POST OFFICE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3733) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 Huston Street in Altamont, Kansas, as the "Myron V. George Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3733

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

SECTION 1. MYRON V. GEORGE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 Huston Street in Altamont, Kansas, shall be known and designated as the "Myron V. George 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 Myron V. George Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Government Reform and the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. RYUN), the sponsor of the bill, I rise in support of H.R. 3733 that designates this postal facility in Altamont, Kansas, as the "Myron V. George Post Office." This is a well-deserved honor for Congressman Myron George, who, despite passing away more than 30 years ago, remains one of Kansas's favorite sons to this day.

Congressman George served four terms in the House representing the people of southeast Kansas.

□ 1430

His respected career in the Congress followed his service in the United States Army during World War I, and when he returned safely home from the war, he learned the printing trade on the staff of his father's newspaper, the Altamont Journal. George ultimately became the owner and the publisher of the Edna Sun in Edna, Kansas, and he published that newspaper for 17 years until 1941.

While he still owned the Edna Sun, Myron George became an officer with the Kansas State Highway Commission in 1939 and, as a result of his decade of work with the Commission, he was elected to the first of his four terms to the United States House of Representatives in 1950. During his tenure in the House, Congressman George was known for his modesty and effectiveness. His greatest achievement was using his experience on the Kansas Highway Commission to work with President Dwight Eisenhower to implement the Federal Interstate Highway System for which the Eisenhower administration was famous.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge every Member of the House to support this legislation that honors Congressman Myron George, and I certainly congratulate the gentleman from Kansas for shepherding H.R. 3733 through the committee process. I look forward to hearing his words.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 3733, legislation naming a postal facility in Altamont, Kansas after Myron George. This measure was introduced by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. RYUN) on January 27, 2004 and unanimously reported by the Committee on Government Reform on February 26, 2004.

Myron Virgil George was born in Kansas in 1900 and attended grade school and high school in Altamont, Kansas. He served in the United States Army for 2 years before he learned the printing trade at the Altamont Journal.

After serving as an officer with the Kansas State Highway Commission for 11 years, Myron George ran for Congress in 1950 in a special election. He served in the United States Congress until 1959. He returned to his home State and engaged in public relations in the transportation and construction fields until his death in 1972.

Madam Speaker, I urge the swift adoption of H.R. 3733.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. RYUN).

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise as the sponsor of H.R. 3733, a bill to honor the memory of former southeast Kansas Congressman and favored son, Myron George.

First of all, I want to thank the entire Kansas delegation for their cosponsorship and support of this bill. I also want to offer my thanks to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) for their efforts.

This proposal has widespread support throughout the Altamont and surrounding communities. I have received letters of support from the Labette County Board of Commissioners, the mayor and city council members of Altamont, as well as the owner of the post office building.

Born at the turn of the century, Congressman George grew up in Altamont, Kansas. He was a World War I veteran, stationed in Panama, and a newspaper publisher. George served as an officer of the local American Legion post, a member of the Disabled American Veterans, and a member of the local Methodist church.

In 1939, Congressman George turned to official public life. For over 10 years, he served on the Kansas State Highway Commission, followed by 8 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. During his time in Congress, his first priority was to provide excellent constituent services. Legislatively, he is best remembered for his continued efforts on behalf of transportation issues. He

worked with another great Kansan, President Eisenhower, to develop and implement the Federal Interstate Highway System.

Congressman George also worked towards securing local funds for water projects. He helped establish an Army ROTC unit at Kansas State Teachers College, and he fought for continued operation of the Kansas Ordnance Plant in Parsons.

In 1959, Congressman George returned to southeast Kansas where he lived until his death in 1972.

Madam Speaker, renaming the Altamont Post Office in honor of Congressman George is a fitting reminder of his role and dedication to his community and to all Kansans. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I urge that all Members support the passage of H.R. 3733.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3733.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LUIS A. FERRÉ

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 433) honoring the life and legacy of Luis A. Ferré.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 433

Whereas Luis A. Ferré was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, on February 17, 1904, soon after Spain ceded control of Puerto Rico to the United States in 1898;

Whereas in 1917, when Luis Ferré was 13 years old, the people of Puerto Rico were granted United States citizenship;

Whereas Luis Ferré's respect for the United States was fostered by his years as a college student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts;

Whereas Luis Ferré returned to Puerto Rico with a degree in engineering and a firm belief in Puerto Rican statehood;

Whereas Luis Ferré built his father's business, Puerto Rico Iron Works, into a hugely successful industrial enterprise;

Whereas Luis Ferré, who entered politics at a propitious time in the island's history, was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1951 and was elected to the Puerto Rican House of Representatives in 1953;