

recognizing the second century of Big Brothers Big Sisters, the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States which celebrated its 100th anniversary last year.

I want to thank Representative TOM OSBORNE for joining me in introducing this resolution and for his strong advocacy of mentoring. I also want to thank Chairman TOM DAVIS and Ranking Member HENRY WAXMAN of the House Government Reform Committee for their diligence and helpfulness in getting this resolution to the Floor today. And I also appreciate and want to thank Senator JOHN ENSIGN and Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD for their leadership in introducing this resolution in the Senate.

But the big heroes are the untold thousands of volunteers—Big Brothers and Big Sisters throughout the country—who for the last one hundred years have played critical roles in the mentoring of our nation's youth. Lastly and most of all, I would like to thank all of the Little Brothers and Little Sisters because they have been the ones to enrich our lives.

As you know, when Representative OSBORNE and I introduced this resolution in February, I came to the Floor to speak about my almost two decades of experience being a Big Brother, and my accomplished, now not-so-Little Brother, David. I was a young prosecutor in Southern California when I first became a Big Brother, and David was just seven years old. Through fun outings, good talks and merely spending time together, we learned a lot about each other and a lot about ourselves. He is now a Yale and USC film school graduate, and is embarking upon a wonderful career and many new adventures. Because of Big Brothers Big Sisters, I again experienced through David a child's wide-eyed optimism about the future, a teenager's eager determination to understand oneself and a young adult's pursuit of success.

Kids need to learn and mature in safe and nurturing environments, yet so many face difficult circumstances through broken families, poverty or simply a lack of opportunities. These situations create an emotional burden very heavy to bear at any age, but especially upon children. In some cases, these burdens are too much to bear, and a child who could have contributed greatly to society takes a much more destructive path. We can prevent this from happening. Through Big Brothers Big Sisters and like-minded organizations, we can reach those at risk of delinquency, and help them lead productive lives. Our children truly are an investment in the future, and all of those who have participated in mentoring know that it is an investment that pays off greatly.

Since 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters has been enabling Americans to make this investment—hundreds of thousands of times over, one child at a time. We thank Big Brothers Big Sisters for the magnificent contribution they have made to our country and we look forward to many more years of continuing success.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend

the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 41.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAYOR TONY ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1236) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 750 4th Street in Sparks, Nevada, as the "Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1236

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

SECTION 1. MAYOR TONY ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 750 4th Street in Sparks, Nevada, shall be known and designated as the "Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial 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 "Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. 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 H.R. 1236, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, this post office naming legislation honors a wonderful civic leader. Tony Armstrong had served as mayor of Sparks, Nevada, since being first elected in 1999. Sadly, Mayor Armstrong passed away on January 29 from complications due to a December surgery to remove his spleen. He was 59 years of age. H.R. 1236 will name a post office in his honor in his hometown of Sparks, and I support its passage.

Mr. Speaker, with the exception of a 6-year stint in the Nevada Air National Guard during the 1960s, Tony Armstrong had lived in Sparks since the age of 4. In 1989, he was elected to the Sparks City Council, where he served until becoming mayor in 1999. He was a man whose passionate principles shaped his leadership. As his former

colleague on the city council, Councilman Mike Carrigan said, "Mayor Armstrong's priorities were God first, his family second, and the City of Sparks third."

Mayor Armstrong is survived by his beloved wife, Debby, and his adult children Richard, Keith and Misti. Our hearts and prayers go out to the entire Armstrong family.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) was very close with Mayor Armstrong. They grew up together and they have served the people of Nevada together. I thank the gentleman for honoring his friend, Tony Armstrong, by dedicating this post office in his honor, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1236.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. As a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 1236, legislation designating the postal facility in Sparks, Nevada, after the late Tony Armstrong, mayor of Sparks. This measure, which was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) on March 2005, enjoys the support and co-sponsorship of the entire Nevada State delegation.

Tony Armstrong grew up in Sparks, Nevada, and after serving in the Nevada Air National Guard and opening a general contracting business, he was elected in 1989 to the Sparks City Council, representing Ward Three. Ten years later, in 1999, he was elected mayor of Sparks. During his tenure as mayor, he worked hard to promote the image of his city. Sadly, he passed away on January 29, 2005. Mayor Armstrong left behind his wife, two sons, and a daughter.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this bill and note that it is definitely a way to honor the work of the mayor of Sparks, Nevada.

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

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Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) for yielding me this time to speak on H.R. 1236.

It is both with pride and sadness that I rise today in support of H.R. 1236, the Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office Designation Act.

Tony Armstrong and his family moved to Sparks, Nevada, from California when he was just 4 years old. Tony made Sparks his home until his untimely death in January of this year. Tony and I met as young kids, and typical of all kids, created trouble for our parents in Sparks, Nevada.

We both graduated from Sparks High School, and while I served in the United States Air Force, Tony Armstrong served in the Nevada Air National Guard during the Vietnam War. Tony Armstrong served his country honorably and then turned his efforts to serving his beloved hometown of Sparks, Nevada.

In 1970, Tony Armstrong served as the chief deputy building inspector for Washoe County, Nevada, and later opened a general contracting business, which would become the largest and oldest home inspection service in Nevada.

In 1983, Tony was fortunate: he married Debbie Rimbey and was later blessed with two sons and a daughter. After a successful business career, Tony Armstrong turned his attention to becoming a public servant. He was elected to serve on the Sparks City Council in 1989 and was elected mayor a decade later. Over the years, no one has worked harder or loved that community more than Tony Armstrong.

The day before Mayor Armstrong died, he was awarded Civic Leader of the Year by the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, as a fitting tribute, H.R. 1236 would name the main post office in Sparks, Nevada, the Mayor Tony Armstrong Memorial Post Office. The post office that will receive this designation sits directly across the street from City Hall, the place where Tony Armstrong worked tirelessly. City Hall is a different place today without Tony's Hawaiian shirts passing through the hallways and his smiles greeting anyone and everyone who walked into his office. Mayor Armstrong may best be remembered for ensuring that visitors to Sparks City Hall would always be reminded that God blesses America. When told that the word God would have to be cut from all signs posted in City Hall, Tony made his own signs and posted them around the building. He declared, I guess I am just an old redneck Nevadan because I want my sign to say God bless America.

The people of Sparks have lost a gentleman, a patriot, and a servant of the people; and I have lost a dear friend. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1236, which will honor this extraordinary man, a man who put God, his family, and the citizens of Sparks above himself, a man who went above and beyond for his country, for his State, and for his community. I ask all Members to support H.R. 1236.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) for his reflections of his friend, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1236.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ED EILERT POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1524) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12433 Antioch Road in Overland Park, Kansas, as the "Ed Eilert Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1524

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

SECTION 1. ED EILERT POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12433 Antioch Road in Overland Park, Kansas, shall be known and designated as the "Ed Eilert Post Office Building".

(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 "Ed Eilert Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. 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 gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1524 designates this postal facility in Overland Park, Kansas, as the Ed Eilert Post Office Building. The four members of the Kansas State congressional delegation have all endorsed this legislation, and I join them in support of the bill.

After more than a quarter of a century, Ed Eilert stepped down from being a leader in Overland Park government on Monday, April 11. Ed Eilert's public service career began when he was elected to the Overland Park City Council in 1977. In 1981, he was elected to the first of six terms as mayor of Overland Park that spanned 24 years. Overland Park has doubled in population and become Kansas' second largest city under Mayor Eilert's direction. Without question, Ed Eilert is a one-man institution in east central Kansas. This post office on Antioch Road is a natural and deserved commemoration of Mayor Eilert's legacy and distinguished leadership.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Members of the House, I congratulate Mayor Ed Eilert on his tremendous tenure in local government and wish him the very best in retirement. I applaud the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) for working toward passage of H.R. 1524.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join in the consideration of H.R. 1524, legislation designating a postal facility in Overland Park, Kansas, after Mayor Ed Eilert. This measure, which was introduced by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) on April 6, 2005, enjoys the support and co-sponsorship of the entire Kansas State delegation.

Ed Eilert was first elected in 1981. As mayor of Overland Park for 24 years, he worked hard to improve the condition of his city. The population has doubled, the number of projects tripled, and the number of hotels has increased dramatically. Business and opportunities have also grown. A convention center is now home to Overland Park, and more hospitals have been added. Overland Park is now Kansas' second largest city.

The growth occurred under the leadership and vision of Mayor Eilert. This week Mayor Eilert steps down from his position, and what a wonderful way to honor the achievements of Ed Eilert. I join my colleagues in honoring Mayor Ed Eilert and urge the swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation designating the United States Postal Service facility located at 12433 Antioch Road in Overland Park, Kansas, as the Ed Eilert Post Office Building. I was joined in sponsoring this legislation by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. TIAHRT), the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. RYUN), and the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN); and I am grateful for their support.

Recently, an era came to an end in Overland Park. Mayor Ed Eilert stepped down as mayor, an office to which he was elected six times and held for a total of 24 years. Since he was sworn into office in 1981, Overland Park has grown to become Kansas' second largest city. Its population has nearly double to over 165,000. The number of people working within the city limits has more than tripled with roughly 120,000 jobs in Overland Park today, and hotel capacity has increased from 800 rooms to 5,100 rooms.

During his tenure, 21,000 single-family and 19,000 multi-family residences have been added in Overland Park, along with 23.7 million square feet of office, retail, and industrial space.