

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2760

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

SECTION 1. JOHNNY GRANT HOLLYWOOD POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1615 North Wilcox Avenue in Los Angeles, California, shall be known and designated as the “Johnny Grant Hollywood 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 “Johnny Grant Hollywood Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair now recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON).

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2760, a bill which I introduced to designate a post office in my district as the “Johnny Grant Hollywood Post Office Building”.

Johnny Grant and Hollywood are synonymous. As Tinseltown’s honorary mayor, he was one of the community’s most enthusiastic supporters for more than 50 years. He served as chairman of the Walk of Fame Selection Committee and the Hollywood Historic Trust. He not only created what was to become part of Hollywood’s history but had been a longtime supporter for preserving Cinema City’s past.

Johnny Grant was also a big supporter of public diplomacy. Over the Memorial Day recess period, I took 30 films donated by Johnny Grant before he passed away to South Africa and donated them to the Rosa Parks Library and Information Center at the U.S. Embassy. The films will be accessible to the public and will be used to promote the United States’ moral values, principles, and culture.

Grant was a retired major general in the California State Military Reserve. He was sought out to advise the Guard in his areas of expertise: morale, public affairs, recruiting, and special events. Though retired, he continued to be recalled by California’s Adjutant General for special duties.

In 1982, the State of California showed their appreciation for Johnny Grant’s 30 years of service by awarding him the Order of California, the State’s highest honor. Governor George Deukmejian, in an unprecedented act, awarded Johnny Grant a second Order of California at the State Capitol in 1990. General Grant was also the recipient of the National Guard’s Medal of Merit.

In June of 1999, retired Major General Johnny Grant was recalled to temporary active duty to promote and produce events saluting the California National Guard on its 150th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the time, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill to honor Johnny Grant for a lifetime of public service.

And I just want you to know, before his sudden death, he had completed 60 trips to entertain our troops, more than any other celebrity who has gone overseas and around the country, so we honor him also for that.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I join with the gentlelady in supporting her legislation. Every member of the California delegation, in fact, has supported this. Because it’s in Representative WATSON’s district, of course, it’s her bill, but Johnny Grant was bigger than Hollywood, bigger than California.

During his decades of service outside of Hollywood, Johnny Grant represented the finest in American service. After his service in the Army Air Corps during World War II, he continued supporting in many ways our men and women in uniform for the rest of his life.

In 1952, when Mr. Grant, along with Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, and Frank Sinatra, hosted the first national telethon, a fundraiser to send American Olympic athletes to the Summer Olympics in Finland, he, in fact, set a path of service in all aspects of public life continuing with the Olympics, adding to that the Boy Scouts, the USO, fire and police services and, of course, his many trips overseas.

In addition to the 60 USO trips that Mr. Grant did, I want to note two of them, because during the very difficult times in 1982 and 1983, he distinguished himself by being willing to go to Beirut to support and entertain our marines there long after many people had considered that to be out of the way. He also made two trips to Saudi Arabia during Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He continued to support the USO along with Bob Hope and his many other friends throughout his life.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we’ve given a lot of awards to a lot of people less deserving and who dedicated less their entire lives. Many celebrities are for causes when they’re in their active career. Mr. Grant was for causes that were fully supported by the American people but fully funded by the generosity of people like him with his time and his energy for so many years.

So I join with the gentlelady in supporting H.R. 2760, urge its passage, remind all of us that, in fact, there are those who give far less that have had these honors bestowed on them, and I certainly thank the gentlelady for picking this Hollywood post office to be the “Johnny Grant Hollywood Post Office Building”.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank DARRELL ISSA, my colleague, for his words about Johnny Grant. And I want you to know, Johnny knew he would live forever, and now that we’re

going to have a building named after him in the new remodeled and revitalized Hollywood, he, indeed, his image, will live forever. So I thank my colleague.

And in closing, I again urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Johnny Grant through the passage of H.R. 2760.

Ms. WATSON. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2760.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o’clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DAHLKEMPER) at 6 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m.

GENERAL LEAVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, general leave to revise and extend is granted on the motion to suspend the rules on H.R. 2760.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL URBAN AIR TOXICS RESEARCH CENTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 112 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment of the following members on the part of the House to the Board of Directors of the National Urban Air Toxics Research Center:

Mrs. Herminia Palacio, M.D., M.P.H., Bellaire, Texas

Mr. John Walke, Washington, D.C.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER, THE HONORABLE GEORGE RADANOVICH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Donna J. Dami, Special Projects, the Honorable GEORGE RADANOVICH, Member of Congress: