

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.

#### FDR DOCUMENTS ACT

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1506) to provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1506

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

#### SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS RELATING TO FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If any person or entity makes a gift of any property described in subsection (b) to the National Archives and Records Administration, then any claim of the United States to such property shall be treated as having been waived and relinquished on the day before the date of such gift.

(b) PROPERTY DESCRIBED.—Property is described in this subsection if such property—

(1) is a part of the collection of documents, papers, and memorabilia relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt or any member of his family or staff; and

(2) was in the possession of Grace Tully and retained by her at the time of her death.

(c) DATE OF GIFT.—The date of a gift referred to in subsection (a) is any date specified by the donor so long as such date is subsequent to the physical delivery of the property described in subsection (b) to the National Archives and Records Administration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I present H.R. 1506 for consideration. This legislation will facilitate the donation of the Grace Tully archive to the National Archives and Records Administration. H.R. 1506 was introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative LOUISE SLAUGHTER of New York, on March 12, 2009, and favorably reported out of the Oversight Committee by voice vote on October 29, 2009. In addition, the Senate companion bill to H.R. 1506, Senate bill 692, introduced by Senator CHARLES SCHUMER of

New York, was passed by the United States Senate on October 14, 2009, by unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Grace Tully served as the personal secretary of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt from June of 1941 to April of 1945. In her capacity as personal secretary to the President, Ms. Tully preserved an assortment of personal papers and other historical items related to President Roosevelt that have come to form a historically significant collection.

While the private owner of the Grace Tully collection would like to donate the materials to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library, the National Archives and Records Administration, which administers the Roosevelt Library, has asserted a claim to a portion of the collection. Notably, the claim asserted by the National Archives impacts whether the private owner may claim a tax deduction for the donation.

In order to facilitate the donation of the Grace Tully archive, H.R. 1506 waives the government's claim to the records and will thereby allow the collection to be gifted to the Roosevelt Library.

Mr. Speaker, the Grace Tully archive represents an important part of American history. Through the passage of H.R. 1506, we will ensure that this collection will be properly preserved and made publicly available through the Roosevelt Library. I would also like to note that this legislation enjoys the support of the National Archives.

As noted by former Acting Archivist Adrienne Thomas in a letter sent to the Oversight Committee last month: "I write to express my strong support for the ongoing legislative effort to facilitate the donation to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library of the Tully archive through House bill H.R. 1506 and its Senate companion, Senate 692."

Ms. Thomas went on to say that "it is very important to the National Archives and Records Administration, and for future historians that might want to study these papers, for the Tully archive to be kept intact and made fully accessible to the American people in a public government archive."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1506.

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

□ 1430

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1506 would waive certain claims of the United States to specific documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The papers, known as the Tully Collection, are said to be an important and valuable collection of materials relating to President Roosevelt's time in office. Grace Tully served as part of Franklin Roosevelt's secretarial staff for several decades, and in 1941 became his personal sec-

retary. After her death her collection of personal papers passed on through her niece into the hands of private collectors and finally to the current owners, Sun Times Media, who bought the collection for \$8 million in 2001.

In 2004 the National Archives asserted a claim to a portion of the documents. Sun Times Media wishes to donate the entire collection to President Roosevelt's Presidential Library in Hyde Park, New York. Due to the Archives' formal claim, however, Sun Times Media is prevented from receiving a tax deduction on the donation. This bill aims to alleviate the legal claims of the United States and the Archives, thereby clearing the way for the donation and the deduction.

I understand this bill is a priority for certain Members of the New York delegation. I also understand the Archives has offered its support for this legislation in a letter to the committee. Nevertheless, I want to briefly highlight two points.

First, given the multiple ongoing instances of mismanagement at the Archives, we need to take a close look at all legislation relating to this agency. Second, the majority moved this bill without a hearing. We should have a better understanding of this legislation, particularly how it relinquishes the Federal Government's claim to certain documents while benefiting certain entities through tax breaks.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we can take a closer look at this bill as it moves through the legislative process.

I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. On behalf of the sponsor here, Representative LOUISE SLAUGHTER, I encourage my friends from both sides of the aisle to join us in supporting H.R. 1506.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1506, which will allow for the National Archives to acquire the Grace Tully collection of documents and memorabilia pertaining to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The passage of this important legislation could not be timelier, and will allow the American people to have access to historical documents that provide unique insight into the life of one of our nation's greatest Presidents.

Grace Tully was one of the most important figures in President Roosevelt's life. She began her professional career working for Eleanor Roosevelt, and worked for FDR from his time as Governor of New York through his death in 1945. From 1941, Grace Tully served as the President's personal secretary and she frequently traveled with the President. Her collection of documents and personal correspondence from this time span one of the most challenging eras in our nation's history and provide unique insight into the thinking of our nation's longest serving President.

The collection includes a draft copy of President Roosevelt's speech to the 1936 Democratic Convention in which he famously said that "This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny." Much of the collection gives a behind the scenes look at how the President fulfilled his promise to that convention. It includes personal correspondence that

discussed the creation of Social Security and other programs that were integral to the New Deal. The collection also includes draft copy of the President's 1941 address to a joint session of Congress. The handwritten notes on the draft discuss the attack on Pearl Harbor and the President's timeless statement that December 7, 1941 was a "date which will live in infamy."

Beyond major statements and addresses, Ms. Tully's collection helps shed light on the important relationship the President had with Winston Churchill. There is personal correspondence between Roosevelt and Churchill which discuss important topics leading up to the Yalta Conference in 1945. But there is also more lighthearted correspondence including scorecards of poker games between the two heads of state.

The passage of this legislation will allow for the public to have access to this valuable collection, which provides important insight into one of the most important and transitional eras in the country's history. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. LYNCH. I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1506.

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.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
POST OFFICE

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1314) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1314

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

**SECTION 1. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. POST OFFICE.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 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 "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would ask unanimous consent that all

Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to present Senate bill 1314 for consideration. This legislation would designate the United States postal facility located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office. Hopefully, today we will finish an effort I've been involved with for the last two Congresses to accomplish this honor for Dr. King, but more important, for our community. This legislation passed last Congress, but the Senate somehow didn't get around to acting upon it, and we passed it again this Congress, September 22, by a 411-0 margin. The legislation enjoys the unanimous support of the entire Oregon House and Senate delegation.

Senate bill 1314 was introduced by my friend and colleague, Senator RON WYDEN, last June, and passed the Senate this summer by unanimous consent. Mr. Speaker, I would thank the Committee on Government Oversight and Reform for their continued partnership in moving the legislation through the House and bringing us to this consideration. I am pleased to have worked with Senator WYDEN to move his identical Senate version of the bill back to the House, as our legislation was held under a procedural hold in the Senate.

Regardless, we have an opportunity now to be able to put a final note on this chapter to make this important link to a postal service in our community. It is appropriate as we think about the United States Postal Service that has been voted for five consecutive years as the most trusted government agency. For Americans, the Postal Service provides a consistent and positive connection between the government and the people. And it's, I think, appropriate that the genesis of this legislation was the result of a community-led effort that was inspired by two local letter carriers from my district.

Back in 2007 Mr. Jamie Partridge and Mr. Isham Harris collected employees' signatures supporting the naming, as well as letters of support from all the surrounding neighborhood associations. These individuals brought the community together to honor not just Dr. King, but also Oregon's somewhat rocky path to racial equality and social justice. While our State ratified the 14th amendment expanding citizenship and providing equal protection under the law back in 1868, our State, sadly, continued to deny African Americans the right to vote under the terms of the original state constitution.

This was an area of great struggle in our community. Oregon had a sad chapter where it had a virulent, power-

ful, Ku Klux Klan presence, electing elected officials and inspiring some really unfortunate State legislation. In part, inspired by this struggle, in 1914, the NAACP opened a chapter in Portland which continues to this day as the oldest continually chartered chapter of the NAACP west of the Mississippi. They were part of the leadership that finally amended the Oregon Constitution in 1927 to remove the clause denying African Americans the right to vote. For the next 30 years they were involved in efforts with leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King not just to end segregation and racial discrimination, but to promote equality. It was a struggle that we faced continuously in our community in the 1950s, such as battles over open housing.

We are well familiar, all of us, with the remarkable life and legacy of Dr. King, who provided a face and a voice to the civil rights movement, one of the greatest orators in the history of the United States who provided national leadership and local inspiration in our community. I am pleased to honor this legacy with the full support of the Oregon congressional delegation. This post office will serve as a daily reminder of Dr. King's legacy and of the struggle in Oregon and around the country to reach our objective of individual dreams being fulfilled free of artificial barriers such as skin color, religious affiliation, gender, and sexual orientation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 1314 and achieve that goal.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to first commend my colleague, the gentleman from Oregon, for bringing this legislation to the floor today, and I rise to express my strong support for this bill designating the post office located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office." The leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during the civil rights movement helped to make America the country it is today. Because of Dr. King's many accomplishments in the pursuit of justice and liberty, he clearly deserves this simple honor and recognition that we can bestow on him.

Dr. King began his career as a Baptist minister who was also the leading civil rights figure in this country during the 1950s and 1960s. Dr. King's lifelong crusade to end all forms of racial inequity and discrimination was instrumental in enlightening the country with regard to civil rights for all citizens. Dr. King led the Montgomery bus boycott in 1955, helped to found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957, and was instrumental in orchestrating the famous Birmingham protest.

Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, which helped show the world that racial discrimination