

U.S. Attorney, Senior Litigation Counsel, and Chief of the Criminal Division for the Eastern District of Virginia. As Chief of the Criminal Division, to which he was appointed in 1986, Mr. Williams was involved in virtually all major federal prosecutions in that District and was responsible for many high profile cases, including *U.S. v. Aldrich Ames* and *U.S. v. Robert Hanssen*. In each position, he consistently displayed the highest levels of professionalism, serving with distinction and honor.

During his long and distinguished career, Mr. Williams received a number of awards and honors, including the U.S. Attorney General's Award for Excellence in Further in the Interests of U.S. National Security. He was deeply admired by all his colleagues and loved by his family and friends, and he served as a role model and mentor for all worked with him in the U.S. Attorney's office.

H.R. 1463 has strong bipartisan support from many members of the Virginia delegation. I also support the bill and urge its passage.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1463.

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. HONDA. 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.

REYNALDO G. GARZA AND FILEMON B. VELA UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 483) to designate a United States courthouse in Brownsville, Texas, as the "Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 483

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States courthouse located at the corner of Seventh Street and East Jackson Street in Brownsville, Texas, shall be designated and known as the "Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

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

H.R. 438, introduced by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), designates the United States courthouse located in Brownsville, Texas, as the Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela United States courthouse.

This is the second time the Congress has considered this matter, having previously passed identical legislation by voice vote during the 108th Congress.

This legislation honors two men for their service to their country, both inside and out of public service.

Reynaldo Guerra Garza was born in Brownsville, Texas, and spent his lifetime serving that community.

President Kennedy appointed then State Judge Garza to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas in 1961. At that time, Judge Garza became the first Mexican American on any U.S. District Court.

In 1979, when Jimmy Carter appointed him to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, Judge Garza became the first Mexican American to serve in that position.

Filemon Bartolome Vela was born and raised in Harlingen, Texas. Like Judge Garza, he dedicated his life to South Texas, first as a State judge and then as a Federal judge, taking over the District Court seat vacated by Judge Garza upon his appointment to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Vela is perhaps best known in the community for his work with schools, encouraging youth education and literacy programs.

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This naming is fitting tribute to their dedicated service, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I would also like to recognize my colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), for his dedication to bringing this legislation to the floor. I thank him for ensuring these men are recognized for their service.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I join with the gentleman from Brownsville, Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), in supporting H.R. 483, a bill to name the courthouse in Brownsville, Texas, as the Reynaldo G. Garza-Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse.

Madam Speaker, this bill honors the life and works of two extraordinary Mexican Americans. The first honoree, Judge Reynaldo Garza, was born in Brownsville in 1915. He graduated from local elementary schools as well as Brownsville High School. After grad-

uating from Brownsville Junior College, he attended the University of Texas where he received the combined degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Law.

Judge Garza served his country during World War II in the Air Force. After the war he returned to Brownsville to practice law.

In 1961 President Kennedy appointed Judge Garza to the district court for the Southern District of Texas. In 1979 President Carter appointed him to the United States Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit. In addition to his judicial duties, Judge Garza has long been interested in education issues.

He served former Governors John Connally and Mark White on commissions to improve the quality of education in Texas. Judge Garza recognized the importance of education in judicial proceedings and his concern for uneducated men at the mercy of unscrupulous people.

Judge Garza was very active in his church and has served the Knights of Columbus in the Brownsville area for many years.

Pope Pius XII twice decorated Judge Garza for his work on behalf of public charities. In 1989 Judge Garza was honored by the University of Texas with a Distinguished Alumnus Award.

His record of public service includes the work with the Rotary Club, the Latin-American Relation Committee in Brownsville, trustee at his law school, advisory council for the Boy Scouts, and he was elected as the city commissioner for the City of Brownsville.

It is fitting and proper to honor Judge Garza's outstanding, rich life, his commitment to excellence and his numerous public contributions.

The second honoree, Madam Speaker, Judge Filemon Vela, was also a native Texan and a veteran of the United States Army. He attended Texas Southmost College and the University of Texas. His law degree is from St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio.

Judge Vela served as a commissioner of the City of Brownsville. He was a member of the Judges Advisory Committee to the U.S. Sentencing Commission. Judge Vela is a former law instructor and an attorney for the Cameron County Child Welfare Department.

His civic activities including being the charter president for the Esperanza Home for Boys and the co-sponsor of the Spanish Radio Program "Enrich Your Life, Complete Your Studies." Judge Vela's other civic activities include membership on the Independent School District Task Force and membership in the general assembly of the Texas Catholic Conference. He is also an active member of the Lions Club.

Judge Vela was nominated by President Carter for the Federal bench and was confirmed by the United States Senate in 1980.

Judge Vela's career is filled with successes, commitment to his family, devotion to his religion and his church,

love for his work and respect for his colleagues. It is most fitting to honor Judge Vela with this designation.

I join the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ) in supporting H.R. 483.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), the author of this bill.

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time. I think the gentleman has done a great job in describing the contributions of two great giants from south Texas. I want to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOLLOHAN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and all those involved who helped expedite this bill.

This is not the first time this bill has been before the House. It has passed two or three times, but it has stalled in the Senate. This bill would rename the Brownsville courthouse for two legislative giants from south Texas. This bill will rename the courthouse the Reynaldo G. Garza and the Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse.

We have a wealth of riches in south Texas, including these two giants of men. Reynaldo Garza was the first Hispanic appointed to the Federal bench by President John F. Kennedy in 1961 and Judge Filemon Vela was appointed to the Federal bench by President Jimmy Carter back in 1980. Both of these men have become legends in the south Texas area by virtue of their commitment to education and to our community. Both heroes passed away last year.

This legislation is noncontroversial, and I hope the Senate will quickly consider and pass this as well.

I thank the House and my friends for helping expedite this bill again to get to the floor.

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

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA).

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 483, the Garza-Vela United States Courthouse Designation Act, offered by my colleague and my good friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ).

This bill pays tribute to two great Americans, Federal Judge Reynaldo Garza and Federal Judge Filemon Vela who were judicial legends in the great State of Texas.

Judge Garza was the Nation's first Mexican American Federal district judge appointed to the Federal bench by President Kennedy in 1961. This outstanding man had done advanced study in the field of law and was a great orator.

Judge Garza served our Nation through the turbulent years of the civil rights movement. His decisions contributed to the changes that opened up many opportunities for minorities.

In 1976 President Carter asked him to serve as the Nation's Attorney General, but he declined because he did not want to leave his beloved south Texas and his service on the Federal bench. He did, however, accept an appointment to the 5th Court of Appeals by President Carter and for many years commuted back and forth between south Texas and the circuit court in New Orleans.

In 1982 he obtained senior status; and even after his retirement, he remained active by filling in on the bench whenever he was needed. He was committed to education, particularly in encouraging literacy; and he was known and highly respected by everyone for the even-handed way in which he dispensed justice.

I served 1 year as foreman of a Federal grand jury which he appointed in his district court in Brownsville, Texas. It was a privilege and a pleasure to work with him and meet in his chamber where I witnessed firsthand the honesty, the integrity, and compassion of this gentleman from south Texas.

His last official act took place from his hospital bed when he officiated the swearing in of his protegee, Federal Judge Ricardo H. Hinojosa, as the new chairman of the Federal Sentencing Commission.

Judge Vela was nominated to the Federal bench by President Carter in 1980. He became an expert on comparative American and Mexican law. During his tenure, the Federal docket dramatically increased due to the enormous population growth in south Texas. Yet despite the heavy case load, Judge Vela fought to ensure that every person received prompt and fair treatment. He worked tirelessly to design and have built the new courthouse in Brownsville. It is indeed fitting that his name will be on this new Federal courthouse.

Judge Vela, like his good friend Judge Garza, was known for his impeccable integrity and his willingness to mentor young attorneys. He also was passionate about teaching children about the law and the criminal justice system in order to encourage them to make right choices of life. He would bring inmates to school auditorium programs to tell children about the mistakes they had made and the consequences they suffered as a result.

Judge Vela had one of the longest running and most successful radio programs on legal subjects which was broadcast in Spanish to more than 2 million listeners in south Texas and northern Mexico.

He also participated in 220 Spanish radio programs entitled "Enriquezca Su Vida, Termine Sus Estudios," meaning "enrich your life, complete your studies," that focused on encouraging children to stay in school and off drugs.

He was tireless when it came to community involvement and showing compassion for low-income families. I am

proud to have called him my second cousin.

He gave countless hours as a mentor and leader to youth programs whether as an attorney for the Cameron County Child Welfare Department, as founder of the Esperanza Home for Boys, or as the Chair of the Board of Rio Grande Marine Institute Home for Youth.

We lost both of these great men last year, but their service to the people of Texas and to this great Nation must not be forgotten.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that provides a fitting tribute to these two great Americans.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 483, a bill to honor two members of the United States Judiciary. The bill would designate the federal courthouse located in Brownsville, Texas as the Reynaldo G. Garza and the Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse. I'd like to recognize the Gentleman from Texas, Congressman ORTIZ, for introducing this bill. The Gentleman introduced this same legislation in the 108th Congress, which passed the House last September. Unfortunately, the Other Body did not act on that bill. I am hopeful that with our passage of the bill today, the Senate will take quick action on it.

These two jurists displayed the very finest in legal scholarship. Judges Garza and Vela have contributed several decades of legal excellence to the judicial system of the United States. In addition, both these gentlemen have made substantial contributions, through extensive volunteer efforts, to the well being of their communities.

Judge Reynaldo Garza was appointed by President Kennedy to the federal bench and was the first Hispanic Federal Judge. After serving in the federal district court, Judge Garza was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. He also served on the Brownsville Independent School Board, the Texas Educational Standards Committee, and the Select Committee on Higher Education.

When Judge Garza was appointed to the Fifth Circuit, Judge Filemon Vela succeeded him on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas in Brownsville. Judge Vela had a history of service to the community of South Texas. He worked closely with The Esperanza Home for Boys, and headed numerous local activities to encourage young people to stay in school. He was an active member of the Texas Conference of Churches and was former district Chairman of the Boys Scouts of America.

Judges Garza and Vela were active members in numerous civic organizations including the Texas Bar Association, and the United States Sentencing Commission, Brownsville Rotary Club, the Latin American Relations Committee, and the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce. They were beloved and revered members of the Mexican-American community, the judicial community, and the city of Brownsville.

Judges Garza and Vela were outstanding jurists and good friends. This designation is a fitting tribute to their distinguished public and civic careers of two remarkable Texans and I urge its adoption.

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, it is rare that a man has a chance to know his heroes. It is

even rarer for a man to be able to stand shoulder to shoulder with his heroes as a fellow community leader. While serving as Border Patrol Sector Chief for the McAllen, Texas sector, however, I had that chance. Today, we are remembering the lives and groundbreaking achievements of the late Judges Reynaldo Guerra Garza and Filemon Vela and inscribing the U.S. Courthouse in Brownsville with their names.

Like me, Judge Garza came from a humble background, from a family whose parents were born in Mexico and came to this country in search of opportunity for their children. He rose to preside over one of the highest courts in the land, in the process becoming the first Mexican-American federal district judge and rendering some of the most important civil rights decisions in this country's history. Judge Garza ended his career on the prestigious Fifth Circuit of the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Judge Vela, much like Judge Garza, grew up of modest means in South Texas. He is remembered as a hard-working and committed judge whose impact was felt not only in the courtroom, but in the community as well.

Perhaps the essential message for me to convey here, however, is that each of these men spent considerable time and effort emphasizing the incredible power of education. Both Judges Garza and Vela understood how education could transform the lives of young people, because they and their families had benefited greatly from it.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation naming the courthouse in Brownsville, Texas after Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela—two great judges, great role models, and great men.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 483.

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.

ROBERT T. MATSUI UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 787) to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 I Street in Sacramento, California, as the "Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 787

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States courthouse located at 501 I Street in Sacramento, California, shall be known and designated as the "Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 787 introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), honors the late Bob Matsui, a distinguished and well-liked Member of this body.

A well-respected attorney and former city councilman, Bob Matsui served in this body for 26 years before his passing away on New Year's Day of this year.

Since his passing, much has been said about our late colleague by Members that knew him better than I, many of whom are here today. So I will leave it to them to speak of his many and varied talents and abilities.

This naming is a fitting tribute to an exceptionally fine person, a dedicated public servant, and a respected colleague.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 787, a bill to name the courthouse in Sacramento in honor of our former colleague, Robert T. Matsui. This bill has broad bipartisan support from both his California colleagues and all of us who had the distinct privilege of serving with him.

Congressman Matsui's legislative interests and accomplishments are legendary here in the House. Health care, welfare reform, tax issues, the environment, immigrant issues, and of course Social Security are just a few of the issues that Bob made his own.

Bob was only 6 months old when, just months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, he and his family were interned at Tule Lake camp in California. His childhood experience in the internment camp shaped his future actions on behalf of those fighting for fairness. Bob understood the injustice of the internment and sympathized with other loyal Americans who suffered at the hands of the government in which they never lost faith.

He embraced his heritage and channeled his energy into making positive changes for all Americans. From the time he worked as a member of the Sacramento City Council to serving as the vice mayor of Sacramento and finally as a U.S. Representative starting in 1978, Bob Matsui served as a constant reminder of what integrity and dedication can accomplish in public office.

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Bob Matsui should ultimately be remembered for his civility, his dignity and his service to others. He was a selfless role model whose footprint will forever be imprinted on our Nation's history.

Bob Matsui was intelligent and principled. As a skilled, respected politician and willing to reach across the aisle, his voice elevated any debate. His leadership style and his character served as a model for all of us.

It is certainly fitting that the House honor his exceptional life, his public service with this very appropriate courthouse designation. I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for bringing up this measure in such an expeditious manner.

Again, I strongly support H.R. 778 and urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding me time.

I just wanted to come and pay tribute to this legislation and speak in favor of this tribute to Bob Matsui, and it is very fitting legislation to designate this courthouse.

I wanted to speak personally as a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, as a younger member of the Committee on Ways and Means, who had the opportunity to serve with Bob Matsui for 4 years. I have not served with Bob for the decades that many have in the past, but the Bob Matsui that I got to know in the Committee on Ways and Means was a very special man and person.

Bob Matsui was intellectually on the top of his game and was one of the best intellectual debaters and sparring partners we had, especially when it came to the issue of Social Security.

My favorite kind of people in the world and in this body are those who are passionate about their beliefs, whether or not we agree on those beliefs, and Bob Matsui had a great lesson for those of us younger Members and it was that you can be as strong and tough in debate when the microphone's on, but when it is turned off, you can be good human beings to one another.

Bob Matsui was a very kind gentleman. I was half his age, about the age of his kids, and I always just felt that he gave me sort of a mentoring-kind of relationship and role. Because every time I had a conversation with Bob Matsui, he had this nice glint in his eye, and he was always a person offering a kind word of advice or a kind word of friendship. That is something that I do not think we have enough of in this institution. It is something that I thought was a great lesson on how to conduct yourself among your colleagues, especially across the aisle.