

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not stated a parliamentary inquiry. Does the gentleman have a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. PASCRELL. Yes, I do.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, my parliamentary inquiry is that we cannot just say anything that we wish to say on the floor of the House. I cannot, no one else can; and when you invoke the integrity of Members of this House who have spoken out, regardless of what position they take, I think that is something that needs to be looked at.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not stated a parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like the Chair to look into the words of the former speaker and see if any of his words should be taken down. I cannot be any more specific than that.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A demand that words be taken down as unparliamentary must be made at the time the remarks are uttered. The House has passed that point at this stage.

Mr. PASCRELL. I rise for a point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is unaware of any basis for a point of personal privilege at this stage.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the scheduled motion to suspend the rules if a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or if the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken later today.

#### PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY TO HONOR CONSTANTINO BRUMIDI ON THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 202) permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to honor Constantino Brumidi on the 200th anniversary of his birth.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 202

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring).* That the rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on July 26, 2005, for a ceremony to honor Constantino Brumidi on the 200th anniversary of his birth. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Florida (Mr. MICA) and the gentleman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA).

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in the House this morning in support of House Concurrent Resolution 202. This is a bill authorizing the use of the Rotunda of the United States Capitol for a ceremony on July 26 honoring Constantino Brumidi on the 200th anniversary of his birthday.

On June 22, 2005, President Bush issued a proclamation which honored and celebrated the 200th anniversary of the birth of Constantino Brumidi. That is the action that brings us here today, to permit a ceremony in Constantino Brumidi's honor to be held in the Capitol Rotunda.

Constantino Brumidi has been called the Michelangelo of the United States Capitol Building. House Concurrent Resolution 202 was introduced both to honor the life and also the work of Constantino Brumidi, who was an Italian immigrant also with strong family Hellenic roots who spent some 25 years, from 1855 to 1880, painting, decorating, and enhancing the beauty of our United States Capitol building. Brumidi was born in Italy in 1805 and he worked as an artist in Rome and the Vatican where he had many commissions, including a portrait of Pope Pius IX. In 1852, Brumidi immigrated to the United States and he dedicated the balance of his life to making our Capitol building one of the most impressive structures in this great Nation and really in the world.

In 1865, Brumidi spent some 11 months walking dangerously high atop the Capitol Rotunda laboring on his masterpiece which if you go to the center of the Rotunda and look up, you see his famous work entitled "The Apotheosis of Washington," in the eye of the Capitol dome. Six years later, he created the first tribute to an African American in the Capitol when he placed the figure of Crispus Attucks at the center of the painting which memorializes and pays tribute to those patriots who were lost in the Boston Massacre.

In 1878 at the age of 72 and in poor health, Brumidi began his final work and that was on the Rotunda frieze around the edge of the center of the Capitol dome. That frieze chronicles the history of the United States.

Constantino Brumidi's life and work exemplifies the life of really millions of immigrants who came to the United States to seek opportunity and to seek freedom in America. Brumidi and many others who immigrated to the United States provided their skills and their hard work, and they bettered their lives and they bettered the lives of their children, their grandchildren, and their great grandchildren, many who serve in this Congress, many who

serve across this land and whose daily lives enrich every day the United States of America.

NAIF, the National Italian-American Foundation, is an organization which promotes American and Italian relations, cultural and business relations and numerous other U.S. Italian groups that support this effort to recognize the outstanding work of Constantino Brumidi.

Constantino Brumidi is now part of the ages. He is deceased. However, his great artistic contributions all around us in this United States Capitol live on and give both beauty and also life, continuing life, to our Nation's Capitol building.

Mr. Speaker, 2005 is the bicentennial of Brumidi's birth, and I can think of no better way to honor this patriotic Italian-American's contribution to our great Nation than by passing this resolution.

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

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 202 authorizing use of the Rotunda for a ceremony on July 26, 2005, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of a noted Italian-American artist, Constantino Brumidi.

Brumidi was in many ways a classic American success story. Born in Rome to Italian and Greek parents in 1805, he began preparing for an artistic career at age 13 by studying with distinguished sculptors and painters. Much of his artistic vision was based on the wall paintings of ancient Rome and Pompeii, and on studies of the Renaissance and the Baroque. He focused on work for the Catholic Church, including several Popes, Italian princes, and other wealthy patrons.

Forced to immigrate to the United States in 1852 from an Italy wracked by political turmoil, he became an American citizen in 1867 and established himself as a creator of historic frescoes and murals. Beginning in 1855 and lasting until his death in 1880, Brumidi is known today primarily for the murals he painted in a changing U.S. Capitol building over a 25-year period.

His training was well suited in the classical design of the Capitol building. These works of art lure the eyes of visitors upward towards sights of beauty, in addition to the historic design of the Capitol itself, as they wander through examples of his artistry in the Capitol Rotunda, committee rooms, and what has become known as the Brumidi corridors on the first floor of the Senate wing of the building.

Brumidi also accepted private commissions and periodically returned to his specialty of religious paintings for the Catholic Church which he had practiced extensively earlier in his career.

Brumidi's worked on decorations in hallways and rooms throughout the Capitol and in the Hall of the House of