

must invest hundreds of hours in sweat equity into building not only their Habitat house, but houses for others as well. A Habitat homeowner is also responsible for making a down payment and monthly mortgage payments.

Habitat for Humanity is able to finance its operations through mortgage payments made by Habitat homeowners, donations and volunteer labor. Habitat also accepts government funds, so long as they have no conditions that would violate Habitat principles.

In my State of California, Habitat for Humanity has worked tirelessly to provide housing for needy Californians. Thousands of people have a decent place to live because of the work of many volunteers and the generosity of thousands of donors.

Mr. Speaker, Habitat for Humanity is an organization that deserves to be honored. I urge my colleagues to join me and vote "yes" on this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to my colleague and friend, the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. SANFORD BISHOP.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it often takes loss to remind ourselves of our unwavering appreciation and unflinching gratitude for those few extraordinary people who, despite their ability to enjoy tremendous success and reward for themselves, instead commit their energies and talents to the betterment of the world.

Millard Fuller of Americus, Georgia, was one of those extraordinary few. He passed away February 2nd, leaving behind a wife and family, but, more importantly, a legacy that is all the evidence one needs to believe in the power of the human spirit to inspire hope and lift the burdens of poverty and despair from the shoulders of one's fellow man.

Throughout his life, Millard Fuller's talent and passion were put on display in no small number of ways. He grew to be a great entrepreneur, founding a marketing company that made him a millionaire before he was 30 years old. He was a great lawyer and headed the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Alabama. He was a great Christian, one who walked away from his hard-earned wealth to pursue a life of service and philanthropy through the founding of the tremendously successful Habitat for Humanity.

Millard led the organization for more than three decades, and through the application of what he called the "economics of Jesus," helped to provide over 300,000 homes to the destitute and downtrodden across the globe.

However, more than any of these things, Millard was a great man. His selflessness serves as an inspiration to people throughout the Nation and all across the world.

Born to a grocer in Lanett, Alabama, Millard refused to allow his modest beginnings to define the course of his life. Although he attained great fortune

from his tireless efforts as a businessman, he soon found that in order to live a life of fulfillment, he had to dedicate himself to a simple life of devotion and service to a higher purpose.

□ 1915

He traveled to Africa in order to observe what he could do to improve the lot of the impoverished. He became a staunch advocate for aid to Africa's poor and traveled the United States for assistance in his efforts for Africa.

After moving to Americus, Georgia, which is located in the Second Congressional District of Georgia, which I'm proud to represent, Millard and his supporters founded what would become the most visible and effective manifestation of his desire to make a difference, an organization dedicated to providing housing and support for the poor, Habitat for Humanity.

For more than 30 years, Habitat for Humanity, with the help of countless volunteers, ranging from the average citizen to former President Jimmy Carter, built hundreds of thousands of homes for the world's disadvantaged. Its mission has reflected a simple philosophy best expressed in Millard's own words. He said, "We want to make it socially, morally, politically and religiously unacceptable to have substandard housing and homelessness."

In 1996, President Bill Clinton recognized Millard's dedication by awarding him The Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In 2005, Millard also founded the Fuller Center for Housing, a nonprofit housing ministry dedicated to eliminating poverty housing worldwide by providing the structure, guidance and support that communities need to build and repair homes for the impoverished among them.

It is my great honor to sponsor H. Res. 385, which celebrates the life of Millard Fuller and the impact that he had on so many. As this resolution is voted on today, let us seek to emulate Millard Fuller's passion for the good and the just and his selfless spirit of a better, gentler world.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to honor the life and the memory and the legacy of Millard Fuller.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, in closing, you have to admire an individual who applies Christian principles to his life. He didn't just talk good. He didn't just tell a story, he created good and he created a life for many people.

There's nothing like looking in the eyes of an individual or a family who is moving in a new home, especially when the family was involved in that home, building that home, and helping build homes for other people. You have to admire him for what he did, and all the individuals in this country and other countries who give of their time, their talent and their resources for the betterment of humanity.

And at this point in time, I would ask for an "aye" vote on a man who deserves it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, let me just agree with my colleague, who talked about the living out of beliefs.

I read a story in one the newspapers today which I thought was one of the most theologically unsound things I've seen or read recently. It compared the times President Obama and President Bush said the name "Jesus," as if there is something that is magically going to happen as a result of calling the name. And I think we are going into a slippery slope when we begin to compare people by how they call the name of their deity.

But in the case of Millard Fuller, he acted out his beliefs. And we believe in, at least my religious tradition, that there can be no faith, measurable faith, unless there are works. And we say faith without works is dead. And so you see today on the political scene, a lot of talk about religion, but after all is said and done, there's almost always more said than done. And so we have reason to stand up and celebrate Mr. Fuller, who put his faith into action.

I never had the opportunity to work on more than two Habitat homes, and I really hate the fact that I've not been able to do more. But I appreciate the fact that former President Jimmy Carter has become one of the most ardent supporters of Habitat for Humanity and has actually worked on tens and tens of homes, not only in this country, but around the world.

And by the organization's 25th anniversary, tens of thousands of people like President Jimmy Carter were volunteering with Habitat, and more than a half million people were living in Habitat homes. I am proud to count myself among the numbers of Habitat volunteers, and I'm also proud that I have the opportunity to speak in favor of Millard Fuller, a prolific writer, authoring 10 books, and a man who put his faith in action.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 385.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE U.S. BORDER PATROL ON ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 498) honoring and congratulating the U.S. Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 498

Whereas in the early 20th century, control of the border was sporadic and piecemeal, and included mounted guards, Texas Rangers, and military troops;

Whereas Supervising Inspector Frank W. Bershire wrote to the Commissioner-General of Immigration in 1918, "If the services of men now being drafted cannot be spared for this work, it may be that the various departments vitally interested would give favorable consideration to the formation of an independent organization, composed of men with out the draft age. The assertion is ventured that such an organization, properly equipped and trained, made up of seasoned men, would guard the border more effectively against all forms of lawlessness than a body of soldiers of several times the same number . . .";

Whereas the prohibition of alcohol and numerical limits placed on immigration to the United States by the Immigration Acts of 1921 and 1924 further exposed our inability to control our borders;

Whereas in response to this urgent need the Labor Appropriations Act of 1924 officially established the U.S. Border Patrol with an initial force of 450 officers to help defend our borders;

Whereas over the past 85 years the border patrol has undergone enormous changes, but their primary mission has remained the same, to detect and prevent the illegal entry of persons into the United States;

Whereas since 1998, the Border Patrol has seized more than 15,567,100 pounds of marijuana and more than 189,769 pounds of cocaine nationwide;

Whereas the border patrol is on the front line of the U.S. war on drugs, having seized more than 14,241 pounds of cocaine and more than 1,800,000 pounds of marijuana in fiscal year 2007;

Whereas in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001, the border patrol has taken on a new mission as part of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency, with the priority mission of preventing terrorists and terrorist weapons from entering the United States;

Whereas the U.S. Border Patrol today is our Nation's first line of defense against many threats, patrolling 8,000 miles of international borders with Mexico and Canada and the coastal waters around Florida and Puerto Rico;

Whereas the mission of the agency says, "We are the guardians of our Nation's borders. We are America's frontline. We safeguard the American homeland at and beyond our borders. We protect the American public against terrorists and the instrument of terror. We steadfastly enforce the laws of the United States while fostering our Nation's economic security through lawful international trade and travel. We serve the American public with vigilance, integrity and professionalism.";

Whereas the Border Patrol has adopted a clear strategic goal, to establish and maintain operational control of the border of the United States;

Whereas this strategy consists of five main objectives, establishing substantial probability of apprehending terrorists and their weapons as they attempt to enter illegally between the ports of entry, deterring illegal entries through improved enforcement, detecting, apprehending, and deterring smugglers of humans, drugs, and other contraband, leveraging "Smart Border" technology to multiply the effect of enforcement personnel, and reducing crime in border communities and consequently improving quality of life and economic vitality of targeted areas;

Whereas today over 18,800 agents risk their lives in pursuit of these objectives;

Whereas the Border Patrol recognizes 104 official line of duty deaths in service to their country;

Whereas the U.S. Border Patrol has spent past 85 years keeping this country safe from threats like terrorists, illicit drugs, weapons, and criminals;

Whereas the Border Patrol Inspectors of the past and the Border Patrol Agents of today perform their duties on foot, in automobiles, by horse, and in boats;

Whereas today the Border Patrol uses state of the art technologies to aid in the performance of their duties; infrared cameras, remote video surveillance, unattended underground sensors, and ground radar support their National Strategy;

Whereas they use canine teams to detect both humans and narcotics at immigration checkpoints as well as in daily operations;

Whereas their Special Response Teams and Tactical Unit are specially trained for domestic and international emergencies and they have Search, Trauma, and Rescue teams, which provide humanitarian and rescue capabilities, performing countless rescues every year; and

Whereas the Border Patrol is also supported in their mission with air and marine assets and personnel from CBP Air and MarineNow, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its support for the Border Patrol's goals and objectives;

(2) expresses its gratitude to the U.S. Border Patrol for its commitment to protecting the United States; and

(3) congratulates the Border Patrol and its exemplary workforce on 85 years of service to the United States.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 498, honoring and congratulating the United States Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

As the chairwoman of the Committee on Homeland Security Subcommittee for Border, Maritime and Global Counterterrorism, I have been fortunate enough to visit the border several times to see firsthand the good work of the Border Patrol. I have seen it, not just on the southern border with Mexico, but also that with Canada.

These dedicated men and women patrol America's borders, often in harsh climates, in isolated conditions, under dangerous conditions, in order to keep our Nation secure.

Representatives of Customs and Border Protection, the Border Patrol, and

its agents have also testified many, many times before our committee about the challenges they face, particularly the Border Patrol's rapid growth and its evolving mission in recent years.

I don't know if a lot of you remember, but just a few years back, our Border Patrol was only 450 people. Today it numbers almost 19,000, and it's on track to grow to 20,000 agents by the end of next year.

When it was founded, the Border Patrol's sole mission was to prevent persons and contraband from entering our country illegally. But, in particular, in the wake of the attacks of September 11 of 2001, the Border Patrol is also charged, it is our front line, with stopping terrorists and their weapons from entering our country.

In the early days of the Border Patrol, agents patrolled our borders without the benefit of modern technology. But today they have sensors, cameras, in addition to their traditional "sign-cutting" or their tracking skills, which they still use in some of the mountainous areas, especially out there in the Arizona and California desert. And through all these changes, the Border Patrol and its agents have maintained a steadfast commitment to serving our Nation.

I commend the Border Patrol and all the agents who have served honorably under the Patrol's proud 85-year history. It is certainly fitting that the House of Representatives is marking this anniversary today with this resolution.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. TEAGUE, the gentleman from New Mexico, for offering this fine resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to give it their support.

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

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

I rise in support of H. Resolution 498, celebrating the anniversary of the Border Patrol and honoring their service.

The Border Patrol was established in the Immigration Act of 1924, and celebrated its 85th anniversary just recently on May 28, 2009.

The Border Patrol is one of the most public faces of the Department of Homeland Security. For those who aren't familiar with the differences, the Border Patrol covers the areas between the ports of entry as opposed to the ports of entry. The 18,000 men and women in green work every day along the borders and coastlines of the United States, often in some of the most rugged and challenging terrain.

I have this outsized map here that the Marfa sector of the Border Patrol had given me from Texas. And this is just one small section of the border, but I wanted to use it to illustrate a few points. Marfa, Texas, is one of the more, let's just say, rural parts of America, which is why it was featured in "No Country for Old Men," "There Will Be Blood," because it was such a kind of an undeveloped area.

The area at the bottom on the point is the big bend of Texas that you see. That's Big Bend National Park. Those mountains in that area, the Chisos, are about 7,000 feet. A lot of people think our border is just flat and that it would be very easy to see all the problems coming through, but, in fact, it's very mountainous.

The far northwest edge of this map, in the western side of the Marfa sector, is Presidio. Presidio is a point of entry. That point of entry, for example, it's called Presidio because it was a fort, and that's where General Pershing, for example, chased Pancho Villa across. There's no other legal point of entry for hundreds of miles as you go across that border through Big Bend and up until the far side, which is near Lake Amistad and Del Rio sector. These areas are very vulnerable to penetration by any number of things.

And a lot of times the Border Patrol, as well as illustrating that the National Park Service has a huge chunk there, huge chunk over in other parks, that this border is not simple, and that when people say, Can't you just put a couple of thousand agents there and control the border, well, no, it is an incredible challenge.

During my time in Congress, I have had the opportunity to visit almost every Border Patrol sector on the north and south borders. There's 2,000 miles on the south, 4,000 miles on the north. The challenges are diverse, and the criminal element seeking to exploit our open borders are inventive and have significant resources. Drug smugglers are using helicopters, ultralight aircraft, fast boats, and something as simple as coyotes, forcing illegal aliens to carry 50-pound loads of drugs on their back to bring in contraband. The challenge is endless and the mission is critical.

In the 6-plus years that the Border Patrol has been in the Department of Homeland Security, their agency has doubled in size. Congress has provided authorization funding for hundreds of miles of fencing and vehicle barriers, which combined, total over 600 miles. Efforts to provide additional technological resources to the Border Patrol through the SBInet program, that should, when complete, provide an additional capability to detect and respond to illegal entry.

A sign that the efforts to gain operational control of the border are working is the growing drug cartel violence in Mexico. Nearly 8,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence in Mexico. It's a tragic situation, and it is absolutely critical that we continue to support and strengthen the Government of Mexico, headed by President Calderon.

At the same time, we must further strengthen our own border security efforts, and cannot be dependent on another nation doing that.

The Border Patrol's years of honorable service have not been without loss. To date, 104 agents have lost their

lives in duty to their country. Additionally, hundreds of assaults, from rockings to Molotov cocktails to threats on their lives occur every year to our Border Patrol agents.

□ 1930

As we celebrate the 85th anniversary of the Border Patrol, it is important to remember and honor the agents who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. Luis Aguilar is the most recent who was run over by a drug smuggler trying to flee. As the guards of our borders, the Border Patrol is an important layer of security and often the last line of defense in preventing dangerous people and goods from entering the United States and infiltrating the U.S. communities.

The Border Patrol cannot let down their guard as criminal organizations are continually looking for vulnerabilities in our security to bring in contraband. The consequences of a drug load that slips through the layered defense are significant. According to the Department of Justice, in 2007 almost 32 percent of high school seniors used marijuana in the past year and 5 percent had used cocaine. The vast majority of these drugs are smuggled across our borders.

The reality of post-September 11, 2001, is that terrorist organizations may also seek to exploit openings along our borders to smuggle operatives or potential weapons. In the week since their anniversary, May 28, the Border Patrol has apprehended six alien gang members and four convicted sex offenders, seized three guns, six trailers carrying contraband, including one with 40 illegal aliens; seized 16,609 pounds of marijuana, five vehicles and an ultralight aircraft. And my favorite is about 6 a.m. last Sunday, agents spotted an individual on a surf board approximately 200 yards offshore paddling north of the international border in Imperial Beach. The surfer was holding a blue duffel bag. He released it as agents approached. Soon after, the blue duffel floated ashore and was inspected by Border Patrol agents and had five packages of marijuana with an estimated street value at \$75,000. They're creative, if nothing else, and our Border Patrol has to be creative and persistent in response.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution and to honor the Border Patrol, express support for their important mission and pledge support to enhance their capabilities to gain operational control over our border.

[From www.cbp.gov, Mar. 23, 2009]

85 YEARS OF PROTECTED BY

Thursday, May 28, 2009, will mark the 85th anniversary of the United States Border Patrol. Founded in 1924, the U.S. Border Patrol was established in El Paso, Texas, and Detroit, Michigan. The Purpose: To combat the illegal entry of aliens, contraband, and the flow of illicit liquor from Mexico and Canada into the United States. The U.S. Border Patrol is steeped in a long and rich history that is passed down to each new recruit as they begin their careers at the academy. The

newly organized El Paso Border Patrol Station was assigned 25 Patrol Inspectors, many of whom were recruited from the ranks of the Texas Rangers. Today, The Border Patrol boasts over 18,000 agents, in 20 sectors, and 164 stations around the nation.

Under the authority of the Immigration Act, approved by Congress on May 28, 1924, the Border Patrol was created as a uniformed law enforcement branch of the Immigration Bureau. This prompted the establishment of the El Paso Border Patrol Sector on July 1, 1924. It was the height of Prohibition in the United States, and organized crime was a growing concern, as the mafia controlled a majority of the alcohol being smuggled into the United States. As a result, liquor smuggling from Mexico and Canada became a well organized, thriving industry. The opportunity to earn substantial sums of money became a temptation for many illegal aliens that were willing to enter the United States carrying a few crates of contraband.

It wasn't long before gun battles began to erupt between Border Patrolmen, and smugglers attempting to avoid arrest. In February 1927, El Paso Sector experienced one of the bloodiest months for the agency. As old newspapers report, during the entire month, there had not been a 24-hour period of time without a gunfight between smugglers and Patrol Inspectors. These gunfights added to the renown of the Border Patrol, as patrolmen gained a reputation for winning most of these shootouts.

Almost immediately after the establishment of the El Paso Station, a need was seen to have officers at outlying locations. Other stations soon opened within the sector. The Border Patrol began to grow, as the situation along the border was steadily deteriorating. As the prohibition era reached the peak of its infamy; lawlessness and violence became more common along the water borders of the Detroit Sector. Several Detroit Sector Patrol Inspectors were killed in the line of duty during this period, as smugglers attempting to bring contraband across the border resorted to violence to protect their cargo from the Border Patrol Inspectors.

Eighty-five years later, the Border Patrol has evolved into the finest law enforcement organization in the world. On a daily basis, the Border Patrol is confronted with a large number of threats that would never have been conceived of at the time of the agency's inception. Criminal organizations have evolved as well, adopting a wide variety of weapons and technology to aid them in their efforts to enter the United States while smuggling human cargo and other contraband. Since 9-11, the agency has had to adapt yet again, to our nations newest threat; terrorism. The U.S. Border Patrol has proven over its long history that its men and women are up to the task ahead, and stand ready at our nation's borders.

The U.S. Border Patrol will be hosting several events for the 85th Anniversary, including a Headquarters celebration honoring all of the men and women, past and present, who have made the Border Patrol what it is today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 3 minutes to my good friend, Mr. SILVESTRE REYES from the great State of Texas who, by the way, has probably over 30 years of experience in the Border Patrol Agency.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California for yielding me time, and I also want to thank you for your support of the men and women of the United States Border Patrol and the important work that you

do through your chairmanship and the subcommittee that deals with border issues.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 498, a bill that honors and congratulates the United States Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary. And I also want to thank my good friend and neighbor, HARRY TEAGUE from New Mexico, the gentleman that has sponsored this legislation, for his support of the United States Border Patrol men and women. And the ranking member as well, thank you for your support. I think that the men and women of the United States Border Patrol do incredible work.

The United States Border Patrol has a unique and rich history that began on May 28, 1924, when Congress passed the Labor Appropriations Act which officially established the U.S. Border Patrol in El Paso, Texas, and Detroit, Michigan. Established during the height of Prohibition in the United States, the initial 450 patrol inspectors were not only charged with preventing the entry of undocumented immigrants into the United States but were also responsible for combating the entry of illicit liquor from Mexico and from Canada.

Eighty-five years later, the Border Patrol has evolved to include almost 19,000 agents in 20 sectors and 164 stations around our country. The brave men and women of the Border Patrol are currently responsible for securing 8,000 miles of our international borders, both with Mexico and Canada and the coastal water around Florida and Puerto Rico. Since 9/11, the Border Patrol has been on the front lines in our national strategy to detect and apprehend terrorists and their weapons as they attempt to illegally enter the United States.

Before coming to Congress, I served for 26½ years in the U.S. Border Patrol. For half of that time, I was a Border Patrol sector chief, first in McAllen, Texas, and then in El Paso, Texas. As the only Member of Congress with a background in border enforcement, I am keenly aware of the invaluable work that these brave men and women perform for our country each and every day. We have a lot to thank them for.

In these times of heightened security, the U.S. Border Patrol and those agents are not only vital in helping to protect our country from terror threats and illegal entry of drugs but they also apprehend and deter human smugglers and bring them to justice. Oftentimes these agents are the first people to respond in humanitarian situations in the desert by providing first aid, food, water, and shelter to people that have gotten in trouble because of the heat and the distance that they're forced to travel in remote areas. Border Patrol agents perform countless rescues every year and provide critical training to law enforcement, both at home and abroad.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman 30 more seconds.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Border Patrol is vital to our Homeland Security strategy and has evolved into one of our country's finest law enforcement organizations. I'm a proud co-sponsor of Mr. TEAGUE's resolution in honor of their 85th anniversary. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I thank the men and women of the United States Border Patrol for working each and every day to keep us safe.

Mr. SOUDER. I continue to reserve.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman who authored this particular resolution, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. TEAGUE).

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 498, a resolution honoring and congratulating the U.S. Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary. This bill shows our support for the men and women who have served and are currently serving in our Nation's Border Patrol, and I encourage my colleagues to vote with me in support of this resolution.

The Border Patrol has undergone incredible changes over the past 85 years. They have grown from an initial force of 450 to over 18,800 agents today. They have learned to deal with new threats such as terrorists and weapons of mass destruction. And they have adapted ground-breaking technologies—such as infrared cameras and unattended underground sensors—to better face the challenges confronting them.

But despite these changes, their primary mission has stayed the same: to detect and prevent illegal entry of persons into the United States. As we all know, doing this is no easy task. They must patrol over 8,000 miles of international borders with Mexico and Canada and the coastal waters around Florida and Puerto Rico. They are our first line of defense against many threats, including terrorists, illicit drugs, weapons, and criminals; and they perform admirably at these tasks.

Since 1998, the Border Patrol has seized more than 15 million pounds of marijuana and 189,000 pounds of cocaine. Most importantly, border agents have very dangerous jobs. They risk their well-being every day on our behalf. In 85 years, 104 Border Patrol officers have lost their lives in the line of duty. In my district, the Border Patrol has an especially active presence, the El Paso Border Patrol sector, which covers all of New Mexico, covers 262 miles of border and employs over 2,600 agents. In fiscal year 2008 alone, they made over 30,000 apprehensions and seized over 87,000 pounds of marijuana.

Also in my district, in the town of Artesia, we have the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center at this facility which covers over 220 acres of space.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. TEAGUE. The Border Patrol agents, along with the other Federal agents, get the training they need to better perform their duties and adapt to the new challenges facing them.

In closing, the functions of the Border Patrol are more important today than ever. We have given them an incredibly difficult task and the brave men and women of the Border Patrol deserve the full support of Congress in achieving their goals.

I would like to thank Congresswoman SANCHEZ, Chairman REYES, Chairman THOMPSON, Congressman MCCAUL, and Majority Leader HOYER for their leadership in helping bring this resolution to the floor.

Again, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

First, I want to thank my friend and chairman of the subcommittee, Ms. SANCHEZ, who's been an excellent leader of our subcommittee and we work together closely on many things, not just noncontroversial bills like today. I thank Mr. TEAGUE for his leadership and my long-time friend, Mr. REYES, also the chairman of the Intelligence Committee, not only for his work in Congress but his work with the Border Patrol.

And again and most personally, today I want to thank every agent, every Border Patrol agent in America for helping protect us, as well as Chief David Aguilar for his leadership and further service. It sometimes gets a tad boring, sometimes it gets a little hot. On the Canadian border, sometimes it gets a little cold. It isn't exactly the most exciting job in America at all times, but what each of these agents does is extremely important to the safety of our Nation.

It may not be quite politically correct right now to talk about terrorism, but in fact it is a key part of our first line of defense in the border, and the Border Patrol is a key part of that. And we haven't had a terrorist attack on our soil since 9/11, partly because of our men and women in green.

It may not be quite politically correct right now to talk about stopping illegal immigration; but quite frankly, the safety of our Nation, the integrity of American citizenship requires legal, orderly entry. This isn't to say how many there should be, what type of immigration law we should have, but requires an orderly, legal process. So do many American jobs require this.

And it may not be quite politically correct right now to talk about stopping illegal drugs, but in doing so, the agents of the Border Patrol have made our streets safer, they have helped prevent child and spousal abuse, they have lowered emergency rooms admissions, they have helped people make child support payments by helping them hold their jobs because of illegal narcotics and other things causing them

to lose their jobs or by intercepting them or driving the prices up because of what they intercept.

We're never going to stop all drug abuse. And every Border Patrol agent knows he can't. But what he knows is he can intercept large numbers that would have gone to the streets and the homes of America and would have resulted in huge problems in crime and family safety in America.

So maybe we don't want to call it the war on drugs anymore. Instead we call it a disease, and for those who get addicted, it is a disease. But in fact unlike doctors and nurses who fight cancer, or researchers who fight cancer or people who fight lupus or diabetes, the Border Patrol agents are getting shot at and they die.

So whether we want to call it a war or whatever we want to call it, the individuals who use these illegal narcotics do not wake up one morning and suddenly discover that a heroin needle got put in their arm or that somehow they were snorting crack in their sleep or snorting cocaine in their sleep. In fact, it is somewhat different. And I want to make sure that our men and women of the Border Patrol understand that there is bipartisan support to making sure that we keep our border secure; that we continue to block illegal narcotics; that we continue to block terrorists; and you are our first line of defense on our huge borders, and we cannot thank you enough for risking your lives for the rest of us.

I yield back.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from Indiana, my ranking member on the subcommittee that oversees all of the border issues for America. He's been a strong advocate for the Border Patrol as well as for all of the agencies, really, that sit within our jurisdiction. And so I thank him for taking the time tonight to be down here and helping to work on this bill.

You know, the Border Patrol just doesn't work at the southern and the northern border. As was mentioned, we'll see them in Puerto Rico and some other areas, and also we send them to other countries to train people as to the whole issue of border patrol and how to take a look at what's coming in. In fact, in Iraq we've sent several to help to set up some of the border patrol issues out there in that country.

□ 1945

So we have a large group of men and women who come to work every single day, love America, and work very hard on behalf of the American people. And for this reason, Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly support House Resolution 498, honoring and congratulating the Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary, and I urge the rest of my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 498,

which honors and congratulates the U.S. Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary.

Much has changed since 1924, when Congress formally established the U.S. Border Patrol and charged just 450 officers with securing our Nation's borders.

Today, more than 18,000 Border Patrol agents patrol 8,000 miles of international borders with Mexico, Canada and the coastal waters around Florida and Puerto Rico.

Previously, the Border Patrol was responsible only for stopping illegal aliens and contraband from crossing our borders—an enormous challenge on its own.

But in the wake of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, Border Patrol's mission was expanded to include preventing terrorists and their instruments from entering the United States.

One thing has not changed in the last 85 years, however.

The men and women of the Border Patrol continue to risk their lives serving the American public with vigilance, integrity and professionalism.

As Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, I have been to our borders and seen firsthand Border Patrol agents serving our Nation, often under very difficult conditions.

That is why I am pleased to support this resolution, in honor of all those helping to secure America's borders today and throughout the Border Patrol's 85-year history.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would thank the gentleman from New Mexico, Mr. TEAGUE, for authoring H. Res. 498.

His congressional district includes Artesia, New Mexico, home to the Border Patrol Academy, where thousands of new Border Patrol agents have been trained.

Mr. TEAGUE'S constituents are fortunate to have a strong advocate for that fine facility and for the Border Patrol as an organization.

Again, I urge all of my colleagues to support this very worthy resolution, and join in honoring and congratulating the U.S. Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in support of H. Res. 498, a resolution honoring and celebrating the United States Border Patrol on its 85th Anniversary.

The United States Border Patrol is a federal law enforcement agency within U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Border Patrol was founded on May 28, 1924 as an agency of the United States Department of Labor to prevent illegal entries along the Mexico-United States border.

The Border Patrol's mission remains as the deterrence, detection and apprehension of illegal immigrants and individuals involved in the illegal drug trade who generally do not enter the United States through designated ports of entry.

Ever since its founding, the U.S. Border Patrol has been there defending our borders and homeland. They were there to prevent Ahmed Ressam, also known as the "Millennium Bomber," from entering this country and killing our citizens with explosives he intended to detonate at the Los Angeles International Airport during the holiday season prior to the 2000 millennium. They were there to apprehend Richard Goldberg, a suspected child molester, after he was arrested in Ottawa, Canada. Goldberg was on the FBI's "Top 10 Fugitive List" and was featured on "America's Most Wanted." Further, just this month, they were there to seize close to \$1.5 million in cocaine and marijuana along the Southern border.

The Border Patrol is this nation's first line of defense against many threats. They patrol over 8,000 miles of international borders with Mexico and Canada as well as the coastal waters around Florida and Puerto Rico.

The brave men and women of the Border Patrol work tirelessly to secure and facilitate trade and travel while enforcing hundreds of U.S. regulations, including immigration and drug laws. They keep our country safe from threats such as terrorists, illicit drugs, weapons, and criminals. Today over 18,800 Border Patrol Agents risk their lives in defense of our country. These brave men and women join thousands of others who have served our country in the Border Patrol over the last 85 years.

America can rest assured that its borders and homeland will be protected by the courageous men and women of the U.S. Border Patrol. I commend the U.S. Patrol on its proud and distinguished history of protecting the United States and strongly urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, 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. LORETTA SANCHEZ) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 498.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO ACT OF 2009—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-46)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on the Budget and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Today I am pleased to submit to the Congress the enclosed legislative proposal, the "Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2009," or "PAYGO," together with a sectional analysis.

The deficits that my Administration inherited reflect not only a severe economic downturn but also years of failing to pay for new policies—including large tax cuts that disproportionately benefited the affluent. This failure of fiscal discipline contributed to transforming surpluses projected at the beginning of this decade into trillions of dollars in deficits. I am committed to returning our Government to a path of fiscal discipline, and PAYGO represents a key step back to the path of shared responsibility.

PAYGO would hold us to a simple but important principle: we should pay for