

the aisle—not from my home State—was Mike Oxley. He had great admiration for my predecessor as well, and they were good friends, Tom Manton.

Mike was also my chairman. I served on the House Committee on Financial Services after the attacks of 9/11, and one of the great tributes I think I can give to Mike Oxley is he was, in large part, responsible for the passing of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act, also known as TRIA, something that was desperately needed after the events of 9/11 to shore up the financial services industry and industry all around the country and real estate. In so many, many ways, he understood the ramifications that not having that backstop could potentially have for our country. He saw to it that a bipartisan bill was agreed to.

So I have nothing but fond memories of Mike. I was very saddened when I heard of Michael's illness. I know he is missed by his family. On a lighter note, this week we will play the annual congressional baseball game. I am sure that if my colleagues were here on the floor, Coach Doyle in particular would be pointing out that he and Mike had a good friendship.

Mike was also a good basketball player. He had a wicked 3-point shot. Maybe if the 3-point play had been in place when he was in high school, he might have been somebody, you never know.

But Mike Oxley certainly was someone and a treasure to this institution, this body. He was a real Member's Member. I think if you can leave this House and have a tribute by someone from this side in a personal way speak about you, as I am today, I think that speaks highly of Michael Oxley. He is missed. What a great thing to do to honor him by naming this post office in his honor.

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make Congresswoman LAWRENCE aware that I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BLUM), my colleague, that I have no further speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BLUM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4960.

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.

KENNETH M. CHRISTY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 4960) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 525 N Broadway in Aurora, Illinois, as the "Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4960

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

SECTION 1. KENNETH M. CHRISTY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 525 N Broadway in Aurora, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BLUM) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 4960, introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER). The bill designates a post office in Aurora, Illinois, as the Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building.

Mr. Christy was a dedicated employee of the United States Postal Service and a devoted advocate for postal employees. I look forward to hearing more about Mr. Christy from my colleague and the sponsor of this bill, Representative FOSTER. For now, I urge Members to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 4960, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located in Aurora, Illinois, as the Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building.

It is only fitting that we name a post office after Ken Christy, a man who dedicated his career to the Postal Service and its workforce. Joining the Aurora Post Office in 1977, Ken worked as a letter carrier for over 30 years. Ken also served 25 years as the president of the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 219, receiving multiple awards for his dedication, leadership, and community service.

In 2004, he joined the Illinois State Association of Letter Carriers. Ken was awarded honorary membership in numerous postal facilities outside of Aurora and was inducted into the Illinois Letter Carriers Hall of Fame in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken about my illustrious career in the United States Postal Service, one of 30 years. I started that career as a letter carrier, so it is with great honor that I stand here today strongly suggesting and saying that we should pass this bill to honor Ken Christy's life of public service and his tireless dedication to the Postal Service. I urge the passage of H.R. 4960.

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

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

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER).

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Michigan, and I also thank the entire Illinois delegation on both sides of the aisle for cosponsoring this legislation.

On March 26, 2016, the State of Illinois and the city of Aurora lost a consummate public servant. On the day he died, Ken Christy was the sitting Aurora township clerk, the president of the Illinois State Association of Letter Carriers, and a dear friend of mine.

Ken was a family man, and he left behind three daughters and his wife, Bonnie, his high school sweetheart to whom he was married for 52 years. I rise today to honor Ken's legacy and his lifetime of public service.

Ken and his wife, Bonnie, settled in Aurora in 1977, when Ken took a job as a letter carrier with the United States Postal Service, a career that would last more than 30 years. Ken took on a leadership role within the Postal Service. He quickly became the Aurora NALC Branch 219 president and served in that role for 25 years.

During that time, Branch 219 was recognized for its charitable contributions and received several awards from the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Under Ken's leadership, Branch 219 was recognized nationally with an NALC Branch Service Award and its Humanitarian Award. Ken spent countless hours as a volunteer at the letter carriers' annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive and made deliveries for the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

In 2000, Ken was personally awarded the Dave Bybee award for leadership and dedication by the Illinois Association of Letter Carriers.

In 2004, he was recognized for his leadership skills and civic engagement by becoming its legislative liaison.

Just 3 years later, he was elected president of the Illinois State Association of Letter Carriers, a position he held until the end of his life.

□ 1615

As president of the Illinois Association of Letter Carriers, Ken made sure

that the voices of his members were heard by public officials on both sides of the aisle at both the State and Federal level.

In 2012, Ken was nominated to the Illinois Letter Carriers Hall of Fame. In 2013, Ken Christy was elected Clerk of Aurora Township.

Ken was a public servant in the truest sense of the word. Ken was always working for others, whether it was in his 30-year career delivering mail in his community, his dedication to charity work, or his devotion to his family as a husband, father, and grandfather.

So I think it is only appropriate that we honor his life and his legacy and pass this bill today to name the post office where Ken spent his entire career the Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this man, who was a pillar of his community, by voting "yes."

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BLUM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4960.

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.

EXPANSION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AVAILABILITY PAY TO EMPLOYEES OF CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION'S AIR AND MARINE OPERATIONS

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4902) to amend title 5, United States Code, to expand law enforcement availability pay to employees of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4902

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

SECTION 1. LAW ENFORCEMENT AVAILABILITY PAY FOR EMPLOYEES OF CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION'S AIR AND MARINE OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5545a(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "apply to a pilot employed by the United States Customs Service" and inserting "apply to any employee of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations, or any successor organization,"; and

(2) by striking "such pilot" and inserting "such employee".

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after the date that is 14 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 4902.

Those who serve along our Nation's borders make countless sacrifices protecting the homeland in the most literal of ways by stopping bad guys from entering our country and harming Americans.

The Customs and Border Protection officers and agents who serve in my district, which covers over 800 miles of the Texas-Mexico border, have an increasingly challenging job. Not only do they keep us safe from terrorists and drug cartels, but they also apprehend illegal contraband and rescue victims of human trafficking.

CBP's Air and Marine Operations, or AMO, patrols our Nation's borders by aircraft and vessels, specifically. AMO is made up of over 1,200 Federal agents, 250 aircraft, and over 280 marine vessels, operating from 91 locations throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

These brave agents are often required to work long, unpredictable hours and are compensated through various confusing and inconsistent pay systems, causing an administrative nightmare for the folks who work overtime protecting our Nation.

Because of the number of overtime systems applicable to AMO agents, in many cases, even those working side by side on a mission were often compensated differently. The confusion and inconsistency not only makes it harder for the agency to plan shifts for agents and to prepare a budget, but the uncertainty impacts those who serve.

H.R. 4902 addresses these problems by standardizing premium pay for AMO. Under the provisions of this bill, all law enforcement agents at AMO will be covered under the Law Enforcement Availability Pay, otherwise known as LEAP, the LEAP premium pay system.

To ensure pay is standardized quickly, the legislation would require this change to come into force on the first day of the pay period that begins at least 14 days after the date of enactment.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that implementing a uniform pay system for all CBP officers would

result in a cost savings of approximately \$2 million annually. More importantly, it would save many hard-working AMO officers from unfair and aggravating overtime pay discrepancies. This will save Customs and Border Protection valuable time and operational bandwidth, while ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly.

I include in the RECORD a letter from the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association in support of this bill.

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,

Washington, DC, June 20, 2016.

Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,

Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

Hon. ELLIJAH CUMMINGS,

Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CHAFFETZ AND RANKING MEMBER CUMMINGS: On behalf of membership of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA)—the nation's largest professional, non-profit association representing 26,000 federal law enforcement officers from 65 agencies—I am writing to advise you of our continued strong support for H.R. 4902, legislation to expand Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP) to the law enforcement officers of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations division. FLEOA greatly appreciates the Committee's efforts to expeditiously approve this important legislation, and we urge its passage by the House of Representatives this week.

Currently, within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), law enforcement officers of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Air and Maritime Operation (AMO) division are compensated through multiple premium pay mechanisms for their overtime: Administratively Uncontrollable Overtime (AUO), Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP) and Title 5 overtime (FEPA). This proposal would harmonize premium pay across the organization by making all AMO law enforcement officers eligible for LEAP. CBP estimates that shifting overtime compensation to LEAP will help the agency save approximately \$1.6 million in premium pay in the first year alone.

Prior to the creation of the DHS, all U.S. Customs Service air personnel were included in the LEAP statute. Legacy U.S. Customs Service responsibilities have been retained, but today's AMO functions encompass a broader scope of authorities. Implementing LEAP for all AMO law enforcement officers would enhance CBP operational efficiencies and monetary savings by providing an efficient, effective, and uniform system of compensation for the unique work conditions and substantial hours commonly required of AMO agents.

FLEOA appreciates your efforts to advance this legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide any additional information or assistance.

Respectfully,

DOMINICK L. STOKES,

FLEOA Vice President for Legislative Affairs.

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this underlying legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4902, a bipartisan bill sponsored by