

J.J. "JAKE" PICKLE FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3223) to designate the Federal building located at 300 East 8th Street in Austin, Texas, as the "J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3223

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building located at 300 East 8th Street in Austin, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM).

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

Again this resolution designates the Federal building located in Austin, Texas, as the J.J. Jake Pickle Federal Building. A former colleague, Jake Pickle was a dedicated public servant who served his constituents well during his career in this House which spanned over 30 years. He was born and raised in Texas and served in the United States Navy during World War II. He was elected to fill a vacant congressional seat in 1963 and was reelected to the seat for 15 successive Congresses.

During his tenure in Congress, Congressman Pickle was a strong advocate of civil rights issues and equal opportunities for women and minorities. He sat as Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means' Subcommittee on Oversight and Subcommittee on Social Security. It is a fitting honor for Congressman Pickle and the people he served.

I support this bill and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Austin, Texas (Mr. DOGGETT), the new Congressman who has done an outstanding job and whose persistence ensured that this legislation and this honor is bestowed on Mr. Pickle.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, my thanks to the ranking member, my friend and colleague from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), and to the chairman of the committee for their favorable recommendation on this piece of legislation. It is with the greatest pleasure that I authored and now join in presenting this legislation as a tribute to the outstanding public service of Jake

Pickle by naming the Federal Building in Austin in his honor.

For 31 years, from the time that I personally was a senior at Austin High School with his daughter, Peggy, until the day I was sworn in as a Congressman representing the same district here in this House in 1995, Jake Pickle was the only Congressman who ever represented me, and he did that and his representation for all of us in central Texas with the very greatest distinction. For all but 3 of his 31 years in office, the first 3, he officed on East Eighth Street in Austin, Texas, in the building that will now bear his name.

This is not, of course, the first structure in our community to bear his name. Our future in central Texas is already marked with the Pickle Research Campus and Complex at the University of Texas, and I am sure that this will not be the last such physical reminder of all that those decades of service have meant to our neighbors there in the Travis County and the broader central Texas area.

James Jerald "Jake" Pickle was born in 1913 up in Big Spring, Texas, and a few years back I had the pleasure of attending one of his many birthday parties and found that there must be something really good up there in Big Springs in the springs because there were a number of people that he went to public school there in Howard County with who were there, and they brought the same degree of enthusiasm that I have always seen in his work as our Congressman.

Jake went on to get his degree at the University of Texas in Austin back in 1938 where he served as Student Body President. He later worked as an area director for the National Youth Administration under President Roosevelt, and he served 3½ years in the Navy, as was mentioned, and I understand he even had a career as a night watchman over here in the Cannon Office Building where he later officed.

Upon returning to Austin though after World War II, he worked in radio at KVET in public relations. He served as the director of the Texas State Democratic Executive Committee and as a member of the Texas Employment Commission. It was from his position at TEC that he resigned to run for Congress in 1963.

He has established himself throughout his career as someone who is willing to stand up and be counted for what he believes in.

It was only a short time after he arrived here in Washington that he faced the challenging decision, given the times, of whether to vote for the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and he joined five other Members from the Southern States who voted for that legislation and still tells the tale of getting the call at I believe it was about 2:00 in the morning from President Johnson commending him on his support for the Civil Rights Act, and he went on the next year to support the Voting Rights Act and to continue his work on behalf

of a broad range of people from our community in having opportunities for all of us to participate and share in the greatness of America. The service that he rendered was, of course, closely related to the service of President Lyndon Johnson, and President Johnson and of course still Lady Bird Johnson remain close friends of Congressman Pickle.

Naming this building in Austin in Congressman Pickle's honor is particularly important and appropriate because it was constructed during President Johnson's administration and still has there President Johnson's Texas apartment and office that he used during his Presidency, and it is preserved today in about the same fashion that he left it in 1973.

Jake has so many great stories that only he can tell in the appropriate way about the Great Society, about President Johnson and his work on that. All of it is really the stuff of political legend in Texas. He stands certainly as one of the few remaining personal historians of one have America's greatest Presidents.

Jake also distinguished himself, and I know others will speak of this, in his work on the House Committee on Ways and Means. He served as the Chair of the Committee on House Oversight where he focused on issues concerning the Internal Revenue Service, concerning the Medicare system and trying to be sure that waste and fraud were eliminated in Medicare. He also served as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security back in the 98th Congress and is widely credited with shepherding through major Social Security reform that extended the life of the Social Security system.

But I think when folks back home in Texas think of him, they think not of all of his many votes and important committee work here in Congress, but they think of him as a person that, regardless of age, they call and feel comfortable in calling "Jake" because he was there when they had an individual problem or concern. His reputation for effective and efficient constituent service and community involvement is absolutely legendary. He set the highest standard for any Member of Congress, certainly for me, to emulate.

Not only did he engage in tireless advocacy on behalf of his constituents, he also deserves a reputation for giving selflessly of his time and seemingly boundless energies for our community.

Recently Jake and his daughter Peggy Pickle have authored a book about his life and reflections on his service here that many of our Members have obtained. It is a book that contains many wonderful anecdotes about Congress, LBJ and Texas politics, and it makes very clear his philosophy. He not only felt that each of us have a responsibility to one another, but that government has a responsibility to each of us to be fair and to be compassionate. He viewed that responsibility as both a duty and an honor, and while

he never took himself too seriously and always had that great sense of humor that he brought to his work, he took this duty as a representative of government very seriously indeed, and he still does.

These days, while Jake is retired from Congress, he is hardly retiring, but he is working very hard there in Austin. He has continued energetic involvement particularly in questions involving our transportation system. He is invaluable. He continues to inspire us and to provide great counsel to many of us who serve in public office.

Based on these and other accomplishments that are too numerous to mention, I know that Congress will move promptly to name the Federal Building in Austin in Jake's honor, and short of having the security guards there pass out those plastic green pickles that all of us have to everyone who enters, I cannot think of a more fitting way to remind future generations of Texas how much he has really done for us. With 31 years of service to this community and to its people, J.J. "Jake" Pickle deserves nothing less than this very permanent memorial.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON).

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to follow up on the words of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) and talk a little bit about Mr. Pickle.

I am honored to be able to stand here and endorse the naming of this Federal Building in Houston in the name of J.J. "Jake" Pickle. As my colleagues know, many times this is a now community, out of sight, out of mind, because there is so much going on here. But it is not so with Jake Pickle. He was a real hero.

He was, first of all, as others have said, a national hero, having been a great member of the United States Navy during World War II; certainly a congressional hero in terms of the legislation which he was part of, passed, supported and also his work on the Committee on Ways and Means.

I am not a resident of Austin, Texas, but I remember going down with the Committee on Ways and Means, and Jake was our host, and he is a real folk hero in that area. I can understand it, having known him and worked with him, but one has to go down there to see it to appreciate his association with that great community and the people in it.

Also, frankly, he is a personal hero. I worked with Jake in many different ways. The one I think I remember best is working with him on the Committee on Ways and Means and the Subcommittee on Oversight. The Republicans at that point were in the minority, and I was the ranking member on the minority side. That never bothered Jake. He never made a decision, and he never sort of threw his leadership around without checking with me. He did not have to, it was not necessary,

but with all the discussion of bipartisanship and civility, he represented it, he lived it, he spoke it and was a wonderful, wonderful example to me.

So all I can say is, "Jake, if you ever will read the record of this proceedings, I love you, you're a great man, and you're a standard for which this institution, all of us, strive to reach."

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

□ 1630

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the gentleman from California and the gentleman from Ohio both for their leadership. It may not seem that these are the most crucial aspects of our legislative business, but to each of these gentlemen, let me say that they make many people in our respective States extremely happy and extremely pleased, and give honor to those who deserve honor.

I am delighted to rise as a Texan to pay tribute to J.J. "Jake" Pickle. Many of you had the honor with serving with him, of which I did not. But I bring a special perspective to this tribute to Jake, as he is affectionately called, recognizing his service in World War II, but also recognizing his battle in the war of civil rights.

I would not be standing here today, nor would my predecessors, the esteemed and honorable Barbara Jordan, Mickey Leland and Craig Washington, for this seat was created after the passage of the 1965 Voter Rights Act. This was the first seat that elected an African American to the United States Congress since reconstruction from the State of Texas, and certainly the first seat that elected an African American woman from the deep South to go to the United States Congress.

Do not let anyone tell you that this was an easy choice for Jake Pickle; but for him it was the right choice, and he believed in what he did, and he continued to believe in the equality and the freedom and justice for all.

He was not on the Committee on the Judiciary, and as I noted, he was from the deep State of Texas, the Yellow Rose State, and, for many, that could have been the appropriate cover not to vote for any civil rights during the time he did. But Jake Pickle saw the right way, and he recognized the deep segregation in Texas and realized that it was wrong.

Jake, I pay tribute to you, and I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) for his leadership on giving to Jake his flowers before his end.

He is vibrant all right, and he is leading us in many different ways. He was proud to be an American, proud to be a Texan, and, yes, he is proud to be a Democrat. He served in the United States Congress for 31 years, and he took some very serious votes and did some great works as a member of the Committee on Ways and Means. As a Congresswoman from the 18th Congress-

sional District, a district that is only one of two that has elected an African American from the State of Texas, knowing that we all are created equal, my special thanks to Jake for his vote for the 1964 Civil Rights Act and his vote for the 1965 Voters Rights Act.

While he was visiting the White House, as I close, he was meeting with President Johnson and Jack Valenti, and Jack thanked him for his vote on the 1964 Voter Rights Act, and he said, "Mr. President Johnson, well, it was a tough one, and I am sure glad that it is over."

President Johnson was listening, and he said "Jake, that was a tough vote, but you will be in Congress for another 20 years," and, of course, as I said, Jake was in Congress for 31 years, "and you will probably have a civil rights vote every year from now on. We have just started civil rights reform, and we are 200 years behind. We have a long way to catch up. So don't think for a second you have got your vote behind you."

As usual, the President, President Johnson was right, and the fight did go on. And I can assure you, our friend Jake was right there in the midst and helped create for us many victories that declared that we all are created equal and we all stand equal under the sun.

Thank you, Jake, and congratulations on this honor. I support this legislation and look forward to seeing Jake in future years taking his rightful place as one of our true American heroes.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in strong support of naming the Federal building in Austin, Texas, after our good colleague, former colleague, Jake Pickle, who we honored in Washington very recently; not only a veteran in our military, but a veteran in the House, and did so much for so many, particularly for our seniors. It is a great honor and a privilege to join in the debate supporting the naming of the Federal building in his honor.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BENTSEN).

(Mr. BENTSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time and thank the chairman and ranking member of the subcommittee for bringing this bill to the floor.

Jake Pickle was a student of the "old school of politics." Raised in the small Texas town of Roscoe, Jake never forgot his rural roots. Jake belongs to a dwindling group of Texas politicians who were the proteges of another

great Texan, President Lyndon Baines Johnson. In fact, Jake represented the same Texas district as President Johnson had once before and our colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) now represents. In fact, as the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) was telling me, that district used to run not just around Travis County, but ran all the way to Harris County at the time that Jake was first elected.

He wore many hats during his political career, serving as a campaign manager, Congressional aid, Congressman and an adviser to LBJ. After graduating from the University of Texas at Austin, he became the area director of the National Youth Administration. He then went on to serve 3½ years in the Navy in the Pacific during the Second World War.

When he got back, he went into the radio business in Austin and then reentered politics in 1957 as the director of the Texas State Democratic Executive Committee, which at that time was considered a contact sport.

In 1961, he was appointed a member of the Texas Employment Commission, resigning in 1963 to run for Congress. Some could say that it was the pickle-shaped campaign pins and recipe books that got him elected in 1964, but that would only be a small part of his success. It was Jake's great sense of knowing what the people want from their government that got him elected. His decades of experience in the public service prior to being elected to office gave Jake the tools he needed to be a Congressman. His warm personality and natural leadership skills made him a legend. I might add that having Beryl probably made the district.

As a member of Congress, where he served on the Committee on Ways and Means, Jake managed to involve himself in just about every major issue in his committee, from Social Security to trade to the complete revision of the Tax Code in 1986.

As chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Oversight and the Subcommittee on Social Security, Jake exercised broad mandate. In 1983, as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security, Jake was convinced that the way to save the Social Security System from a long-term collapse was to raise the retirement age. While others wanted to solve long-term financing problems with eventual increases in the payroll tax, Jake unexpectedly prevailed on the floor in what was the most impressive and significant victory of his career, and what was then the Pickle-Pepper amendment to the Social Security reform bill.

Jake fought long and hard for the elderly. The effort in 1983 to save Social Security is the best example of the many attempts to improve their lives. To Jake, the elderly were the backbone of our society, helping America stand tall. For this reason, he did everything he could in Congress and in his com-

mittees and subcommittees to ensure the elderly would receive proper care and maintain financial stability.

Every once in a while one can find a leader and a politician as great as Jake Pickle. I have to say, while I did not have the opportunity to serve with Mr. Pickle as a Member of the House, I did have the opportunity as a member of the staff to the House during his tenure here. It was something that every year when the Texas State Society, which continues to meet on Fathers Day for its annual Fathers Day picnic, Jake and Beryl would be out there. And while I did not get to serve with them, I did get to play horseshoes with them on a couple of occasion. That is how he was every year of his service for the 31 years he was here, and even today, when he comes back to visit us and join us at the weekly Wednesday Texas Delegation Lunch to tell us how things were done before he was in Congress, while he was in Congress, and how we ought to be doing them now. I congratulate the chairman and ranking member for bringing this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I know Jake Pickle, I served with Jake Pickle, and I know that Jake Pickle is deserving of this honor, and I am, too, proud, as other colleagues have spoken, to be a part of this legislation.

One thing about Jake Pickle, he was not yellow. He had a backbone, not a wishbone, a backbone, and very few of us may realize the pressure he had when he was one of only five Southern leaders to pass President Johnson's Civil Rights Act of 1964, amidst great pressure and attacks from those who thought otherwise.

Men like Jake Pickle have created an opportunity for all Americans that were not gifted with an automatic entry into our mainstream. But I want to just make a few comments on the Congressman that I knew, and how he helped me personally in a couple areas where we changed IRS law.

He helped me to pass legislation that requires the IRS to have a training program for all their agents so they do not abuse our taxpayers. Also he helped me pass legislation that allows an abused taxpayer now to sue the IRS. Then Jake worked on legislation with me and others to raise the limits for such lawsuits from \$100,000 to \$1 million. He also helped to promote, over a period of years, my legislation to make it tougher for the IRS to seize our property and to help us change the burden of proof in a civil tax case that has recently been passed with the help of Republican leadership, and I am appreciative of that.

Jake Pickle may be watching. If he is, thank you, Jake. Thanks for all you did for the American people, and thanks for your tough and courageous stand. You are most deserving of this honor and tribute.

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3223, A Bill Designating the

J.J. "Jake" Pickle Federal Building in Austin, Texas. This is a fitting tribute to an unique Texan and former Member of Congress.

Congressman Pickle is a legend even by Texas standards. He put himself through college during the Depression, worked for President Roosevelt's National Youth Administration, served in the Pacific during World War II, started a radio station in Central Texas, and represented Texas' Tenth Congressional District from 1963 to 1995. During his long and distinguished career in the Congress, Jake Pickle prided himself as a protector of small businesses and a specialist in the Social Security system.

Over the years, Congressman Pickle managed to involve himself in every major issue that confronted the Ways and Means Committee, from Social Security to trade to the complete revision of the tax code.

During the 98th Congress, Jake Pickle chaired the Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee. As chairman of that subcommittee, he was convinced that the way to save the Social Security system from a long-term collapse was to raise the retirement age. Democratic leaders, including Thomas P. O'Neill and Claude Pepper, wanted to solve long-term financing problems with eventual increases in the payroll tax. Few expected Pickle would prevail on the floor, but he did.

Through months of argument over what to do about Social Security, Pickle and Pepper were the spokesmen for two diametrically opposite points of view. During floor consideration, the House chose Jake Pickle's approach, which later became law. This victory represents the culmination of a long personal struggle for Jake Pickle to put the Social Security system on a sound personal footing.

Most everyone knows Jake Pickle as a political protege of President Lyndon B. Johnson. Congressman Pickle was a campaign manager and a Congressional aide to Johnson before World War II and an advisor in Johnson's 1948 Senate campaign. Jake always spoke reverently about President Johnson and his commitment and dedication is a testament to their friendship.

Congressman Pickle is also known for his storytelling ability. In 1997, shortly after his retirement from the United States House of Representatives, Jake Pickle wrote a book with his daughter in which he recalled some of the many adventures he has had during his political career. One of my favorite is featured in Chapter 35 of *Jake*:

In 1957 or 1958 Governor Price Daniel and I were in El Paso attending a state democratic Executive Committee meeting. About that time the state of Chihuahua and Texas were instigating a program to eradicate the yellow boll weevil. So the Governor was in El Paso to officially give credence to the boll weevil eradication program as well. Jean Daniel was in El Paso with her husband.

Our party stayed at El Paso's Del Norte Hotel, the finest in town. One night after our meeting, Price and Jean, Hazel and Bob Haynsworth, and I decided to go across the border to Juarez.

The Haynsworths knew a bar in Juarez with a good band and a floor show, and Bob Haynsworth called ahead to speak to the manager. The Manager was told that the Governor of Texas would be in our party, and we wished no publicity. The manager said we did him a great honor. Absolutamente! He would respect our privacy.

When our group arrived at the bar, we were seated at a big table near the band. Now,

Governor Daniel was a Baptist and a teetotaler. Officially, he never drank. But he liked Cokes. Every time we went someplace people would offer Daniel a drink, and he'd always decline, saying, "Well thank you, but I don't drink." People expected this, but always felt they had to offer the governor a drink anyway.

But sometimes Daniel would add, "I'll take a Coke, though. Jake, why don't you get me a Coke?" And I would—but I'd have the bartender pour a shot of bourbon in it. Daniel never mentioned the bourbon—but he always asked me to get his Cokes. It was a little game we played for years, one which allowed Daniel to follow his religion, but enjoy a little socializing with a clear conscience.

However, Coke or no Coke, the last thing Daniel wanted was to be recognized in a bar, even a Mexican bar with no constituents.

Everything went fine for a few minutes. Then the band, which had been playing lively Mexican melodies, suddenly stopped, then executed a drum-roll flourish. The Governor and I looked at each other and thought, "Uh oh." He sank lower in his seat.

Then the bandleader announced into the mike, "We are proud to have with us tonight the Governor of the State of Texas"—Another drum roll—"the honorable Price Daniel!" Amid the fanfare, a white spotlight swept the dark bar and came to rest on our table.

Nobody moved. Daniel kept his head down. Again, the announcer said, "Damas y caballeros, permitanme presentarles el gobernador del estado de Tejas!" Another drum roll and the bright spotlight on our table.

Still no movement from Price.

With the spotlight still on us, a third time the announcer called, "Please! Will the Governor of Texas stand and be recognized?"

Finally Jean leaned over and whispered urgently, "Jake, for goodness sake, will you do it?" And Daniel said, "Jake, I bet you've always wanted to be Governor—here's your chance."

So I got to my feet and grinned and waved to thunderous applause, as the band struck up "The Eyes of Texas." I must admit, I got a great reception.

Boll weevils and politicians. We're just lookin' for a home.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have served with Congressman Jake Pickle and will be forever grateful for his friendship. This designation is only a small token of our appreciation to a dedicated public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3223, to designate the federal building located at 300 East 8th Street in Austin, Texas, as the "J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building."

It is a well deserved honor for a man who selflessly served his country in a multitude of ways over many years.

I was pleased to serve alongside Jake not only as a member of the Texas Congressional Delegation, but also on the Ways and Means Committee. His integrity, compassion and unswerving sense of right and wrong remain as sterling examples of the standard to which every public official should strive.

I join my colleagues and the American people in gratefully honoring the life, the contributions and achievements of Jake Pickle, a cherished friend, a loyal Texan and a selfless public servant.

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

Mr. KIM. 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 California (Mr. KIM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3223.

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.

DICK CHENEY FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3453) to designate the Federal Building and Post Office located at 100 East B Street, Casper, Wyoming, as the "Dick Cheney Federal Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3453

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF DICK CHENEY FEDERAL BUILDING.

The Federal Building and Post Office located at 100 East B Street, Casper, Wyoming, shall be known and designated as the "Dick Cheney Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal Building and Post Office referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dick Cheney Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM).

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

Mr. Speaker, this resolution designates the Federal Building and Post Office located in Casper, Wyoming, as the Dick Cheney Federal Building. As a former Member of this body and a former Secretary of Defense, Dick Cheney has served this country and distinguished himself in both the executive and legislative branches of Federal Government. He served in the administrations of Presidents Nixon, Ford and Bush. As head of the Department of Defense, Secretary Cheney presided over a number of historical operations, including Operation Just Cause in Panama and Operation Desert Storm in the Middle East. For his service during Desert Storm, President Bush awarded Secretary Cheney the Presidential Medal of Freedom on July 3, 1991.

In addition to his career in the executive branch, Dick Cheney was elected to the House of Representatives in 1978, representing the State of Wyoming. At the end of his first term, he was elected to serve as the Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee. Congressman Cheney was reelected to serve in the House for five more consecutive terms. He became the Chairman of the Republican Conference and House Minority Whip during his tenure.

For such a distinguished career and dedicated service to his career, this is a

fitting tribute to Secretary Cheney. I support this bill and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I knew Dick Cheney and served with Dick Cheney and am proud to be here today associated with this honor being paid to the former Secretary of Defense. I would just like to say that under his stewardship and leadership, two of the largest, most recent military campaigns, and, I might add, most successful, perhaps, in our recent history, that was Operation Just Cause in Panama and Operation Desert Storm in the Middle East, were under his stewardship.

□ 1645

His leadership was not only positive but powerful for all of us that knew him. When he said something, he meant it. Everybody recognized that, no one debated it, and no one had to argue the point.

He was well liked. In addition to this stern, strong leadership, he possessed a genuine sense of humor and did much to advance the Armed Services of the United States of America, and everyone who worked with him and interacted with him not only respected him, they liked him very much.

So I want to just join today and say that I am proud to be a part of that, proud to be able to vote on this legislation, and urge everyone to vote for it.

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

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN).

(Mrs. CUBIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise here today in support of passage of this legislation designating the Dick Cheney Federal Building in Casper, Wyoming. I should note that by naming this building after Dick, in some respects we are passing on a family heritage. Dick's father worked in that building when it was first opened, when it was a brand-new building. So I am very grateful, and it has special meaning to those of us from Wyoming.

As my colleagues may know, I introduced the bill in March to rename the Federal building and post office in Casper, Wyoming, in recognition of Mr. Cheney's many contributions to our country. I can think of no one who is more deserving of this honor. Dick has served this body in a number of capacities, including policy committee chairman, conference chairman, and minority whip. He also very ably served our country as Secretary of Defense in the Bush administration and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his leadership during Operation Desert Storm.

Mr. Speaker, there are few things in our lives that happen where we remember forever and ever where we were sitting and what we were doing when a