

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. Speaker, although this measure is still being negotiated by the parties involved, I believe that this legislation is an excellent initial effort to streamline the Federal bankruptcy system.

By establishing a procedure for private bankruptcy trustees to contest their removal from cases, this bill provides the foundation for a more efficient Federal bankruptcy system.

Under this measure, if the U.S. Trustee (part of the Justice Department) declines to reappoint a trustee or assign future cases to a trustee, the affected trustee may seek administrative review, judicial review, or both. Thus, this measure would create "on the record" administrative hearings for affected trustees.

This bill also provides jurisdiction to the U.S. District Court over trustee challenges of administrative rulings from the Office of the U.S. Trustee.

I am pleased that we are working hard to protect the due process interests of the trustees. By providing adequate hearing and judicial review processes, we can fashion both an efficient and fair Federal bankruptcy structure.

Although the Justice Department and Bankruptcy judges still have some concerns that need addressing, I find our progress very heartening. I hope that the involved parties will continue to negotiate until a workable solution becomes reality.

Ms. LOFGREN. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GEKAS. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2592, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read:

A bill to amend title 28 of the United States Code to provide trustees the right to seek administrative and judicial review of the refusal of a United States trustee to assign, and of certain actions of a United States trustee relating to expenses claimed relating to, cases under title 11 of the United States Code.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES TRAFFICKING PROHIBITION ACT

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3633) to amend the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to place limitations on controlled substances brought into the United States from Mexico, as amended.

The Clerk as read as follows:

H.R. 3633

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Controlled Substances Trafficking Prohibition Act".

SEC. 2. LIMITATION.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 1006(a) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 956(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "The Attorney General" and inserting "(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Attorney General"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) Notwithstanding any exemption under paragraph (1), a United States resident who enters the United States through an international land border with a controlled substance (except a substance in schedule I) for which the individual does not possess a valid prescription issued by a practitioner (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)) in accordance with applicable Federal and State law (or documentation that verifies the issuance of such a prescription to that individual) may not import the controlled substance into the United States in an amount that exceeds 50 dosage units of the controlled substance."

(b) FEDERAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENT.—Section 1006(a)(2) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act, as added by this section, is a minimum Federal requirement and shall not be construed to limit a State from imposing any additional requirement.

(c) EXTENT.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall not be construed to affect the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3633, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD an exchange of letters between the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE) and the gentleman from Virginia (Chairman BLILEY).

The letters referred to are as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, July 16, 1998.

Hon. TOM BLILEY,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR TOM: Thank you for your letter regarding your Committee's jurisdictional interest in H.R. 3633, the Controlled Substance Trafficking Prohibition Act.

I acknowledge your interest in this legislation and appreciate your cooperation in moving the bill to the House floor expeditiously. I appreciate your cooperation and agree to work with you as this legislation moves forward. I further agree that your decision to forego further action on the bill will not prejudice the Commerce Committee with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on H.R. 3633, or similar legislation.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, July 16, 1998.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On May 20, 1998, the Judiciary Committee ordered reported H.R. 3633, the Controlled Substances Trafficking Prohibition Act, without amendment. The bill would amend the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to place limitations on certain controlled substances brought into the United States from Mexico. As you know, this legislation was introduced on April 1, 1998, and referred to the Judiciary Committee and in addition to the Commerce Committee.

Given the importance of this legislation and your interest in moving the bill to the House Floor in an expeditious manner, I will agree not to exercise the Commerce Committee's jurisdiction over the bill. By agreeing not to exercise the Commerce Committee's jurisdiction, the Committee does not waive its jurisdictional interest in this bill or similar legislation. Further, the Committee would preserve its prerogative to seek to be represented in any House-Senate conference committee that may be convened on H.R. 3633.

I appreciate your consideration of our interest in this legislation and look forward to working with you on its passage. Further, I would appreciate an acknowledgment of this letter and would request that our exchange of letters be included in the record of debate on this bill.

Sincerely,

TOM BLILEY,
Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, the Controlled Substances Trafficking Prohibition Act was introduced by my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), and was the subject of a subcommittee hearing by the Subcommittee on Crime of the Committee on the Judiciary on March 26. It was reported favorably out of the Subcommittee on Crime on May 7.

The magnitude of illegal drugs moving through Mexico into the United States is dramatic and has been well documented in recent years. An estimated 60 to 70 percent of the nearly 500 metric tons of cocaine entering the United States each year enters through Mexico. An even greater amount of marijuana pours into the United States from Mexico annually.

The problem addressed by this legislation is a less visible side but a growing and serious side of the drug problem: the rising volume of controlled substances being purchased legally in Mexico and then brought across the border into the United States.

The ease with which large quantities of controlled substances can be purchased in Mexico and then legally transported into the United States has led to serious concerns among U.S. law enforcement agencies, including the Customs Service, the DEA, and the drug czars's office about the illegal diversion of these drugs.

H.R. 3633 is a carefully crafted response to the problems associated with the importation of drugs across the border with Mexico. The bill amends the Controlled Substances Import and

Export Act so as to limit controlled substances brought across the border into the United States from Mexico.

The bill limits the "personal use exemption" in current law with respect to any individual entering the United States through a land border with Mexico with a controlled substance who enters without a prescription. Under H.R. 3633, such an individual may not bring in more than 50 dosage units of such a controlled substance, or in the case of an individual who does not lawfully reside in the United States, an amount may be brought in based on the approximate length of stay by that individual in the United States.

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I strongly support this bill as a reasonable and targeted solution to a growing problem, a problem, I might add, which has not been amenable to regulatory solutions.

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

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

I support this legislation limiting an individual's ability to bring into the U.S. from abroad a 90-day supply of prescription medicines that are allegedly for personal use. In reality this loophole in the law has allowed individuals to travel to other countries and return with amphetamines, tranquilizers and date rape drugs and sell them here in the United States.

This bill would reduce the limit on "personal use" imports of drugs in pill form to 50 pills, generally a two-week supply of most pharmaceuticals. The bill would also permit anyone with a prescription from a U.S. physician to bring in as many pills as were prescribed, allowing, therefore, individuals with legitimate prescriptions to purchase drugs in countries such as Mexico where they are often less expensive.

Because this bill limits the improper import of prescription drugs while still allowing import for legitimate reasons, I am pleased to support this measure. I urge my colleagues to support the measure.

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

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

I just want to make a couple of additional points that are important and that may not have been evident from my initial remarks: that is, to reemphasize that this bill does not apply just to our border with Mexico but applies equally to the border with Canada as well. This clearly addresses the possibility of a problem with drug trafficking of controlled substances that come across our northern border as well as our southern border. I might say that this emphasis on both borders is supported, I understand, by the administration as well as by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to point out that it is my colleague, the

gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) who deserves the credit for recognizing the problem and then coming up with the solution that we are discussing today. It is with much appreciation to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for all his hard work on this legislation.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I just wanted to note the lead and important role played by my colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT), in making sure that all countries abutting the United States are included in this bill, a measure that was readily accepted at the committee. I agree that this is an important issue.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues, particularly the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), for their support of H.R. 3633, the Controlled Substances Trafficking Prohibition Act, legislation that I sponsored and that was adopted by the House earlier this afternoon.

This important initiative will close a loophole in Federal law that allows dangerous drugs, particularly drugs used in connection with date rape, to be legally imported into the United States.

Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies have raised serious concerns about the trafficking of controlled substances from Mexico. Right now uppers, downers, hallucinogens and date rape drugs similar to Rohypnol may be easily obtained from so-called health care providers or pharmacists in Mexico with no documentation of medical need whatsoever.

According to DEA, these drugs are frequently resold illegally in the United States. This situation is especially dangerous because these powerful drugs may be used in connection with date rapes. While Rohypnol, the most well-known date rape drug, has been banned in the U.S., it is still being used to rape young women, and many other dangerous controlled substances have taken its place. Jane Maxwell, director of the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, says that this loophole continues to allow date rape drugs to cross the border.

For example, the drug Rivotril is everywhere, according to Maxwell, and is now being used by juveniles, just as Rohypnol has been used. A 1996 study documented the controlled substance drug trafficking problems along the U.S.-Mexico border. The study found that in just one year at the Laredo border crossing over 60,000 drug products were brought into the U.S. by more than 24,000 people. All of the top 15 drug products, which represented 94 percent of the total quantity of declared drugs, were controlled sub-

stances. These dangerous drugs, classified as prescription tranquilizers, stimulants and narcotic analgesics, are potentially addictive and subject to abuse. Specifically, Valium was declared by 70 percent of the people, with the average person bringing in 237 tablets. Rohypnol was brought in by 43 percent of those who declared their prescription medication. Over a full year that means that over 4 million doses of Valium and almost 1.5 million doses of Rohypnol were brought in at one single border crossing.

The median age for those who declared Valium and Rohypnol is 24 and 26 years old respectively. The large quantity of dangerous drugs passing through a single border crossing underscores the seriousness of the problem. The quantity and types of pills discovered also back up DEA's view that these drugs are being used for illegal purposes.

While this problem is most notable in communities along the U.S.-Mexico border, it impacts communities well outside the Southwest. The study in Laredo found that residents from 39 States crossed the border and returned to the United States with a variety of drug products.

Around the country, prescription drug abuse is a growing problem, especially among our youth. The purity and low price of prescription drug pills makes them an attractive alternative to traditional street drugs. At a recent Subcommittee on Crime hearing on date rape drugs, experts testified that GHB, Rohypnol and other date rape drugs are rapidly becoming the drug of choice in various communities and among the different types of users, particularly among teenagers.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will help close the loophole which allows these dangerous drugs into our communities. I thank my colleagues for their support, and I particularly want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) for yielding me the time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CHABOT. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I just want to commend the gentleman for his outstanding efforts in trying to control illicit drug trafficking. This is an important area, and we commend the gentleman for his farsighted approach to this critical problem.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments. As all of us who work in the House of Representatives know, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) has for many years been one that has fought the scourge of drugs that we have had going on in our country for a long time. I just want to commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for his leadership.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, this legislation will close a loophole in federal law that allows dangerous drugs—particularly drugs used in connection with date rape—to be legally imported into the United States.

Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies; drug abuse prevention organizations; independent studies; and media reports have raised serious concerns about the trafficking of controlled substances from Mexico. Right now, uppers, downers, hallucinogens, and date rape drugs similar to Rohypnol may be easily obtained from so-called "health-care providers" or "pharmacists" in Mexico with no documentation of medical need. According to DEA, these drugs are frequently resold illegally in the United States.

This situation is especially dangerous because these powerful drugs may be used in connection with date-rapes. While Rohypnol—the most well-known date-rape drug—has been banned in the U.S., it is still being used to rape young women, and many other dangerous controlled substances have taken its place. Jane Maxwell, director of the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) says that this loophole continues to allow date-rape drugs to cross the border. For example, the drug Rivotril is "everywhere" according to Maxwell, "and is now being used by juveniles . . . just as Rohypnol has been used."

A 1996 study documented the controlled substance drug trafficking problem along the U.S.-Mexico border. The study found that in just one year at the Laredo border crossing, over 60,000 drug products were brought in to the U.S. by more than 24,000 people. All of the top 15 drug products, which represented 94.1 percent of the total quantity of declared drugs, were controlled substances. These dangerous drugs, classified as prescription tranquilizers, stimulants, and narcotic analgesics, are potentially addictive and subject to abuse.

Specifically, Valium was declared by 70 percent of the people, with the average person bringing in 237 tablets. Rohypnol was brought in by 43 percent of those who declared their prescription medication. Over a full year, that means that over 4 million doses of Valium and almost 1.5 million doses of Rohypnol were brought in at a single border crossing. The median age for those who declared Valium and Rohypnol? It was 24 and 26 years old respectively.

The large quantity of dangerous drugs passing through a single border crossing underscores the seriousness of this problem. The quantity and types of pills discovered also backup DEA's view that these drugs are being used for illegal purposes.

While this problem is most noticeable in communities along the U.S.-Mexico border, it impacts communities well outside the southwest. The study in Laredo found that residents from 39 states crossed the border and returned to the United States with a variety of drug products.

Around the country, prescription drug abuse is a growing problem, especially among our youth. The purity and low price of prescription pills makes them an attractive alternative to traditional street drugs. At a recent Crime Subcommittee hearing on date-rape drugs, experts testified that GHB, Rohypnol and other date-rape drugs are rapidly becoming the so-called "drug of choice" in various communities and among different types of users, particularly teenagers.

Surprisingly, prescription painkillers, sedatives, stimulants, and tranquilizers account for 75 percent of the top 20 drugs mentioned in emergency room episodes in 1995.

While American children become addicts or overdose, Mexican drug dealers use this loophole to make a mockery out of our anti-drug efforts. Their brazen practices include providing detailed instructions to help people entering the U.S. avoid arrest or drug confiscation. These instructions read:

"Don't use marijuana or cocaine for 2 days before because dogs may smell."

"Don't open boxes in Mexico."

"Customs and Border Patrol don't care about medication."

"Medication must be used only in U.S.A. not in Mexico."

Ironically, while Mexican authorities don't mind supplying dangerous drugs to American citizens, they strictly prohibit their use in Mexico.

This gaping hole in U.S. drug policy exists because of a so-called "personal use" exemption to the Controlled Substances Act that allows American drug dealers to bring in up to a 90 day supply of such drugs without a legitimate prescription or medical purpose, as long as they are declared at the border. This lax exemption permits people to import multiple drugs and thousands of pills in a single day.

We have been working with Customs, DEA, and the Office of National Drug Control Policy to solve this problem. This legislation offers a targeted and straight-forward solution.

This legislation would limit the exemption for individuals who do not possess a prescription issued by a U.S. physician or documentation which verifies a legitimate prescription. An individual without this documentation would be limited to a maximum of 50 dosage units of a controlled substance. The 50 dose limit would provide those people who have a legitimate need for a controlled substance ample time to seek medical attention in the U.S. while virtually eliminating the abuses that are now prevalent.

I want to be very clear about what this legislation does and does not do:

The legislation is strictly limited to controlled substances. Controlled substances are drugs that the DEA has either banned or subjected to closely regulated status because of their danger, addictiveness and potential for abuse.

The legislation is strictly limited to those individuals that do not possess documentation that a U.S. prescription exists. The legislation does not impact the ability of people with a prescription issued by a U.S. doctor to import any medications, including controlled substances.

The legislation does not in any way change current U.S. law as it relates to the importation of prescription drugs that are not considered controlled substances. In other words, this legislation will not make it more difficult for people to obtain drugs to treat heart disease, cancer, AIDS or other serious illnesses, because these drugs are not controlled substances. In fact, none of the top 20 heart, cancer or AIDS drugs are controlled substances.

The manager's amendment makes an important change from the Judiciary Committee passed version.

Throughout the process of learning about this problem and researching possible solutions, I have worked closely with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Texas Department of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the Drug Enforcement Agency, the U.S. Customs Service, Crime Subcommittee Chairman Bill McCollum, Senator DeWine, the sponsor of

this legislation in the Senate, and Senator Grassley's Senate Caucus on International Narcotics to come to an agreement on this legislation.

The principal change in the final version is that the legislation includes all international land borders in its coverage. This is to guard against possible diversion from Mexico to Canada and to ensure that this problem does not expand to Canada.

This expansion is supported by the U.S. Customs Service, which prefers a uniform standard, as well as DEA and ONDCP, who support broader application of this legislation.

The other changes made from the Committee version to the final version are technical changes that don't change the force or effect of the legislation. They are changes that were suggested by the Justice Dept., DEA and Customs, as well as language tightening up the bill as drafted by Legislative Counsel in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, this should not be a controversial proposal. DEA and Customs identified this as a critical problem over two years ago. General McCaffery has written to me and expressed his belief that there is general agreement among my office, ONDCP, DEA, and Customs regarding the scope of the problem and the proposed solution.

Mr. Speaker, I especially want to thank Mr. Joe Rubin of my staff for his outstanding work on this legislation.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on behalf of this legislation, which amends the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act, and tightens the rules regarding the importation of prescription medication into the United States.

I support this bill for several reasons, foremost amongst them because some medications used in other countries are imported into this country to be sold and used for illicit purposes. One of those medications has found a truly insidious use here in the United States. That drug is Rohypnol, otherwise known as the "Date Rape Drug".

I have spoken numerous times about the dangers of Rohypnol, and other drugs used to facilitate the rape of innocent women, but I feel compelled to do so again. The use of Rohypnol to commit rape has become a scourge in our society, and we must make sure that we minimize the dangers that it presents.

This drug and others like it, are slipped into the drinks of unsuspecting women at bars and clubs. As a result, many of them become ill, or black out. During their period of unconsciousness, these women are helpless against any assault on their bodily integrity. Even worse, is that after the fact, many of the victims cannot remember the events that have transpired. They are forced to deal with the consequences of the crime, without a clue as to who perpetrated it. Not only does this make it harder for a victim to recover from such an emotional incident, but it makes it near impossible for law enforcement to bring the full force of the criminal justice system upon the head of the perpetrator.

In the city of Houston in the past 6 months, there have been over 60 admissions to emergency rooms resulting from the ingestion of the various date-rape drugs. We must pursue all available and necessary avenues to ensure

that this drug cannot be used for illegal purposes, and this bill presents one such opportunity to safeguard the daughters of this great Nation.

Although I mainly support this legislation for its effects on the importation of drugs, I also would like to note that this bill was carefully crafted to protect the interests of visitors from outside of the country who have legitimate medical needs. People coming into the country should rest assured that this bill will not compromise their health. Under the provisions in H.R. 3633, legitimate prescription medicine is approved for import, so long as the amount does not exceed 50 doses. If that amount is insufficient, then the visitor can have the cap increased to reflect a change in the approximate length of their visit.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill, and to remain vigilant in their efforts to protect our children from all drugs.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3633, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to place limitations on controlled substances brought into the United States."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GEORGE H.W. BUSH CENTER FOR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3821) to designate the Headquarters Compound of the Central Intelligence Agency located in Langley, Virginia, as the George H.W. Bush Center for Central Intelligence.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3821

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Headquarters Compound of the Central Intelligence Agency located in Langley, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the "George H.W. Bush Center for Central Intelligence".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Headquarters Compound referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "George H.W. Bush Center for Central Intelligence".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSS. 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 H.R. 3821.

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

There was no objection.

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

I am pleased to bring this legislation before the House today. H.R. 3821 will designate the Central Intelligence Agency's headquarters complex in Langley, Virginia as the George H.W. Bush Center for Central Intelligence. This is a fitting tribute to our 41st President and former Director of Central Intelligence, the only person in our Nation's history to have occupied both offices.

The Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has taken no formal action on this bill. However, I would note that all 16 of our members are cosponsors, among the 150-plus cosponsors we have for this legislation. There is strong bipartisan support for H.R. 3821 in the House as a whole, and the other body has passed a similar measure as part of its fiscal year 1999 Intelligence Authorization Act.

George Bush has dedicated much of his life to public service. I think we all know that. Beginning back in World War II where he flew for the Navy in the Pacific theater. We have heard many of those stories. In 1967, Bush was elected to the House of Representatives, and he would later serve as Ambassador to the United Nations and as chief of the U.S. Liaison Office to the People's Republic of China.

In January of 1976, Bush was appointed Director of Central Intelligence by President Ford, a position he held through the end of the Ford Administration. His tenure as DCI was relatively short, but it came at a time when the U.S. intelligence community was undergoing increasing public scrutiny and some criticism.

It was during this year that the first permanent congressional committee on house oversight devoted to intelligence matters was formed. Took place in the other body. Of course, the House followed suit.

Bush demonstrated leadership and trustworthiness at a time when both were desperately needed to help restore confidence in the Central Intelligence Agency and the other intelligence agencies that make up our intelligence community. Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to support to this bill. I congratulate its author and lead sponsor, my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3821, to designate the headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency in

Langley, Virginia as the "George Herbert Walker Bush Center for Central Intelligence."

George Bush served this country not only as President but also as Vice President, Member of Congress, United Nations Ambassador, chief of the U.S. Liaison Office to the People's Republic of China, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and also, Mr. Speaker, as a naval aviator in World War II. As a matter of fact, he received the Navy Cross for his courageous action in the Pacific.

He is the only Director of Central Intelligence to have become President of the United States. The CIA headquarters does not now have a formal name, and there is no facility in the Washington, D.C. area named after President Bush. I thus believe this legislation represents a fitting tribute to honor President Bush's long and distinguished career in public service.

I have known President George Bush for a good many years. History has shown that he was an excellent Director of Central Intelligence, and I heartily endorse naming the CIA headquarters after him.

I am thus happy to join my colleagues on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in cosponsoring this tribute to former President George Bush, and I urge its passage by the House.

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and friend from Missouri, who participates in an extraordinarily helpful and valuable way on matters of national security, many of the things we cannot talk about. If people knew the contributions he made, they would indeed be gratified. I think that to have his support for this bill is a very meaningful statement, and we appreciate it very, very much.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), author of the bill, and I ask unanimous consent that he be permitted to control the balance of the time.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

While he is here, let me thank him for the critical role he has played in this concept from the outset in his role as Chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, but also in his role as a friend and supporter of George Bush. He has been absolutely essential to getting this legislation to this point.

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

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me the time. I also thank him for his leadership in advancing this important legislation.