

the homeless. It is I think a very foreign thought for many of us who we have been blessed to grow up in more affluent areas and with families that have been intact and nurturing, to imagine that so many of our neighbors could live out on the streets in some of the coldest days of the year, not just adults but people who are elderly, young children, suffering on the streets and outside. It is not part of an America that I envision for my children or for their neighbors or for Americans in the next generation.

□ 1515

I think we have before us the makings of a solution to the problems. One of the frustrations that we have in the Federal level, I think, is that we so often see the solutions, we know what they look like. In this case we know that community-based solutions work. We know that flexibility and creativity needs to be rewarded. We know that reciprocity works. We know that the services that help those people who were disabled because of mental illness or physical disability or because of drug addiction or alcoholism, that those do not go away without some support and some help. And we know with help and with support that people can make it to independence and self-sufficiency.

That is the name of the game, Mr. Speaker. It is not just to maintain people, but to help them transform to self-sufficiency; helping them to achieve a quality of life that we would want if somebody on the street were a member of our families; that we care enough to make the effort to support the people, the advocates, the people that manage homeless programs throughout America.

Mr. Speaker, we also know that we can do this in a more cost-effective way. We know that throwing money at the problem alone will not solve it. We know that we need to be value-oriented, that we need to have a sense of success. We need to define success and we need to hold ourselves to that standard. This is important work. This is about saving families and seniors and adults, people that can be saved if we make the effort.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this important legislation, a product born of input from many, many people, people that will not necessarily make the evening news or the front page of the newspapers but nonetheless contribute to their neighborhood in a very important way. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this important bill to help the beginning of the end for the homeless.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in my home county of Cobb Georgia we have seen first hand the problems associated with the Federal Government controlling the purse strings.

In one case, due to a misunderstanding between the national HUD office and the Regional office Cobb County has been made to suffer.

In a circumstance where Cobb county should have received upwards of six hundred thousand dollars to benefit the homeless. Instead only one project worth eighty one thousand dollars were approved.

In a recent letter to Speaker GINGRICH, the Cobb County Community Development Block Grant Program wrote the following:

We do not understand why HUD chose to ignore the needs of the sizable homeless population in Cobb County, particularly when local organizations have done such a good job of carrying out local planning and coordination in compliance with HUD's stated objectives for the Continuum of Care process. Nor do we feel that HUD has been candid in explaining why the project was not funded.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 217 consolidates the seven existing homeless programs under HUD and requires all Federal departments and agencies to coordinate homeless assistance. Wasteful duplication is eliminated and resources are directed to those that need them the most.

H.R. 217 also provides incentives for communities to confront homeless issues comprehensively. It emphasizes the importance of partnerships among the variety of non-profit developers and service agencies in dealing with the special needs of homeless persons.

Mr. Speaker, by consolidating these programs into block grants we can help give state and local governments the ability to fight the problem of homelessness in a much more efficient manner. In the end, H.R. 217 will ensure a better use of tax payer dollars and better care for the homeless.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 217, the Homeless Housing Programs Consolidation and Flexibility Act. The homeless crisis continues to be a serious and growing problem, and this legislation addresses it with common sense and compassion.

Through passage of H.R. 217, Congress is recognizing the simple but unassailable principle that no one should live and die on the streets. This legislation takes a number of steps that Congress can and should take to attack this problem. For starters, we provide for more effective delivery of McKinney Act Homeless Assistance programs—programs which give direct assistance just to the homeless. This bill consolidates the seven existing homeless programs under HUD and requires better federal coordination of all homeless assistance. It also provides incentives for communities to confront the homeless problem at the local level, where the decisions are the best-informed. Non-profit developers and service agencies will be given the tools to work together in dealing with the special needs of homeless persons.

The bill provides for the better value in federal homeless spending while making our most vulnerable population more self-sufficient. Instead of the more expensive and less effective approaches of the past, we are able to focus more attention on a coordinated, long-term vision for the homeless with concrete results. There is simply no reason to fail in providing shelter, whether permanent or temporary, to people who have nowhere else to turn. Our homeless population, often trapped in a cycle of hopelessness beyond its control, deserves an innovative response from Congress. I applaud Chairman LEACH, Chairman LAZIO, Congressman VENTO, and Con-

gressman KENNEDY, as well as a bi-partisan coalition of concerned Members, who have worked hard to move homeless assistance policy into the next century.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SNOWBARGER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAZIO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 217, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 217.

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

There was no objection.

SAM NUNN FEDERAL CENTER

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 613) to designate the Federal building located at 100 Alabama Street NW, in Atlanta, Georgia, as the "Sam Nunn Federal Center," as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 613

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 61 Forsyth Street SW., in Atlanta, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center".

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 "Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center".

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, House Resolution 613, as amended, designates the Federal building located in Atlanta, Georgia, as the "Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center."

Sam Nunn was born September 8, 1938 in Houston County, Georgia. He received his undergraduate degree from Emory University in 1960 and also his law degree in 1962. During this time, he served in active duty in the United

States Coast Guard from 1959 to 1960 and then remained in the Coast Guard Reserve until 1968.

Sam Nunn served in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1968 until 1972. He was then elected to fill the vacant Senate seat of Richard B. Russell and was reelected to the seat for four consecutive terms.

In the Senate, Sam Nunn earned the respect of his colleagues for his extensive work and knowledge of defense matters and his expertise on NATO, nuclear weapons, and other military manpower. From 1987 to 1995, he served as Chairman of the Armed Services Committee of the Senate. Through his position on the Armed Services Committee, Senator Nunn was a vocal advocate of a strong national defense and unwavering in his support for our men and women in uniform.

The designation of the Federal building in Atlanta in honor of Senator Nunn is a fitting tribute to a distinguished public servant. I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I too rise with great enthusiasm to support this bill introduced by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), my friend, who recognized the outstanding contributions of former Senator Sam Nunn.

He was elected in 1972, as stated earlier by the gentleman from California, and he quickly became one of the leading figures in all of American Government and is still recognized as an international expert on economic policy, national security affairs, and certainly defense issues as they relate to America and the world.

Senator Nunn was one of the most respected Senators we have ever had. He was known for his bipartisan efforts, a strong work ethic and working style that made things happen, and such an immense grasp of very complex foreign issues that he many times helped to mitigate problems that were developed therein.

He was also respectful of his office and he never tried to waste the taxpayers' dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make a statement here. When I was chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development, this committee, I opposed this building that is now being named for Senator Nunn. We opposed it because it was going to be leased for 30 years at a cost of \$3 billion without any owner equity for the American taxpayers at the end of that term. The gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN), my good friend, and I would not allow that.

This project was constructed, I believe, on a time schedule with a savings of almost half a billion dollars to the American taxpayer. That is fitting for the legacy of the man for whom this

building now shall be named, Senator Nunn. I am proud to rise and support the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM).

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

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS).

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) for his kind comments about my good friend and constituent, the Honorable Sam Nunn.

Senator Nunn distinguished himself not only in this body that we serve in now, the United States Congress, but from his early days as an All State basketball player at Perry High School in Perry, Georgia; through his days of law practice in Perry, Georgia; and through his days of service to the State of Georgia in the House of Representatives and of course his days in the United States Senate. He is now distinguishing himself as a very fine lawyer in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, it was about 25 years ago along about this time of the year that a fellow walked into my coffee club in Bull's Restaurant in Moultrie, Georgia and introduced himself as Sam Nunn and said he was running for the Senate. Nobody knew who Sam Nunn was in our part of the world at that time. In fact, I myself was supporting another Democratic candidate in the Democratic primary. But it was not long until everybody in the State recognized the qualities of the young man from Perry, Georgia. He went on to get the nomination and of course to win in the general election in November, and he served 24 years with honor in the United States Senate.

Sam Nunn succeeded another honorable man, the Honorable Richard B. Russell, and Sam always admired and was inspired by the service of Senator Russell and looked up to him in a way that a lot of us now look up to the service that Sam provided to our State.

Sam was well-known, as the gentleman from Ohio said, on a number of issues, primarily in the area of national security and defense. But his ideas and his thoughtfulness on every single issue that came before the United States Senate was well thought out and well respected by his colleagues. In fact, Senator Nunn was way out front on the balanced budget issue before it was fashionable on the Hill to talk in terms of balancing the budget of this country.

Today he continues that fight. He serves as cochairman of the Concord Coalition, and one of the main points that he advocates is continuing to hold our feet to the fire to ensure that we do continue along the lines of balancing the budget of this country to make this country a better place for our children and our grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today in support of this bill naming the Federal building in Atlanta, Georgia, after the Honorable

Sam Nunn, my constituent, my colleague for 2 years, and most importantly, my friend.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), sponsor of the bill and an outstanding leader on our side of the aisle.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio, my friend, for yielding me this time, and I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) as well as the gentleman from Ohio for their work to help us honor Senator Sam Nunn, a fellow Georgian.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we all recognize the tremendous accomplishments of Sam Nunn and his service in the United States Senate. Sam Nunn was one of the true statesmen of that body and is a source of pride to all Georgia.

Since winning election to Congress in 1986, I have had many opportunities to work with Senator Sam Nunn on several issues, and often benefited from his experience, his counsel, and his support as we worked together.

Since his election to the Senate in 1972, Senator Nunn has served the State of Georgia with honor and distinction. Senator Nunn worked to become the Senate's foremost expert on national security and international affairs. Senator Nunn served 8 years as the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and retired as the ranking Democrat on both the Armed Services Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

Mr. Speaker, the naming of this building located in the heart of downtown Atlanta will be a fitting tribute to a great American and to a citizen of the world, Senator Sam Nunn. For these reasons, I hope that the Federal Center will soon bear the name of our former Senator and colleague, Senator Sam Nunn.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor and supporter of this measure which would designate a building in downtown Atlanta as the Sam Nunn Federal Center. This is a fitting tribute to a friend who happens to be one of the great Georgians and great Americans of our time.

I am proud to have had the opportunity to serve with Senator Sam Nunn as a member of the Georgia Congressional delegation for four years. The benefit of his counsel and his friendship, is one of the great privileges that I have had in public life.

Senator Nunn has played a major role in shaping our times. He is, in fact, an historic figure. Our country is stronger and the world is freer and more secure because of his 12 years of leadership as Chairman and Ranking Minority Leader on the Senate Armed Services Committee. In fact, no one played a bigger role in building our modern military infrastructure than Senator Nunn—and that was one of the essential factors leading to the demise of communism and the global spread of democracy.

This native Georgian, an offspring of a Houston County farm family, followed in the footsteps of his uncle, Representative Carl Vinson, and legendary Senator Richard B.

Russell, both longtime chairmen of their respective armed services committees who also made historic contributions to national security. He certainly did them proud. In carrying on their tradition, he won the admiration of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle and achieved international recognition for helping secure peace and freedom throughout much of the world. And he did it his way—not with conflict and confrontation, but through the exercise of quiet strength, deep knowledge, and thoughtful statesmanship.

While he will be most prominently remembered for his work on defense and national security, Senator Nunn did much more. He helped restore fiscal responsibility and efficiency in federal government, fought for land conservation and the environment, attacked drug abuse, and promoted a spirit of citizenship and patriotism in our state and across the country.

Again, I rise in strong support of this measure and I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, asking for an "aye" vote, and 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. 613, 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 designate the Federal building located at 61 Forsyth Street SW., in Atlanta, Georgia, as the 'Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of the Senate bill (S. 347) to designate the Federal building located at 100 Alabama Street NW, in Atlanta, Georgia, as the "Sam Nunn Federal Center" and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

S. 347

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF SAM NUNN FEDERAL CENTER.

The Federal building located at 100 Alabama Street NW, in Atlanta, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Sam Nunn Federal Center".

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 "Sam Nunn Federal Center".

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. KIM

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. KIM moves to strike all after the enacting clause of the Senate bill, S. 347, and insert in lieu thereof the text of H.R. 613, as passed the House.

Motion was agreed to.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title of the Senate bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the Federal building located at 61 Forsyth Street SW., in Atlanta, Georgia, as the 'Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

A similar House bill (H.R. 613) was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 613 and S. 347, the bills just passed.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1530

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SNOWBARGER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington, D.C. (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. KINGSTON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EDWARDS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. BROWN of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE FEDERAL BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. NEUMANN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, today CBO or the Congressional Budget Office, the agency that is responsible for tracking revenues and expenditures of the United States Government on behalf of the House of Representatives and the Senate, released a new set of estimates. And it does verify that for the first time since 1969, we are going to have a surplus in fiscal year 1998. This is great news for America. The first time since 1969, I was a sophomore in high school, the United States Government spent less money than what they had in their checkbook.

To me when I came here 3 years ago, this was deemed an impossible dream. When we said we were going to balance the budget by the year 2002, people looked at us, yawned and basically said, we do not believe you, because they had made so many broken promises in the past. Today we stand here with final documentation and verification that in fact the budget is not only balanced, but we are running a surplus.

CBO, the scoring agency or the agency responsible for making predictions here in Washington, is suggesting that we have about a 5, maybe a \$10 billion surplus. I would like to go a step further than that. I believe the surplus is much more significant than that. I believe that we will run a surplus in fiscal year 1998 in excess of \$25 billion.

I think it is worth talking about where we are from a budgetary point of view, where we are going to and especially how Social Security fits into this overall picture because I have just