it is to promote literacy and education and other programs throughout the world.

The foundation, among other endeavors, built an 8,000-square-foot education facility in Ghana, West Africa, and supported education efforts in Tennessee. In recognition of his humanitarian work and educational and economic contributions, in 1994 Isaac Hayes was crowned a king in Ghana.

Last year, Isaac Hayes and David Porter came to Capitol Hill to speak to Senators and House Members about the importance of protecting the intellectual property rights of their fellow songwriters and performing artists.

He was an excellent advocate for his fellow songwriters and vocal artists. He was humble, well-spoken, and passionate about protecting creative works, not just for the benefit of artists, but also for the benefit of our national economy.

There is so much more that I could say about this man, but for time's sake, I'll just end with this observation.

Isaac Hayes' achievements and influence made him a cultural icon, and his humanitarian work also made him a great human being. With the fatal stroke that took his life at the age of 65, Isaac Hayes leaves behind a legacy of monumental significance.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleagues from Tennessee, Mrs. BLACKBURN and Mr. COHEN, for their leadership on this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, it's my great honor to introduce the author of this piece of legislation, someone who understands the importance of Isaac Hayes to Tennessee and to the music world, Congresswoman MARSHA BLACKBURN. I yield her 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding, and I must first thank my colleague and cosponsor from Tennessee, Congressman COHEN. This resolution would not be possible without his hard work. Vital business in Tennessee has delayed his arrival on the floor today, and I know that if he were here with us that he would speak better than most about his constituent and his good friend Isaac Hayes.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to share the representation of Memphis, Tennessee, with Congressman COHEN. We are honored to represent its people and its proud traditions. Memphis has contributed so much to our State and indeed to our country, and perhaps the greatest contribution that there is is that ''Memphis Sound.'' The Memphis Sound really is the soundtrack for America. It captures the rhythm of the region, as well as the hopes, the frustrations, and the aspirations of so many Americans.

We do stand on the floor today to celebrate the life of the man who gave so much of that music its soul, Isaac Hayes. Isaac was one of the driving forces behind the legendary Stax Records that created and amplified the Memphis Sound. Collaborating with David Porter, Isaac wrote some of our most famous songs: ''Soul Man,'' ''Hold on, I'm Comin','' and his own hits like ''Walk on By'' and that groundbreaking musical score and the theme song from the movie ''Shaft.''

I first came to know Isaac when I was at the Tennessee Film, Entertainment and Musician Commission, heading that body, working on issues that were so important to our songwriters. And I found that Isaac was fiercely proud of the Memphis sound that he had helped to give birth to and the different genres that had been spawned by that, and I know that all of Tennessee today is fiercely proud of Isaac and his work.

Isaac was more than a great musician. He was also a noble humanitarian, as we have just heard from the gentleman from Virginia. I found the Isaac Hayes Foundation and their work to be something extraordinary. It was founded by Isaac Hayes, and it was done so to promote literacy and music education. He constructed an educational facility in Ghana.

I last saw him and visited with him at a ceremony in Memphis this spring. He was being honored not only for his contributions to Memphis music but also his contributions and his humanitarian work for the City of Memphis. He grew up in Memphis. He graduated from Mannassas High School in 1962, and even after he achieved worldwide acclaim, he always remained loyal to the Memphis community.

You know, I didn't know it then, but I am saddened now that that was going to be the last visit that we had. But I will tell you, Isaac Hayes and David Porter were still talking about intellectual property, protecting songwriters, and making certain that songwriters were paid.

Indeed, Memphis has lost a champion and an inspiration, but they still have his music and his soul.

As co-chair for the Congressional Songwriters Caucus, I am honored to bring this resolution to the floor of the House today, and on behalf of Isaac's family, the songwriting community in Tennessee and for listeners worldwide who have been touched by the Isaac Hayes sound, I urge all Members to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, if I might inquire of the gentleman, does he have any additional speakers?

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers.

Mr. ISSA. Then I would close briefly by supporting this bipartisan legislation, recognizing the life of Isaac Hayes. Additionally mentioning that Chairman CONYERS and Ranking Member SMITH support this and support recognizing this inspirational man, his inspirational life, and his fine music and work he did well into the last days of his life.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume just to thank our colleagues from Tennessee for working together on this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1425.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FIND KARL ROVE IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS FOR REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA DULY ISSUED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–847) on the resolution (H. Res. 1433) recommending that the House of Representatives find Karl Rove in contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with a subpoena duly issued by the Committee on the Judiciary, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ENSURING CONTINUED ACCESS TO STUDENT LOANS ACT EXTENSION

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6889) to extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to purchase guaranteed student loans for an additional year, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6889

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF STUDENT LOAN PURCHASE AUTHORITY.

Section 459A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087i–1) is amended—

(1) by striking ''July 1, 2009'' each place it appears in subsections (a)(1) and (f) and inserting ''July 1, 2010''; and

(2) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking ''September 30, 2009'' each place it appears in paragraphs (1)(A) and (2) and inserting ''September 30, 2010'';

(B) by striking ''February 15, 2010'' in paragraph (2) and inserting ''February 15, 2011''; and

(C) by striking ''2009, and 2010'' in paragraph (3) and inserting ''2009, 2010, and 2011''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE LENDERS FOR LENDER-OF-LAST-RESORT PROGRAM.

Section 428(j) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078(j)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6), by striking ''June 30, 2009'' and inserting ''June 30, 2010'';

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking ''June 30, 2009'' and inserting ''June 30, 2010''; and

(3) in paragraph (9)(A)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking ''June 30, 2010'' and inserting ''June 30, 2011'';

(B) in clause (ii)(III), by striking ''June 30, 2009'' and inserting ''June 30, 2010''; and

(C) in clause (iii), by striking ''July 1, 2010'' and inserting ''July 1, 2011''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H.R. 6889 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HINOJOSA. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6889, legislation to extend the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act for an additional year.

We are all united in our commitment to provide every assurance to students and families that there will be no disruption in the Federal student loans program regardless of what is happening in the financial markets.

In May, the President signed the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act. This law is providing much-needed liquidity to the student loan marketplace by authorizing the Secretary on a temporary basis to purchase student loans so that lenders have the funds to make new loans.

As a result of our swift action, there has been no disruption in students' and families' access to loans for the 2008–2009 academic year.

The Department of Education, the lenders, secondary markets, guaranty agencies, and institutions of higher education are to be commended for their efforts to get new financing systems in place and operational for the start of this academic year.

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Their cooperation has ensured continued access to college loans.

Come spring, students and families will be making their plans for the next academic year. Given the ongoing turmoil in our financial markets, it is critical that we extend the authority for the Secretary to purchase student loans to avoid any uncertainty about the access to this critical source of student financial aid. It would be a tragedy for a student to decide to forego or postpone college because of a fear of not being able to get a Federal student loan.

This legislation has no budgetary cost. It will simply extend the Secretary's authority under the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act for an additional year.

Mr. Speaker, students and families will be able to rest assured that we have the mechanisms in place to make sure that there is sufficient capital for student loans even if the current credit crisis continues or worsens.

This Congress has taken unprecedented steps to make college more accessible and more affordable. We enacted the largest increase in student aid with the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, a $20 billion investment in human capital. In August, the President signed the Higher Education Opportunity Act into law.

The legislation takes significant steps to improve our student aid delivery system, ensure the integrity of our student loan programs, and provide students and families with the tools that they need to make informed choices about which college to attend and how to finance it. These are complex issues, and on a bipartisan, bicameral basis, we came together with some practical solutions.

Today's legislation is another example of our bipartisan commitment to college access. I would like to thank our committee chairman, GEORGE MILLER, and our senior Republicans on the full committee and the Higher Education Subcommittee, Representative BUCK MCKEON and Representative RIC KELLER from Florida, for their leadership in quickly moving this legislation forward. We stand united in our goal of ensuring continued access to student loans.

I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 6889.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6889, a bill to extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to purchase guaranteed student loans for an additional year. And I do want to thank my friends, the senior Republicans, Mr. MCKEON and Mr. KELLER, as well as the two significant chairmen, Mr. MILLER and Mr. HINOJOSA, who introduced this extension.

We have been reading about the instability that still exists in the credit markets, and, in fact, it has gotten worse. Through this extension, Congress is assuring students and families that they will be able to receive the Federal assistance they need to pay for school.

The steps in the underlying bill are modest, but they make a real difference for students and families. I appreciate that this bill carries no cost to taxpayers, proving that we can use a creative approach to respond to economic difficulties without bloated spending that will drive up taxes.

Since the implementation of H.R. 5715, we have seen at least 10 lenders take advantage of the program that has been put in place. Without this relief, these lenders could have dropped out of the program altogether. Up until this point, we have seen over 6,000 employees laid off as a result of the cutbacks lenders have had to make. In addition, 106 lenders have suspended their lending service as a result of the credit crunch and the cuts made in the College Cost Reduction and Access Act. Without this extension, students could attend college this year without knowing whether the financing would be there to attend college next year.

In difficult economic times, many Americans turn to higher education. That's because a college degree continues to be one of the single best investments an individual, and our Nation, can actually make. College graduates have higher lifetime earnings, lower unemployment rates, greater civic involvement, and exhibit numerous other qualities that help enrich our society and keep our Nation competitive.

With all the benefits of higher education, it's concerning that amid these economic uncertainties many current and prospective students are worried about whether they will be able to access student loans. And as more and more students look to higher education to help get them through these difficult economic times, we cannot allow market turbulence to limit college access.

This extension signals our unwavering support for the Nation's largest source of financial aid, the Federal Family Education Loan Program. It is a crucial step that will help protect students and families and restore market confidence.

Mr. Chairman, I know how important it is that higher education be made affordable and accessible. This is particularly important in our turbulent economy. For the same reason, it's important that we come together to pass an all-of-the-above energy reform package that will help bring down prices and free us from our costly dependence on foreign oil.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that stabilizing our loan program will have an economic positive yield, just as solving the real problems of energy will have an economic yield. Our energy prices and energy problems are not just affecting those who stop at the pump, they affect those who will be trying to heat their homes this winter; they affect those who will be trying to buy food; they affect not just commuters, but all of us. Students as well as parents need real solutions to the energy crisis that is confronting us. They need to be able to make the commute. They need to be able to make those heating payments. They need to realize the cost of food will not keep spiraling upwards simply because farmers cannot afford energy to put into their tractors to grow the food and truckers cannot afford the energy to take that produce and send it to the markets where we can then buy it and enjoy it.

We have to realize that the solution to this problem has to be an all-of-the-above approach, that we are not doing enough to encourage conservation by small business or by citizens. But even if we did the maximum amount of conservation efforts, that still does not solve the entire problem. It's estimated that if the most stringent efforts of conservation were put in place, only about half of the foreign imports that we bring into this country would be eliminated; the other half would still have to be there.

We also have not done enough over the last few years to put in infrastructure so that we can move energy from one part of this country to the other. There are bottlenecks all over this country in which energy cannot take place. There is plenty of pipeline for natural gas going from the Gulf of Mexico up north, but it cannot get to New England because there is a bottleneck that we have yet to solve in that particular problem. That infrastructure problem needs to be addressed. The lack of refinery capacity needs to be addressed. The lack of electrical corridors needs to be addressed.

We also have to recognize that we do not have a successful payment plan for alternative energies for the future, not only for our immediate problems, but for the long-term problems of this particular country. We need to recognize that this is a supply and demand issue, and that that supply can only be satisfied if we have an all-of-the-above strategy.

There is not a single source of energy that does not have some detractor. I was amazed to read in the local paper the other day about a detractor from a wind farm who said that the noise of the blades kept him up at night, and that they chopped up too many birds, which violates our Migratory Bird Treaty. I was amazed to find out that somebody was opposed to a solar energy plant down in New Mexico because it would consume too much of the desert land.

There is not a source of energy that doesn't have someone who will jump up and complain about it and potentially bring a lawsuit about it. That is why if we start to take any of those resource potentials off the table, we might as well take them all off because everything drops one after the other. The only way to be fair and the only way to be equitable and the only way to make sure that we have a real solution is to make sure that every source of energy known to this country, every source of energy in this country is on the table and is part of the real solutions.

Our students, for their future, require that. The parents, for the present, require that. The citizens of this country demand an all-of-the-above approach and that it be talked about in committees, in public hearings, and here on the floor. Nothing else solves the problem. And our goal and responsibility should be to come to this Congress to solve the problem, not try to create a political atmosphere so that we can take credit for what may or may not happen, but simply to solve the problem.

If we do not fulfill our responsibility, the students who will benefit from these extensions will have a short-lived benefit and will not look at us in kindness for the generosity when we help them get their education, but refuse to allow this economy to sustain them post-education.

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

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congressman BISHOP from the State of Utah for his support of this student loan extension, H.R. 6889. And let me reassure him that this week, if our friends and colleagues from the great State of Texas and the State of Louisiana are able to get back because of the devastation that occurred with Hurricane Ike, we will be able to address the energy bill that he was referring to. And I am sure that the Speaker of the House, NANCY PELOSI, and others in leadership position are prepared to give us the opportunity to take care of this great need that we have throughout our country on the lack of energy.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. If I may, once again; I appreciate the remarks that have been given. I am fully supportive of this particular piece of legislation, I urge my colleagues to do so as well. But I also realize that, in the words of the Broadway song, ''It's a fine, fine line between reality and pretend.''

I certainly hope that when we come to this floor and actually deal with the issue of energy once and for all, we have the ability of dealing with the reality of the situation for a real solution. That's the crying need.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 6889, which would extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to purchase Federal guaranteed loans previously made under the Federal Family Education Loan, FFEL, Program and advance funds for lender-of-last resort loans. I believe this bill is premature and is merely a response to alarms raised by an industry that has continually benefited from government subsidies.

Earlier this year, the lending community expressed serious concerns that unstable credit markets would affect their ability to provide Federal student loans for the upcoming school year. In response, Congress approved the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008, which put in place several provisions to ensure that students and families had continued, uninterrupted access to Federal loans, regardless of what is happening in the credit markets. That measure gave the Secretary of Education the temporary authority to buy back loans from lenders participating in the FFEL program.

However, now almost four months after the emergency provisions were signed into law and one month into the fall semester, it has become clear that despite the credit crunch students are having little trouble securing Federal student loans. The New England Board of Higher Education and the New England Council recently released a survey of its region's financial aid officers that revealed ''students and parents experienced little or no problems accessing Federal student loans for this fall.'' Schools in my own State of Wisconsin have told me that students are encountering few difficulties in securing Federal student loans, and in fact, any disruption has simply resulted in some students to switching lenders. Recently, the State of Massachusetts called off a plan to provide public financing to a State nonprofit lender because only a small percentage of students were still looking for a lender. Over 2,000 lenders continue to participate in the FFEL program.

Furthermore, this year hundreds of schools, including Penn State, Michigan State and Indiana, decided it was in the best interests of their students to leave the Federal Family Education Loan Program, FFEL, and enroll in the Direct Loan Program because it is immune to the effects of the credit crunch and provides the exact same Federal loans to their students. In fact, the Direct Loan Program has seen a 47 percent increase over last year in the amount of loans originated. Schools are reporting they are happy with the transition to the program, and the Education Department has continually asserted that the Direct Loan Program is capable of handling the increased capacity.

Therefore, I find it alarming that just four months after passing the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008, and with widespread agreement that there currently is no student loan crisis, we have decided to extend until 2010 these authorities that provide government liquidity and financing to private lenders. While it is impossible to say these authorities did not help avoid a crisis, it's equally impossible to say private sector funds will not be available next year for student loans. I find it curious that today's action coincides with reports from the lending community that, despite the fact that there is no real crisis this year, one may exist in the 2009–10 school year.

While there is no doubt that the financial markets remain unsettled, the current authority for these powers runs through July 31, 2009. Washington is once again eager to extend temporary authorities. Instead of rushing to react to the ''alarms'' sounded by the lending community, I believe it would be more prudent for Congress to continue to monitor the situation in the student loan markets to determine if more action is really necessary before we extend another handout to an industry that has continually proven to work in the interests of their own pocketbooks and not for students and taxpayers.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 6889, which will extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to ensure the continued access to Federal student loans for one more year, introduced by my distinguished colleague from California, Representative GEORGE MILLER. This significant piece of legislation provides greater access to colleges and universities, making higher education affordable for all Americans, not just the wealthy.

A quality education continues to be the best pathway to social and economic mobility in this country. Earlier this year, we passed H.R. 5715 (now Public Law 110–227), the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008.

FACTS ON ENSURING CONTINUED ACCESS TO STUDENT LOANS ACT

This legislation amended under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) by:

Increasing annual and aggregate borrowing limits for unsubsidized Stafford Loans to undergraduate students;

delaying the start of repayment for parent borrowers of PLUS Loans;

extending eligibility for individuals with adverse credit to borrow PLUS Loans, under extenuating circumstances;

revising procedures for ensuring the availability of lender-of-last-resort, LLR, loans under the FFEL program;

temporarily authorizing the Secretary to purchase loans previously made under the FFEL program at no net cost to the Federal Government; and

expanding eligibility for aid provided through American Competitiveness, AC, Grants and Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent, SMART, Grants.

The Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008 also expresses a sense of Congress that institutions such as the Federal Financing Bank, the Federal Reserve, and Federal Home Loan Banks, in consultation with the Secretaries of Education and the Treasury, should consider using available authorities to assist in ensuring continued access to Federal student loans for students and their families; and that any action taken by these entities should not limit the Secretary's authority with regard to the LLR program, nor the Secretary's authority to purchase loans previously made under the FFEL program.

It also requires the Government Accountability Office, GAO, to evaluate the impact that increases in Federal student loan limits may have on tuition, fees, room and board, and on the borrowing of private, non-federal, student loans.

CONCLUSION

In this time of economic downturns, costly natural disasters, rising food and gas prices—families are focused on meeting their basic needs and having a hard time saving for educational expenses. Often times Federal loans are all families have to help their children go to college.

We cannot allow our institutions of higher learning to be inaccessible for the vast majority of our youth. This important piece of legislation gives our young people and their families the opportunity to not only dream of attending college but actually realize that dream. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6889.

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

Mr. HINOJOSA. 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 Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6889.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1372) celebrating the 100th anniversary of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and recognizing the partnership between the city of Omaha, its citizens, and the university to build a vibrant and dynamic community, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1372

Whereas the citizens of Bellevue and Omaha, Nebraska, worked together with vigor and determination during the early years of the 20th century to create a nonsectarian university where local high school graduates could receive a college education;

Whereas due to the fortitude of the Board of Trustees and the generosity of donors, the first student body consisting of 26 students gathered on September 14, 1909, in what was formerly the old Redick mansion at 24th and Pratt Streets to begin their college education at the University of Omaha;

Whereas in spite of numerous financial challenges, the University of Omaha never wavered from its commitment to its founders to produce well-rounded and informed students by offering coursework in foreign languages, history, ethics, sacred history, science, and other traditional subjects;

Whereas the University of Omaha's substantial and respected curriculum prompted the University of Nebraska to announce in the spring of 1910 that it would accept credits from the University of Omaha as equivalent to its own;

Whereas the Board of Trustees, realizing the need for expanded facilities and programs would not be met through voluntary donations, voted in 1929 to turn over the University of Omaha to the City of Omaha to establish a municipal university;

Whereas the World War II years were turbulent for the Nation and required many sacrifices, and students and faculty at the Municipal University of Omaha unselfishly united to support the war effort and their fellow students on active duty with a variety of activities, including replacing the traditional Homecoming bonfire with a scrap drive rally;

Whereas the Municipal University of Omaha, under the leadership of President Milo Bail, responded to the need for expansion due to a postwar boom in student enrollment that threatened to stress facilities and programs by erecting a number of buildings to accommodate the quickly increasing student population, including a field house, library, and student center;

Whereas the Municipal University of Omaha further responded to the needs of returning members of the military by participating in the Bootstrap Program, initiated by the Air Force in 1951, to encourage military personnel to finish degrees that had been started before the War;

Whereas the University Regents, with the goal of strengthening financial solvency as well as offering affordable tuition, agreed to merge with the University of Nebraska beginning July 1, 1968, a decision that has since been lauded as the greatest educational gain in the City's history;

Whereas the University continued to increase program offerings to students, including the development of doctoral programs such as a cooperative program in psychology and joint program in educational administration with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, independent programs in public administration and criminal justice, and through the generous support of individual donors, the Alumni Association, and the NU Foundation, the creation of numerous named professorships;

Whereas when a need arose for off-campus classrooms and a conference site to accommodate the business community, the University of Nebraska at Omaha worked diligently in both the public and private sectors to secure funding for the establishment of the Peter Kiewit Conference Center in downtown Omaha in 1980;

Whereas the University of Nebraska at Omaha, in partnership with private donors, demonstrated a continued commitment to providing outstanding facilities with the opening of the Durham Science Center in 1987, the Weber Fine Arts Building in 1992, and expansion of the Thompson Alumni Center in 2006;

Whereas the University of Nebraska at Omaha provides valuable resources and expertise to the State of Nebraska through the Nebraska Business Development Center, which produces an annual economic impact of $350,000,000 and serves 200 communities;

Whereas the University of Nebraska at Omaha established a Teacher's College in 1908 that produces educators who teach in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 73 other countries;

Whereas the University of Nebraska at Omaha worked with business leaders to establish the Peter Kiewit Institute of Information Science, Technology and Engineering to help meet the employment needs of the Nation's technology and engineering firms, as well as offer students a premiere educational opportunity;

Whereas the Peter Kiewit Institute of Information Science, Technology, and Engineering has received accolades from many organizations, including the National Science Foundation and Carnegie Mellon; and

Whereas 2008 is the 100th anniversary of the founding of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, with commemorations beginning October 8, 2008: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) requests that the President issue a proclamation recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and calls upon citizens to observe such an anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(2) encourages State and local governments to recognize the partnership among the City of Omaha, its citizens, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha to build a vibrant and dynamic community.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 1372 into the RECORD.

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