

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3544, the Computers for Veterans and Students Act.

Technology pervades every aspect of modern life, and the gulf between those who have access to technology and those who do not continues to widen. Today, millions of Americans still lack access to home-based, internet-connected computers and technology equipment. In fact, according to the Census Bureau, only 78 percent of households in the U.S. owned a desktop or laptop computer in 2018, leaving tens of millions of households without the resources that are essential for success in the modern economy.

These disparities were made worse by the coronavirus pandemic, especially among veterans, low-income students, and seniors. This digital divide has tangible, life-changing, and often heartbreaking consequences, preventing people of all ages from completing schoolwork, working remotely, or connecting with their loved ones.

H.R. 3544 will help address these disparities by ensuring surplus Federal computers find their way to the households that need them most.

The bill requires the General Services Administration to transfer surplus computer and technology equipment from Federal agencies to nonprofit computer refurbishers to repair and distribute to students and educational institutions, low-income individuals, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and seniors in need.

The bill also requires these refurbishers to offer relevant computer and technology training to recipients, further reducing barriers presented by the digital divide.

I thank Congresswoman ABIGAIL SPANBERGER for leading this important bipartisan legislation, along with Representatives ROB WITTMAN and ELAINE LURIA. Representative SPANBERGER worked tirelessly to bring the voices of veterans and students in her district here to the Halls of Congress as she wrote and championed this bill.

For those who lack access to internet-connected computers and the skills to use them, H.R. 3544 will unlock doors to new opportunities. It will also bring a greater return on investment for the American taxpayer, ensuring Federal information technology assets are used to their full potential in the fight to close the digital divide.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of technology to all Americans. Access to computers and computer technology is necessary for success in the modern world. This became even more critical during the height of the pandemic when many Americans struggled to juggle Zoom meetings and help their children with remote school.

That is why this bill is important. It will help Americans get the access they need.

H.R. 3544, the Computers for Veterans and Students Act, will repurpose surplus Federal IT equipment to help American veterans, students, disabled individuals, low-income households, seniors in need, and educational institutions of all kinds.

H.R. 3544 requires the General Services Administration to transfer computers and tech equipment in need of repair to nonprofit computer refurbishers. These third-party refurbishers will then repair and distribute the IT equipment directly to veterans, students, and others in need.

The bill also obligates these third-party refurbishers to offer training programs on the use of the technology being distributed.

Those with access to computers and an understanding of how to use technology can enjoy many benefits, but a lack of such access and understanding presents significant challenges. Americans need to be able to conduct online research for a school project, connect with loved ones, or find and keep a steady job.

I appreciate Representatives ABIGAIL SPANBERGER and ROB WITTMAN for their leadership on this legislation. I encourage my colleagues to help our Nation's veterans and students by supporting H.R. 3544.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I note that Congress is expected to pay tribute to veterans when we honor retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Hershel "Woody" Williams. Woody, the last surviving World War II veteran who received a Medal of Honor, will lie in honor this week in the U.S. Capitol.

In the spirit of that event, let us pay tribute to all those who have served our Nation and all those who will serve our Nation in the future.

Instead of letting technology that American taxpayers have already invested in go to waste, the bipartisan Computers for Veterans and Students Act will get such repairable government technology into the lives of Americans in need.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of

H.R. 3544, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3544, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FIRST SERGEANT LEONARD A. FUNK, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5794) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 850 Walnut Street in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, as the "First Sergeant Leonard A. Funk, Jr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5794

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

SECTION 1. FIRST SERGEANT LEONARD A. FUNK, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 850 Walnut Street in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "First Sergeant Leonard A. Funk, Jr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "First Sergeant Leonard A. Funk, Jr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5794, a bill to honor First Sergeant Leonard Funk.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE), chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5794.

This bill would rename the post office located in my district at 850 Walnut Street in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, after First Sergeant Leonard A. Funk, Jr.

Leonard was a lifelong resident of the Pittsburgh area. First Sergeant Funk enlisted in the Army months before the U.S. entered World War II, where he volunteered to be a paratrooper.

His time in the military was notable. After jumping into Normandy on D-day with the 82nd Airborne Division, he earned the Distinguished Service Cross during Operation Market Garden, and on August 23, 1945, President Truman awarded First Sergeant Funk the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Battle of the Bulge.

During this pivotal battle, First Sergeant Funk took charge of his company when his company's officer went down. Despite being outnumbered, First Sergeant Funk led a makeshift group of clerks and soldiers to capture a town held by the enemy and then nearly singlehandedly killed or captured 100 enemy soldiers.

First Sergeant Funk is also one of the most-decorated paratroopers of World War II, having also earned the Bronze Star and Purple Heart with two oak leaf clusters.

First Sergeant Funk passed away in 1992 after a civilian career with the U.S. Veterans Administration. I commend him for his heroics and dedication to our Nation.

I am proud to be able to make this small gesture of our Nation's gratitude, spearheaded by the McKeesport community, come to fruition.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill to ensure that First Sergeant Funk's legacy is not forgotten.

□ 1530

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5794 which honors Sergeant Leonard Funk.

Sergeant Funk was a paratrooper who served in some of the most critical campaigns during World War II, including the invasion of Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge.

He became one of World War II's most decorated paratroopers. Notably, he was awarded the Medal of Honor, the government's highest and most prestigious military decoration, as well as the Distinguished Service Cross.

Sergeant Funk exemplified what it means to be an American patriot. I am proud to say that following his military service, Sergeant Funk returned to the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania where he continued his public service with the Department of Veterans Affairs in the Pittsburgh area.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5794 and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STANTON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5794.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PFC JAMES ANDERSON, JR., POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1095) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 South Willowbrook Avenue in Compton, California, as the "PFC James Anderson, Jr., Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1095

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

SECTION 1. PFC JAMES ANDERSON, JR., POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 South Willowbrook Avenue in Compton, California, shall be known and designated as the "PFC James Anderson, Jr., Post Office Building".

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1095, a bill to honor private first class James Anderson, Jr.

James Anderson was born on January 22, 1947. After attending Los Angeles Harbor Junior College for a year and a half, he decided to enlist in the U.S. Marines to serve in Vietnam.

Upon graduation from recruit training, he was promoted to private first

class and then transferred to Camp Pendleton, California, where he trained with the 2nd Battalion.

In December of 1966, Private Anderson arrived in Vietnam where he served as a rifleman. While on patrol, his platoon was ambushed, and an enemy grenade landed near him and his fellow marines.

Without hesitation, Private Anderson pulled the grenade to his chest and absorbed the majority of the blast with his body, saving the lives of the marines around him. Due to his heroic sacrifice, Private Anderson was the first African-American marine to receive the Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring James Anderson's bravery by naming the Post Office at 101 South Willowbrook Avenue in Compton, California, as the Private First Class James Anderson, Jr., Post Office Building, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1095, which names a Compton, California, Post Office for Private First Class James Anderson, Jr.

PFC Anderson grew up in Compton where he attended Centennial High School and later Los Angeles Harbor College. During college, he decided to enlist in the Marine Corps and serve the United States in the Vietnam war.

While deployed, his platoon was ambushed, and an enemy grenade landed near him and his fellow soldiers. Without hesitation, PFC Anderson threw himself on the grenade, sacrificing his own life to save those of his fellow marines. For this action, he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this bill which honors an American war hero, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 1095, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1095.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOHN R. HATCHER III POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5659) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1961 North C Street in Oxnard, California, as the "John R. Hatcher III Post Office Building".