

I am proud to support the renaming of the South Loudon Avenue post office after Chairman Elijah E. Cummings as a nod to his incredible legacy.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank my good friends from Maryland, Mr. MFUME and Mr. RASKIN, for their diligent work on this bill to honor the life and legacy of Elijah Cummings.

Chairman Cummings was known throughout this Chamber and the Nation as a man of strength and integrity and someone who compassionately yet fearlessly wielded his powers of oversight and transparency to make our Nation as strong as it could possibly be.

He was also a mentor to me and many others, and someone I proudly called my friend. I had the privilege of serving on the Committee on Oversight and Reform under Chairman Cummings and saw up close how he fought for what is right and just, even if it wasn't popular.

Elijah Cummings was also known for telling hard truths. It didn't matter who you were, what your politics were, or where you came from. He told difficult truths to American baseball heroes who had tarnished our beloved pastimes, and he confronted powerful people who priced prescription drugs beyond the reach of our citizens.

One of Elijah Cummings' best qualities was that he listened, and more importantly, he actually heard you. He heard you whether you were a schoolteacher or a janitor, a colleague here in Congress or the President of the United States.

I still carry the advice that Chairman Cummings gave to me, and I am sure he shared it with many of you as well: You need to think about the decisions you make and their impact not just on the moment at hand but on the future.

I could spend all day listing out his legislative and political accomplishments, but one thing stands out and cements his lasting impact: the thousands of people he inspired to fight for justice and freedom.

He served this House and the American people with grace, unmatched integrity, and passion. He loved the city and the people of Baltimore, and they loved him right back.

This post office is another visible and lasting testament of respect for this true American giant, and I proudly support this bill and encourage all of my colleagues to do the same and continue to acknowledge the incredible legacy and leadership of this remarkable man.

Rest in power, my friend.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for those beautiful remarks.

Elijah Cummings was a great Representative for the people of Baltimore and for the people of Maryland. He was a great leader, and he was a great teacher, too.

I remember when I was in my third term in office, and I had started off here on the Judiciary Committee and the Oversight Committee, to which Chairman Cummings had recruited me. I was also on the House Administration Committee. Then, I had an invitation to go on the Rules Committee, but I was afraid that I might be overextended.

I went and sat right over on the floor next to Chairman Cummings where he liked to sit, and I told him that I was afraid that I might be overburdening myself with too many committees. He turned silent for a moment, and then he said: "Raskin"—he spoke very sharply to me at that moment. I had never heard him use that tone of voice. I said: Yes? He said: You are never too busy to do that which you ought to be doing.

I never forgot that, and I have used that line for a lot of other colleagues. People will complain about being tired and exhausted and so on, but we are never too busy to be doing that which we ought to be doing.

Congressman MFUME, with this visionary legislation, is setting up a post office at 340 South Loudon Avenue in Baltimore that will be graced with the name of the great Elijah Cummings. How fitting that is, a place where people go to send letters and messages, because another thing I remember Chairman Cummings always saying was that children are the ultimate message that we send to future generations of people who we will never meet. He meant we have to invest in children and young people because they will end up defining a world that will long outlast and outsurvive us.

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I hope that post office lasts forever, and I hope when parents take their kids to that post office to mail their letters, they will be able to tell them that there was once a great man named Elijah Cummings whose whole life repays a lot of study for all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge all of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 9544, legislation in honor of a true American hero, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation to honor Congressman Elijah Cummings. It has been wonderful to hear so many great stories of his time here in these hallowed Halls. 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 (Mr. LANGWORTHY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9544.

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.

OFFICER NOAH JACOB SHAHNAVAZ POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9775) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 North Anderson Street in Elwood, Indiana, as the "Officer Noah Jacob Shahnava Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9775

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

SECTION 1. OFFICER NOAH JACOB SHAHNAVAZ POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 North Anderson Street in Elwood, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Officer Noah Jacob Shahnava 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 "Officer Noah Jacob Shahnava Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. 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.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which would rename a post office in Indiana for Officer Noah Shahnava.

After graduating from Fishers High School in 2016, he joined the U.S. Army and was deployed to the Middle East.

Later, Officer Shahnava became a dedicated member of the Elwood Police Department in Indiana. Officer Shahnava's life was cut short on July 31, 2022, when he was ambushed by a shot during a routine traffic stop.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am rising in support of H.R. 9775 to honor Noah Shahnava. Born and raised in Indianapolis, he joined the U.S. Army in 2016 where he was deployed to the Middle East as a

sergeant with the 591st Military Police Company.

Officer Shahnnavaz transitioned to a new service role in law enforcement by taking a position with the Elwood Police Department in 2021. Tragically, he was killed on duty on July 31, 2022, during a traffic stop.

This bill would honor the life and the great service of Officer Shahnnavaz and also recognize the sacrifice of his family by naming a post office in Elwood, Indiana, after him.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ).

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9775 to honor the life of fallen Elwood Police Officer Noah Jacob Shahnnavaz by naming the Elwood, Indiana, Post Office after him.

Officer Shahnnavaz was a dedicated public servant, a courageous protector of his community, and a beloved member of the Elwood Police Department. Born in 1998, he served our country with distinction as a sergeant in the U.S. Army, deploying to the Middle East during the global war on terrorism. His leadership and professionalism earned him the respect of his fellow soldiers.

After his military service, Officer Shahnnavaz returned home to Indiana, joining the Elwood Police Department in 2021. His calm demeanor, work ethic, and deep sense of duty quickly made him a respected member of the force.

Tragically, on July 31, 2022, Noah's life was cut short during a routine traffic stop. He was ambushed and fatally shot by an individual with a violent criminal history. He was just 24 years old.

Today, we honor his legacy and ensure that his ultimate sacrifice is never forgotten by naming the Elwood Post Office in his memory.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate all the members of the Indiana delegation sponsoring this bill on a bipartisan basis, and I urge my colleagues in the House to support this important legislation.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my House colleagues to support this bill naming a post office for Officer Noah Shahnnavaz, 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 (Mr. LANGWORTHY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9775.

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.

BILL BARRETT POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7507) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 203 East 6th Street in Lexington, Nebraska, as the "Bill Barrett Post Office Building", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7507

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

SECTION 1. WILLIAM E. AND ELSIE L. BARRETT POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 203 East 6th Street in Lexington, Nebraska, shall be known and designated as the "William E. and Elsie L. Barrett 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 "William E. and Elsie L. Barrett Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. 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 related to this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which would rename a post office in Lexington, Nebraska, for Bill and Elsie Barrett. Bill Barrett served as the congressional Representative for the western two-thirds of Nebraska for five terms.

Bill and Elsie met while Bill was serving in the Navy, and the couple married in 1952. Bill and Elsie passed away in 2016 and 2024, respectively, and are survived by siblings, children, and grandchildren.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to support H.R. 7507, and I rise for the purpose of doing that.

I did not know Congressman William Barrett, but he was a lifelong public servant, and this legislation would honor his legacy by naming a post office in Lexington, Nebraska, after him. He served in the Nebraska legislature for a dozen years, including as speaker of the house. He later represented Ne-

braska's Third District here in Washington in the U.S. House for a decade where he supported the drafting of the Freedom to Farm Act of 1996 which was a proud accomplishment of his.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation.

Although I didn't know Congressman Barrett, I would like to use the case of this post office naming in the interests of improving the process by which this is going on, Mr. Speaker. There are a handful of Members of the House who object to naming post offices after former Members of Congress, for example, Congressman Barrett from Nebraska. They don't like that.

Now, the problem is that the way that this process works is that under the protocols and the rules, the custom of the House Oversight and Accountability Committee is we wait for a recommendation from the entire congressional delegation, whether it is from Nebraska, California, or Florida. Obviously, in the larger States, it is tougher because you have got to get the sign-off of every Member. Once you have gotten the sign-off of every Member, then it comes to the House Oversight and Accountability Committee. At that point, we bring it to the floor.

Now, we are starting to encounter some difficulty. There are a handful of Members who are throwing a monkey wrench into the whole process by refusing to consent to post offices that are sponsored by a Member of the opposite party in their State. So that turns what has been a proudly bipartisan process for decades into a vehemently and perhaps destructively partisan process.

I raise this because I want us to do a U-turn from that. I don't want us to head down the road towards mutually assured partisan destruction on something that should be the opportunity for unity as we have seen on today's bills.

I ask all of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to participate in the process the way Members have participated in this process for decades, to assent to the naming of post offices even when they are being recommended by Members of the other party.

If not, then I am afraid we are going to have to change the rules of the House so it will no longer be a unanimous recommendation of each State's delegation but something like a majority of the delegation or 60 percent of the delegation.

I do not want it to be said to the people of America that we have gotten to a point of such vicious partisanship that we cannot even get unity on post office naming bills. That would be a truly sad day for all of us across the board.

I invite any reflections by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, but I beseech all of our colleagues to not stand in the way of post office namings that are not in your district and that are maybe not even in your State but you are trying to block them.