



Legislative Bulletin.....February 1, 2005

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Summary of the Bill Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 0

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$0

Effect on Revenue: \$0

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: \$0

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 2

Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 0

H.Res. 23 — Honoring the contributions of Catholic schools (Kennedy of Minn.)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, February 1, 2005, under a motion to suspend the rules.

Note: In 2003 and 2004, the House passed similar resolutions, H.Res. 26 by a vote of 398-1 (<http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2003/roll013.xml>) and H.Res. 492 by a vote of 398-1 (<http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2004/roll002.xml>).

Summary: The resolution has eight findings and states that it is resolved:

“That the House of Representatives--

“(1) supports the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event co-sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools; and

“(2) congratulates Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for this Nation.”

Additional Background: January 30 to February 5, 2005, has been designated as Catholic Schools Week by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The theme of the 2005 Catholic Schools Week is: “Faith in Every Student: Catholic Schools.” According to one of the week’s sponsors, “Catholic Schools Week celebrates education that goes beyond preparation for a secular life; it is an education that prepares students for a Christian life.” The week also “build[s] community awareness of, and involvement in, Catholic schools throughout the country” (Source: <http://www.ncea.org/newinfo/nceacommunications/csw-fact.asp>).

According to the resolution’s findings, the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 2004-2005 academic year is approximately 2.5 million and the student-teacher ratio is 15 to 1, with more than 26 percent of students from minority backgrounds. Catholic schools “ensure a broad, values-added education emphasizing the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in America's young people” and “produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character, and moral development,” according to the resolution.

Committee Action: On January 4, 2005, the resolution was introduced and was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. The Committee did not consider the resolution.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution has no cost.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

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H.R. 120—Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building Designation Act (Issa)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, February 1st, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 120 would designate the postal facility at 30777 Rancho California Road in Temecula, California, as the “Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building.”

Additional Background: Dalip Singh Saund was a Democrat U.S. congressman from California who was born in India—the first congressman born in Asia. He served from 1957 to 1963. For additional information, visit these websites:

<http://www.saund.org/dalipsaund/index.html>

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=S000075>

Committee Action: On January 4, 2005, the bill was referred to the Government Reform Committee, which took no official action on it.

Cost to Taxpayers: The only costs associated with a postal facility renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to “establish Post Offices and post Roads.”

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H.R. 289—Staff Sergeant First Class John Marshall Post Office Building Designation Act (*Waters*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, February 1st, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 289 would designate the postal facility at 8200 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the “Staff Sergeant First Class John Marshall Post Office Building.”

Additional Background: Staff Sergeant First Class John Marshall was struck and killed by a rocket propelled grenade on April 8, 2003, as he helped the Army’s 3rd Infantry Division secure a key highway intersection in Baghdad. At age 50, Marshall was the oldest member of the U.S. military to die during the war in Iraq. For his actions in Iraq, Marshall was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. For more information, visit this website:

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/jwmarshall.htm>

Committee Action: On January 6, 2005, the bill was referred to the Government Reform Committee, which took no official action on it.

Cost to Taxpayers: The only costs associated with a postal facility renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to “establish Post Offices and post Roads.”

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