

returned to Tilden and worked in a local plant for 28 years before retiring.

This veteran also continues to serve his community by volunteering for local veterans service organizations. We owe our freedom to veterans like Mr. Villarreal and others, which is why I am recognizing him and the other veterans with the dedication of this post office. He is one example of many veterans who have made countless sacrifices for our country in the face of danger.

The courage and dedication of our veterans toward our Nation demonstrates what it really means to be an American—the essence of being an American.

I also thank the veterans from Tilden and McMullen County for their service and sacrifice for our country. I also thank the veterans organizations throughout my district for their tireless work in providing the care our veterans need. There are many local organizations like the veterans service offices in McMullen County that provide essential care to those who have returned home from service.

Let us remember and express gratitude to these brave people: the veterans, their families, as well as the care providers.

In the words of President John F. Kennedy: “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”

□ 1515

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CUELLAR for introducing this bill.

For those of you not from Texas who don't know where Tilden, Texas, is, if you know about where San Antonio is, you go down south about a quarter of the way to the Rio Grande Valley and you are going to pass through Tilden. It is kind of northwest of my hometown of Corpus Christi.

I can tell you, having represented a lot of the area in south Texas, as does Mr. CUELLAR, that this region is a region of the State that really does thank and appreciate the veterans who have sacrificed so much to serve for this country and for their families. I think it is entirely proper and absolutely a great idea to be naming this post office after our veterans, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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. FARENTHOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1207.

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.

#### STAFF SERGEANT PETER TAUB POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2873) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2873

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

#### SECTION 1. STAFF SERGEANT PETER TAUB POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the “Staff Sergeant Peter Taub 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 “Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2873, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE).

The bill names the United States Post Office at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, after U.S. Air Force Staff Sergeant Peter Taub.

During his service, Staff Sergeant Taub participated in more than 12 combat missions in hostile areas.

Staff Sergeant Taub was killed in action on December 21, 2015, in an ambush suicide attack in Afghanistan. He gave his life in service to this Nation.

I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) for introducing this bill to honor the bravery and sacrifice of Staff Sergeant Taub.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 2873, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building.

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mr. Taub was inspired by his grandfather's World War II military service to join the Air Force in 2007. He loaded missiles for F-15 fighter jets in Japan before transferring to Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota, where he specialized in arming B-1 bombers.

In 2013, after earning his bachelor's degree in cybersecurity, Peter became a special agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and participated in over a dozen combat missions through hostile areas.

On December 21, 2015, while in Afghanistan, Staff Sergeant Taub gave his life, along with four of his fellow airmen, when his unit was ambushed in a suicide attack. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Force Commendation Medal, and Air Force Combat Action Medal, and he leaves behind a beloved wife and two children.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor Staff Sergeant Peter Taub's bravery and remember the ultimate sacrifice he made to protect our Nation.

I urge the passage of H.R. 2873.

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE).

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from not too far away in Trenton, New Jersey, as well as my colleague from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Today, I rise in support of H.R. 2873, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building.

Staff Sergeant Taub, a constituent of my 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, was a shining example of the best our country has to offer. He exemplified unwavering patriotism and heroic bravery.

Peter made the ultimate sacrifice for his country when a suicide bomber took his life in Afghanistan in December 2015. Renaming the Wyncote Post Office in his hometown is really the least we can do to honor him. It is a small but important symbol of our eternal thanks. I am here today urging the House to pass my legislation to do just that.

Peter was born on November 2, 1985, in my hometown of Philadelphia, to his parents, Joel Taub and Arlene Wagner. Peter was then raised in Wyncote,

Pennsylvania, and graduated from Cheltenham High School in 2004.

His mother, Arlene, and brother, Jonathan, run the very popular Washington, D.C., sandwich shop called Bub and Pop's.

Peter was inspired by his grandfather's service in World War II, so he enlisted in the Air Force in December of 2007 after attending community college for some time.

During his career in the military, Peter was assigned to a base in Japan, where he loaded missiles onto F-15 fighter jets. Three years later, he was transferred to Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota, where he specialized in arming B-1 bombers.

Peter went on to obtain a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity and was hired as a special agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations in December 2013. During his service, Peter participated in more than 12 combat missions in hostile areas.

Peter was killed, along with four other airmen, in a suicide ambush attack in Afghanistan on December 21, 2015.

Peter is survived by his wife, Christina; their 3-year-old daughter, Penelope; and another daughter, Petra, who was born after Peter's death in the summer of 2016.

President Obama paid tribute to Peter, as well as the other troops who were killed in the attack, calling their service "outstanding" and "brave." I second those descriptions.

Posthumously, Peter was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Combat Action Medal.

It is my hope that, with this legislation, the 13th District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will pay daily tribute to the memory of one of our heroes, Staff Sergeant Peter Taub.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2873.

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.

#### SR. CHIEF RYAN OWENS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3109) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the "Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3109

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

#### SECTION 1. SR. CHIEF RYAN OWENS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Sr. Chief Ryan Owens 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 "Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3109, introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD). The bill names the United States Post Office at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, after U.S. Navy SEAL Senior Chief Ryan Owens, who was killed in action in Yemen earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD) to further describe the bill and Senior Chief Owens' service to his country.

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kentucky for yielding the time for this important legislation.

On January 29, 2017, U.S. Navy Chief Special Warfare Operator William "Ryan" Owens was killed during a raid in Yemen. At the age of 36, he gave the ultimate sacrifice in order to protect our great Nation. Today, he is survived by his wife, Carryn, and their three young children.

Ryan Owens grew up in Edelstein, Illinois, in my congressional district, a town that is in a very rural area with barely one stop sign. Friends and family say that, even at a very early age, Ryan knew he wanted to serve his country as a Navy SEAL.

After graduating from Illinois Valley Central High School in Chillicothe, Illinois, in 1998, he took the first steps towards his goal by enlisting in the Navy.

Ryan served his first tour of duty at the Office of Naval Intelligence in Suitland, Maryland, eventually com-

pleting his SEAL training in California in 2002. Over the next 15 years, he completed four tours as a U.S. Navy SEAL, working all over the globe to fight against terrorism and protect the interests of the United States.

Ryan was 2 years into his fifth tour as a Navy SEAL when he was tragically killed during an intelligence-gathering operation against an al-Qaida cell in Yemen.

Throughout his 15 years as a Navy SEAL, Ryan Owens gave much to our country, protecting our freedoms, and helping rid the world of evil. It is for these reasons that I introduced H.R. 3109, which will rename the post office in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building.

My office and I worked closely with the U.S. Postal Service, the U.S. Navy Congressional Liaison's Office, the Central Illinois Gold Star Families, and, most importantly, Ryan's family. All of us were determined to make sure we got this right, choosing a location with strong ties to the community in which Ryan grew up. In the end, it was his wife, Carryn, who decided on Chillicothe, the town where Ryan attended and graduated high school, as the best place for this building to be renamed in his honor.

□ 1530

I was proud to introduce our bill with overwhelming bipartisan support here in the House with every member of the Illinois delegation signing on as a cosponsor in support. It is my hope that the House acts to pass this bill today and that the Senate will quickly follow suit.

While we can never repay Chief Owens or his family for the sacrifices he made, renaming the post office in his honor is a small way to thank him for his service and dedication to protecting our great Nation and the values that we hold so dear. We continue, today, to pray for Carryn and his children. We are indebted to his service and his sacrifice to our great country.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 3109, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building.

A native of Edelstein, Illinois, Ryan Owens graduated from Illinois Valley Central High School and joined the Navy in 1998.

Ryan served at the Office of Naval Intelligence before completing SEAL training and was selected as a chief petty officer in 2009.

While on his fifth tour of duty with the elite SEAL Team Six, Ryan sustained wounds in a firefight and succumbed to his injuries on January 29, 2017.

Ryan's dedicated service has been recognized through a number of awards