

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BUYER. 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.

□ 1400

ALL-AMERICAN FLAG ACT

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2853) to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2853

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "All-American Flag Act".

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR PURCHASE OF DOMESTICALLY MADE UNITED STATES FLAGS FOR USE BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Only such flags of the United States of America, regardless of size, that are 100 percent manufactured in the United States, from articles, materials, or supplies 100 percent of which are grown, produced, or manufactured in the United States, may be acquired for use by the Federal Government.

SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT TO USE WORKERS AUTHORIZED TO WORK IN THE UNITED STATES.

In carrying out section 2, the Federal Government may purchase flags only from a manufacturer that certifies that—

(1) the manufacturer does not employ aliens who are not authorized to be employed in the United States; and

(2) the manufacturer participates in the E-Verify Program under section 401 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note).

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 2 shall apply to purchases of flags made on or after 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2853, the All-American Flag Act, ensures that the flags

purchased by the Federal Government will be made right here in the United States, ensuring that tax dollars used for these purchases will stay here in our economy.

H.R. 2853 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Iowa, Representative BRUCE BRALEY, on June 12, 2009. It was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered the measure reported by unanimous consent on July 28, 2010.

This bill requires that all flags of the United States of America, of any size, purchased by the Federal Government be 100 percent manufactured here in the United States. This also includes any articles, materials, or supplies used to manufacture or produce those flags. Those materials must all be produced here. This represents a vast improvement over existing law, which only requires 50 percent of these materials to be American made.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2853 ensures that the flag of this country, flown by this country, will be made in this country.

I would like to thank my colleagues for their hard work on this bill, and I encourage them to join me in supporting this commonsense legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I would like to thank the author of the bill and the committee working on this. I think that we have been able to not only address the issue of where flags are made and what material goes into those flags but, because of the overwhelming bipartisan support for my amendment, we are also going to make sure that those flags are made by legal Americans. I think that is something that was overlooked. In fact, if I remember right, the vote in committee was unanimous except for one vote; let's say that. I think that bipartisan support for the fact that we want flags flying over our Capitol that are made in America, with American material and by Americans who are legally here, was a great message to send. I think that is the kind of bipartisan support and consensus that the American people have been asking about for a long time.

I think that one of the things that we clarify here is that, with the amendment that the majority accepted from me, we were able to point out that there may be a lot of disagreements about the immigration issue, a lot of differences about where jobs go, but if there is one place that we can kind of meet together, the one thing that seems to be working, a very moderate consensus builder, was the success of E-Verify. One place the Bush administration and the Obama administration agrees on: The expansion of E-Verify as being the minimum standard that we make sure employers take, including those who are making the flags for our country that are going to fly over this Capitol.

I think the only place that I can actually think about when it comes to

immigration that Arizona and Massachusetts agree on is that employers should E-Verify, not just to make sure that those who are here legally are working, but also to make sure that we do not prejudice employees before. One of the great things is that E-Verify doesn't ask the employer to make a determination based on just sheer observation is somebody a U.S. citizen or a foreign national; it treats everybody equally. I think that is one of the big successes here.

So I would just like to say, again, I think one of the big successes of this bill is not just that the American people will know that the flags that fly over our Capitol are made in America, with American material and with legal Americans, but the fact is symbolic of the success of the majority supporting my amendment, and that this bill will actually show, too, that: America, we can agree on one thing on immigration, and that is that E-Verify seems to be a success that all of us can get around.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOX).

Ms. FOX. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleague from California's yielding the time.

We are requiring flags to be made in the United States because our colleagues say they are concerned about jobs. Well, House Republicans are also very much concerned about jobs in this country, and we have been listening to the American people.

Unemployment near 10 percent is one of the chief concerns of the people in this country, so they want to know why Democrats are allowing both chambers to adjourn this week without stopping this massive \$3.9 trillion tax increase that will hurt small businesses and kill more jobs.

Our friends across the aisle can adjourn the House this week and walk away from their responsibility to govern, or Speaker PELOSI could allow full and open debate on tax increases before this House is adjourned. We want an up-or-down vote now. We can't allow the American people and small businesses to face this uncertainty.

We were elected to serve the people in our districts, not to put our personal political gain ahead of our constituents' welfare. Certainly, we want to make efforts to keep jobs in America, such as through bills like this one, but especially by giving certainty to businesses.

Let's vote before we adjourn to extend tax cuts for all Americans. No family and no job-creating small business owner should face a tax increase on January 1.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, again, this bill is about creating American flags in the United States of America purchased by the Federal Government.

I very much appreciate the gentleman's concern over small businesses and business creation. That is why this House and the Senate came together

and passed the Small Business bill last week, which the President signed yesterday, creating more jobs and small businesses, allowing capital to flow into small businesses through our community banks. It is a step in the right direction to create businesses here in the United States. I am pleased that we passed it. I am sorry that the Republicans didn't join us in that vote and support for small businesses.

Again, I will remind the gentlelady that small businesses benefit from the health care bill as well, getting a tax credit for providing health insurance for their employees for the first time. The small business community had been shut out of the process of receiving tax credits for providing health insurance. I am proud of what we have done for small businesses here in this Congress and will continue to work on behalf of small businesses.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, our colleagues across the aisle are stuck on failure, the bailouts, one after the other. Last week, the bill that was passed here, the \$30 billion, is another bailout of banks. It is a failure. Everything that our friends across the aisle—mostly recommended by the President, have failed. Our unemployment rate, which was never supposed to go above 8 percent, based on the stimulus, is at almost 10 percent.

Your ways of doing this are to keep the American people under the control of the government. Tax credits make them beholden. That is not the way to do it. No tax increases is the way to do it.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Again, I would like to comment on the lady's comments regarding the supposed failure of the Recovery Act.

I would invite her to come to Cincinnati, Ohio, where the Banks Project, the largest project in Cincinnati, is moving forward because of the Recovery Act. She can meet the hundreds of workers that she calls a failure. Or she can go to the bridge that is being painted by 90 employees, also funded by the Recovery Act, that crosses the Ohio River. It is the Roebling Suspension Bridge that connects Kentucky and Cincinnati. Again, I don't consider that to be a failure. Nor do I consider to be a failure the hundreds, if not thousands, of jobs in the State of Ohio that police and firefighters now have, the thousands of jobs that teachers now have because the Recovery Act.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I think it was crystal clear in the CBO report that came out just a few weeks ago that the Recovery Act in fact saved or created 3.5 million jobs here in the United States.

I will remind the lady of the failures of the Bush economic policies that led us into the worst recession in our lifetime. A failure was the last 6 months of

2008, when we saw the loss of 3 million jobs in this economy.

I don't call saving and creating 3.5 million jobs a failure, and I would challenge her to come to Cincinnati and look those workers in the face that are working on I-75, that are working on the Banks Project, and suggest to them that their paychecks are a failure of the Federal Government.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILBRAY. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we can talk about successes and failures. Some people think that the stimulus package costing \$200,000 per job, on average, is not something that is sustainable. But let's talk about something we can agree is a success, and that is we were able to meet on this bill. Sadly, it is one of those few things we have been able to reach across the aisle and work on—that the flags not only that are flown over this Capitol and around the country, but as somebody who had the privilege and the honor of having the flag that was on my father's casket fly and be hung in my office, this will mean that the men and women who served for the military and fought for the freedoms and for the free enterprise system that makes our freedoms possible will be able to be sure that they will not be covered with a flag made in China.

□ 1410

They will not have slave labor making the Stars and Stripes that are laid over their casket; that the sacred oath we make to them in so many different ways will include that the honor of a military funeral and having the Nation's colors draped over your casket, you will be assured that it will be said to be made in America.

So with that, I think we need to look at where is the success we can work on. This is one of those places we have been able to meet. And as we have been able to meet, talking about how the flags are made, and especially, finally, some agreement on who should be working in this country. I think it is one of those things that I hope that we can build on.

Mr. Speaker, if I can suggest that maybe Republicans and Democrats, rather than talking about an amnesty here or this proposal, we join on a bill that is so commonsensical that we don't even talk about it.

H.R. 3580 by STEVE KING, all that bill says is let's build on the success of E-Verify and tell employers that we as a government will no longer allow you to have a tax deduction for employing somebody unless you take the time to check that that person is legally in the country. There is a place that Democrats and Republicans can agree on. There is a place that we can reach a common ground and find answers, rather than pointing out each other's shortcomings.

Again, I would ask my colleagues on both side of the aisle, look at STEVE

KING's New IDEA bill, H.R. 3580. It is the most moderate, it is the most commonsense proposal you can put forward. All it says is before an employer can deduct the expense of hiring somebody, they darn well ought to take the time to check that they are legally in the country. That, I think, is something that we can agree on.

I would love to see that before we adjourn, and maybe when we come back, that we meet at that middle ground and show the American people that we not only can stand up and make sure that flags are made legally in this country, but we can take this step to make sure that employers who are breaking the law by hiring people illegally are not given a tax deduction for it. I think that is one place that Republican and Democrats can join together and be Americans when it comes to these issues.

Mr. Speaker, we have no other speakers at this time; so I will just close by saying I think we have had a good discussion here. There are agreements and disagreements, but I think we found an agreement here. After all, if Americans cannot get together and agree that American flags should be made with American material in the United States by legal Americans, my God, what can we agree on?

I think this is one thing that may be small, most people won't think it is a big deal, but hopefully this is a prototype and a blueprint for Democrats and Republicans getting together and agreeing to be Americans first and voting together and passing the kind of laws the American people have been waiting for for a long time.

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

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I very much respect the gentleman's remarks, and I too have the flag of my father's coffin in my office. We buried him two years ago last week. So it means something very special to me that we have come together today to support this legislation, because when it comes to our Federal tax dollars being spent on American flags, those jobs should be in the United States, those flags should be made in the United States, the parts of those flags should be made in the United States.

I appreciate the support of all the Members of the committee, and I applaud Representative BRALEY for bringing the bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2853, as amended.

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. BILBRAY. 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.

EMIL BOLAS POST OFFICE

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4602) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the "Emil Bolas Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4602

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

SECTION 1. EMIL BOLAS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "Emil Bolas Post Office".

(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 "Emil Bolas Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

On behalf of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, I am pleased to present H.R. 4602 for consideration. This legislation will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the Emil Bolas Post Office.

Introduced by our friend and colleague Representative JOHN BOCCIERI of Ohio on February 4, 2010, H.R. 4602 was favorably reported out of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee on December 9, 2010. This legislation enjoys the support of the entire Ohio delegation to the House.

Mr. Speaker, Emil Bolas dedicated his life to the service of his beloved community of Sharon Township and Medina County, Ohio. As noted in The Medina County Gazette, Mr. Bolas' mission in life was helping people and improving his community.

As a young man, Mr. Bolas served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1961. After finishing his service in the army, Mr. Bolas focused his time and attention on making his community a better place. Mr. Bolas served as zoning appeals board chairman, as a Sharon Township trustee, and was also active in a wide array of community organizations, including the Medina County Drug Task Force, the Highland Foundation For Educational Excellence, the Boy Scouts of America, the Ohio Township Association, and the Sharon Township Heritage Society.

Sadly, Mr. Bolas passed away on August 14, 2008, following a long battle with cancer. His memory will live on through his adoring family and the countless individuals whose lives he improved through his tireless work on behalf of his community.

Mr. Speaker, let us further honor the life and legacy of Emil Bolas through the passage of H.R. 4602, which will designate the postal facility located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, in his honor. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

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

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, this is one time that a Californian cannot best the Ohio gentleman. So I will just say I think he presented this item quite appropriately, and basically I will just say I agree totally with the majority on this item. The gentleman from Ohio has not only represented his district but his State and this gentleman quite appropriately in the post office proposal.

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

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the support of the Buckeyes in this case, and I thank Congressman BOCCIERI for bringing this measure before the House. I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4602.

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. BILBRAY. 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.

JAMES M. 'JIMMY' STEWART POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 5606) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, as the "James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5606

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

SECTION 1. JAMES M. 'JIMMY' STEWART POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart 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 "James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am proud to present H.R. 5606 for consideration. This legislation will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, as the "James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building." H.R. 5606 was introduced by our colleague, Representative MARK CRITZ of Pennsylvania, on June 25, 2010. It was favorably reported out of the Oversight Government Reform Committee on July 28, 2010. In addition, this legislation enjoys the support of the entire Pennsylvania House delegation.

As we all know, Jimmy Stewart was an American film and stage actor who worked in Hollywood during its "Golden Age." Mr. Stewart was born on May 20, 1908, in Indiana, Pennsylvania, and attended Mercersburg Academy Prep School. After graduating from Mercersburg in 1928, Mr. Stewart went on to attend Princeton University, where he developed a lifelong love for acting.

In 1939, Mr. Stewart starred in one of the great films about American politics, "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," which portrays the experience of a young senator learning the ropes in Washington. The film was a great success and was nominated for 11 Academy