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Legislative Bulletin.....March 10, 2009

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H.R. 813 — “J. Herbert W. Small Federal Building and United States Courthouse” Designation (*Butterfield, D-NC*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 813 would designate the federal building and United States courthouse located at 306 East Main Street in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the “J. Herbert W. Small Federal Building and United States Courthouse.”

Additional Background: According to Rep. Steve LaTourette (R-OH) (during consideration of similar legislation in the 110th Congress):

“J. Herbert W. Small, a lifelong resident of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, is a graduate of the University of Virginia Engineering School and the University of North Carolina Law School. He began the practice of law in 1949 and continued in his chosen field for over five decades. During his professional career, he was a member of the First Judicial District Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the North Carolina Bar Association.

“In 1974, Judge Small was elected judge of Superior Court of the First Judicial District and served as Senior Resident Judge for 17 years. Judge Small is an active volunteer, serving on the Board of Directors of the Albemarle Hospital and the American Red Cross. He has received numerous awards and honors from the Jaycees, Boy Scouts, Volunteer Firemen, Chamber of Commerce, and the Rotary and Elks clubs. Further, Judge Small, a World War II veteran, served in the United States Navy for 3 years.”

Committee Action: H.R. 813 was introduced on February 3, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 813 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. courthouse 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Brad Watson, brad.watson@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-9719.

H.R. 837 — “Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building” Designation Act (*Rangel, D-NY*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 837 would designate the Federal building located at 799 United Nations Plaza in New York, New York, as the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building."

Additional Background: Ron Brown was Chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 1989-1993, and the Secretary of Commerce during most of President Bill Clinton's first term.

Committee Action: H.R. 837 was introduced on February 3, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 837 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a federal building 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.R. 842 — “R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse” Designation Act (Thompson, D-MS)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 842 would designate the United States Courthouse, to be constructed in Jackson, Mississippi, as the “R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse.”

Additional Background: According to the [NY Times](#):

“Mr. Brown took an early stand against segregationist laws and was credited in the 1950's with filing the first civil rights suit in Mississippi.

“In the 1960's he was one of only four black lawyers in Mississippi, and one of three who took civil rights cases.

“In 1962 he was one of Mr. Meredith's lawyers in Mr. Meredith's successful bid to break the color barrier at the University of Mississippi. Mr. Brown also represented Mack Charles Parker, who was accused of raping a white woman in 1959. Mr. Parker was lynched and thrown into the Pearl River before trial after Mr. Brown had raised the issue of jury discrimination.

“Mr. Brown, a native of Muskogee, Okla., attended Illinois State University, Indiana University and the Texas Southern University Law School.

“In 1948 he sued on behalf of black teachers in Jackson, seeking salaries that were equal to those of white teachers, and he worked with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in fighting discrimination against blacks in transportation and other public accommodations in the 1960's.”

Committee Action: H.R. 842 was introduced on February 3, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 842 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. courthouse 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.R. 869 — “Scott Reed Federal Building and United States Courthouse” Designation Act (*Chandler, D-KY*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 869 would designate the federal building and United States courthouse located at 101 Barr Street in Lexington, Kentucky, as the “Scott Reed Federal Building and United States Courthouse.”

Additional Background: According to the [Committee Report](#) for similar legislation considered in the 110th Congress (H.R. 478):

“On November 2, 1979, President Jimmy Carter appointed him as a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky. He became a Senior Judge August 1, 1988. He was a frequent lecturer to the National College of Trial Judges. He was named to the Hall of Distinguished Alumni of the University of Kentucky on April 11, 1980. Judge Reed was a member of the American, Kentucky State, and Fayette County Bar Associations. He received numerous honors including: the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medallion from the University of Kentucky; Order of the Coif; Doctor of Laws-degree from Northern Kentucky University (1977); Kentucky Bar Association Award for outstanding service (1977); and the Henry T. Duncan Award for leadership, integrity and professional conduct from the Fayette County Bar Association (1977). Judge Reed was married to Sue Charles and they had one son, Geoffrey Scott Reed and one grandson, Gregory Scott Reed.”

Committee Action: H.R. 869 was introduced on February 4, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 869 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. courthouse 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.R. 887 — “James A. Leach United States Courthouse” Designation (*Loebsack, D-IA*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 887 would designate the United States courthouse located at 131 East 4th Street in Davenport, Iowa, as the “James A. Leach United States Courthouse.”

Additional Background: James A. Leach served in the U.S. Congress from 1977 to 2007 as a Republican from Iowa.

Committee Action: H.R. 887 was introduced on February 4, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 887 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. courthouse 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.Con.Res. 37 — Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby (*Hoyer, D-MD*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 37 would authorize the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to sponsor soap box derby races on the Capitol Grounds on June 20, 2009. The resolution requires that the event be free to the public and arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress. Further, the resolution allows the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby to place, on the Capitol Grounds stage, sound amplification devices and other structures necessary to carry out the event.

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 37 was introduced on February 4, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.Con.Res. 37 is unavailable. The resolution requires the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to assume responsibility for any expenses associated with the event.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.Con.Res. 38 — Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service (*Holmes Norton, D-DC*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 38 would authorize the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police to sponsor the “28th Annual National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service” on the Capitol Grounds on May 15, 2009. The resolution requires that the event be free to the public and arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress. Further, the resolution allows the National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service to place, on the Capitol Grounds stage, sound amplification devices and other structures necessary to carry out the event.

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 38 was introduced on February 4, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.Con.Res. 38 is unavailable. The resolution requires the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police to assume responsibility for any expenses associated with the event.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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**H.Con.Res. 39 — Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the
District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run
(Holmes Norton, D-DC)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 39 would authorize the Capitol Police Board to carry out the “2009 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run” on the Capitol Grounds on June 5, 2009. The resolution authorizes the Capitol Police Board to take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event, and authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 39 was introduced on February 4, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on February 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.Con.Res. 39 is unavailable.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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