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Legislative Bulletin.....April 26, 2010

Contents:

- H.R. 4543** - The Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building Designation Act
- H.Res. 1103** - Celebrating the life of Sam Houston on the 217th anniversary of his birth
- H.R. 4861** - The Steve Goodman Post Office Building Designation Act

**H.R. 4543 - The Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building
 Designation Act (Rep. Lofgren, D-CA)**

Order of Business: H.R. 4543 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, April 26, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4543 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4285 Payne Avenue in San Jose, California, as the Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building.

Additional Information: According to the bill’s sponsor, Tony Cortese, was President of the National Association of Letter Carriers Local 193. For twenty-seven years of his forty-two years at the USPS, he served as the president of the National Association of Letter Carriers Local 193, NALC.

“Mr. Cortese was a fifty-five-year resident of San Jose, California and was a tireless advocate for Letter Carriers. As President of the NALC Local 193 for nearly thirty years, Mr. Cortese procured a union owned building for the members, secured expanded health benefits, and provided an open forum for discussion for union members and Federal, State, and local politicians.”

“Mr. Cortese's service was not just limited to advocacy for the rights of the union members, but extended into the San Jose community and beyond. Under Mr. Cortese's leadership, San Jose served as a pilot for what would become a national food drive sponsored by the NALC the first Saturday before Mother's Day. In fact, this national program, which began in 1991 and continues today, is the result of Mr. Cortese's own food drive initiative in 1990. This is but one example by which Mr. Cortese's unassuming, generous, and selfless manner made significant and positive changes in the lives of a countless number of people.”

Committee Action: H.R. 4543 was introduced on January 27, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee held a mark-up on April 14, 2010, and the bill subsequently passed by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 4543 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office 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? Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

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.Res. 1103 - Celebrating the life of Sam Houston on the 217th anniversary of his birth (McCaul, R-TX)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, April 26, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1103 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the historical contribution of Sam Houston to the State of Texas and the United States on the 217th anniversary of his birth.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Sam Houston was born at Timber Ridge Church, near Lexington, Virginia, on March 2, 1793
- “Sam Houston as an enlisted soldier fought courageously in the War of 1812, and after receiving three near-mortal wounds at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, rose to the rank of first lieutenant
- “Sam Houston was elected to the United States Congress for the State of Tennessee in 1823 and again in 1825 before serving as Governor from 1827 to 1829;
- “Sam Houston moved to Oklahoma, served as an advocate for Native American rights and a representative of the Cherokee Nation, and then became a Cherokee citizen on October 21, 1829;
- “Sam Houston moved to Texas in 1835 and joined the movement to establish separate statehood for Texas;
- “Sam Houston was elected as the commander-in-chief of the armies of Texas in 1836;

- On April 21, 1836, Sam Houston's forces defeated Mexican President and General Santa Anna, securing Texas' long sought independence;
- “Sam Houston was elected the first President of the Republic of Texas and served 2 terms, followed by 2 years with the Texas Congress, after which he returned to serve as President from 1841 to 1844;
- “After Texas joined the Union in 1845, Sam Houston was elected Senator to the United States Congress and served from 1846 to 1859;
- “Sam Houston once again resigned his position with Congress to serve as Governor of Texas from 1859 to 1861;
- “Sam Houston was deposed on March 18, 1861, because he refused to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States;
- “Sam Houston died in Huntsville, Texas, on July 26, 1863, and was then interred in Oakwood Cemetery;
- “Sam Houston is the only person in United States history to have been the Governor of 2 different States, Tennessee and Texas;
- “Sam Houston still stands as a symbol for Texas solidarity and is one of the most significant individuals in the history of Texas:”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1103 was introduced on February 24, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. On April 14, 2010, the committee held a mark-up and the legislation passed by a unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize additional expenditures.

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?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there’s no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable for H.Res. 1103.

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H.R. 4861 – The Steve Goodman Post Office Building Designation Act (*Rep. Quigley, D-IL*)

Order of Business: H.R. 4861 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, April 26, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4861 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1343 West Irving Park Road in Chicago, Illinois, designated as the Steve Goodman Post Office Building.

Additional Information: Born in 1948, Steven Goodman was a singer-songwriter who won two Grammy Awards. In 1971, Goodman was playing at a Chicago bar called the Quiet Knight as the opening act for Kris Kristofferson. The introduction resulted in Goodman signing a professional recording contract and recording a version of the song the "[City of New Orleans](#)", which became a Top 20 hit in 1972.

In 1974, David Allan Coe achieved considerable success on the country charts with Goodman's "[You Never Even Called Me By My Name](#)." Goodman was also a die-hard [Chicago Cubs](#) fan and wrote several songs about the organization including "A Dying Cub Fan's Last Request", "When the Cubs Go Marching In", and "Go, Cubs, Go." Goodman died in 1984 after battling Leukemia. Posthumously, Goodman won his second Grammy in 1988 for "Unfinished Business".

Committee Action: H.R. 4861 was introduced on March 16, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee held a mark-up on April 14, 2010, and the bill subsequently passed by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 4861 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office 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?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

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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