

DESIGNATION OF RONALD H. BROWN UNITED STATES
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS BUILDING

OCTOBER 15, 2003.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1702]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1702) to designate the Federal building which is to be constructed at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, as the “Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building”, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of H.R. 1702 is to designate the building to be constructed at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, as the “Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building.”

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR THE LEGISLATION

Ronald Harmon Brown was born on August 1, 1941. His early school days were spent at Hunter College Elementary School, a public school on Manhattan’s East Side. He subsequently attended high school at White Plains High School and the Rhodes School in Manhattan. In 1962, Brown graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont. He started as a pre-med student but changed his major to political science.

After college, he served in the Army from 1962 to 1967, commanding several units in the United States, Germany, and South Korea. Brown was discharged from the Army in 1967. Upon his discharge from the Army, he enrolled at St. John’s Law School and

began a short-lived career as a social worker. In 1968, Brown went to work for the National Urban League as a job developer-trainee adviser. While working with the Urban League, Brown continued his studies at St. John's University Law School. He graduated in 1970 and passed the bar in 1971.

Brown continued to work for the National Urban League, and was named director of the National Urban League's Washington office in 1973. By 1976, Brown held the position of deputy executive director for programs and governmental affairs, and by the mid 1970s, had become a key player in Washington politics.

He left the National Urban League in 1979 to work for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy. Brown was hired in 1981 as a lawyer and a lobbyist by the law firm of Patton Boggs. In 1988, he announced his candidacy for chairman of the Democratic National Committee. Brown was elected chairman in 1989, the first African-American to serve as the head of a major political party. In 1993, President Clinton appointed him as Secretary of Commerce. In 1996, while serving as Secretary of Commerce, Ron Brown died in a plane crash while en route to negotiate trade agreements with Croatia.

SUMMARY OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building

This section designates the Federal building to be constructed at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building." This section also clarifies that any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building to be constructed at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, be deemed a reference to the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building."

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

Mr. Rangel of New York introduced H.R. 1702 on April 9, 2003. On September 24, 2003, the Subcommittee met in open session and considered H.R. 1702. On a motion by Ms. Norton, H.R. 1702 was ordered favorably reported to the Full Committee, by voice vote, with a quorum present.

On October 1, 2003, the Full Committee considered H.R. 1702. A motion by Mr. LaTourette, to order H.R. 1702 favorably reported to the House was agreed to by the Full Committee unanimously, by voice vote, with a quorum present. There were no recorded votes taken during Committee consideration of H.R. 1702.

ROLLCALL VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives requires each committee report to include the total number of votes cast for and against on each rollcall vote on a motion to report and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, and the names of those members voting for and against. There were no rollcall votes taken during consideration of H.R. 1702.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in this report.

COST OF LEGISLATION

Clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply where a cost estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the report and is included in the report. Such a cost estimate is included in this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, and 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee references the report of the Congressional Budget Office included below.

2. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee advises that the bill contains no measure that authorizes funding, so no statement of general performance goals and objectives is required.

3. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for H.R. 1702 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, October 3, 2003.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed the following legislation, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on October 1, 2003:

- H.R. 1702, a bill to designate the federal building which is to be constructed at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building"; and
- H.R. 3118, a bill to designate the Orville Wright Federal Building and the Wilbur Wright Federal Building in Washington, District of Columbia.

CBO estimates that their enactment would have no significant impact on the federal budget and would not affect direct spending or revenues. These bills contain no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Matthew Pickford.

Sincerely,

ELIZABETH M. ROBINSON
(For Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director).

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause (3)(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, committee reports on a bill or joint resolution of a public character shall include a statement citing the specific powers granted to the Congress in the Constitution to enact the measure. The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure finds that Congress has the authority to enact this measure pursuant to its powers granted under article I, section 8 of the Constitution.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. (Public Law 104–4).

PREEMPTION CLARIFICATION

Section 423 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the report of any Committee on a bill or joint resolution to include a statement on the extent to which the bill or joint resolution is intended to preempt state, local, or tribal law. The Committee states that H.R. 1702 does not preempt any state, local, or tribal law.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act are created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act. (Public Law 104–1).

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

H.R. 1702 makes no changes in existing law.

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