

- (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, productivity of natural resources and agricultural systems,” after “environmental quality”;
- (2) by striking out “and” at the end of paragraph (6);
- (3) by striking out the period at the end of paragraph (7) and inserting “; and”;
- (4) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) long-term planning and policy development are essential to assuring the availability of an abundant supply of high quality water for domestic and other uses; and

“(9) the States must have the research and problem-solving capacity necessary to effectively manage their water resources.”

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

Section 103 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10302) is amended—

- (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (5);
- (2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (6) and inserting “; and”;
- (3) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) encourage long-term planning and research to meet future water management, quality, and supply challenges.”

SEC. 3. GRANTS; MATCHING FUNDS.

Section 104(c) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(c)) is amended by striking “one non-Federal dollar” and all that follows through “thereafter” and inserting “two non-Federal dollars for every Federal dollar”.

SEC. 4. GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking “of \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1989, through September 30, 1995,” and inserting “of \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1996, \$7,000,000 for fiscal years 1997 and 1998, and \$9,000,000 for fiscal years 1999 and 2000”.

SEC. 5. COORDINATION.

Section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h)(1) To carry out provisions of this Act, the Secretary—

“(A) shall encourage other Federal departments, agencies (including agencies within the Department of the Interior), and instrumentalities to use and take advantage of the expertise and capabilities which are available through the institutes established by this section, on a cooperative or other basis;

“(B) shall encourage cooperation and coordination with other Federal programs concerned with water resources problems and issues;

“(C) may enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5);

“(D) may accept funds from other Federal departments, agencies (including agencies within the Department of the Interior), and instrumentalities to pay for and add to grants made, and contracts entered into, by the Secretary;

“(E) may promulgate such rules and regulations as he deems appropriate; and

“(F) may support a program of internships for qualified individuals at the undergraduate and graduate level to carry out the educational and training objectives of this Act.

“(2) The Secretary shall report to Congress annually on coordination efforts with other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities under paragraph (1).

“(3) Nothing in this Act shall preempt the rights and authorities of any State with respect to its water resources or management of those resources.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE].

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

(Mr. DOOLITTLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, the primary intent of H.R. 1743 is to extend the authorization for the State Water Resources Research Institutes. Through the act, the institutes have established a Federal/State partnership in water resources, education, and information transfer. There are 54 of these institutes located at the land grant university in each of the 50 States and several of the territories. These institutes are a primary link between the academic community, the water-related personnel in Federal and State government, and the private sector. The institutes provide a mechanism for promoting State, regional, and national coordination of water resources research and training. They also serve as a network to facilitate research coordination and information transfer. Their programs are coordinated with the general guidance of the Secretary of the Interior.

This is a popular program because research from the water institutes is often directed at finding solutions to water problems that have local and regional relevance. Research results from the program are often applied to real-world problems in water management.

H.R. 1743 would expand the act's findings and focus on the need for long-term planning and policy development, support for States in water resources management, and maintaining productivity of natural resources and agricultural systems.

H.R. 1743 sets forth new requirements for the Interior Department to coordinate and cooperate with other departments and agencies of the Federal Government on water resources problems and requires an annual report on these efforts to Congress.

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, again, on this legislation, H.R. 1743, the Water Resources Research Act reauthorization, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE], the subcommittee Chair, has accurately described the bill, and it has bipartisan support, and I believe bipartisan support both here and in the Senate.

We would urge the passage of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1743, a bill to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984.

This legislation extends the authorization of this important program for 5 years and also provides new flexibility for the program. New cost-sharing requirements are also specified in this legislation.

The Water Research Program has provided us with extraordinary benefits for 30 years. We now have water research institutes in every State, as well as in the Virgin Islands, Guam, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The program supports our educational institutions by training engineers and scientists skilled in all aspects of water research and management.

With help from the Water Research Program and the State research institutes, we have improved our capability to manage floods and to plan community growth to avoid flood damages. We have improved our ability to clean up chemical contamination of our water supplies. And we have trained hundreds of scientists, technicians, and engineers to help us solve complex water management problems.

The Water Resources Research Program authorized by H.R. 1743 is a cost-effective and inexpensive program. Costs of operating the program are shared with non-Federal interests. The program provides valuable research that is useful to local and State water managers throughout the Nation. The water research program has given us years of service and deserves our continued support.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1743.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I would like to thank the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] for his support on this.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1743, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1743, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2066

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed from the list of cosponsors of H.R. 2066.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1600

COLLECTION OF FEES FOR TRIPLOID GRASS CARP CERTIFICATION INSPECTIONS

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 268) to authorize the collection of fees for expenses for triploid grass carp certification inspections, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 268

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

SECTION 1. COLLECTION OF FEES FOR TRIPLOID GRASS CARP CERTIFICATION INSPECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service (referred to in this section as the “Director”), may charge reasonable fees for expenses to the Federal Government for triploid grass carp certification inspections requested by a person who owns or operates an aquaculture facility.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—All fees collected under subsection (a) shall be available to the Director until expended, without further appropriations.

(c) USE.—The Director shall use all fees collected under subsection (a) to carry out the activities referred to in subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 268. This legislation establishes a fee-for-service system whereby the Secretary of the Interior may collect fees from private fish producers for the cost of grass carp certification inspections. It also allows the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to retain those funds for that program.

This legislation is important because many States require that grass carp, which are imported by these States to eat aquatic vegetation, must be certified as sterile or triploid. This is to ensure that these carp do not reproduce and have an adverse effect on the environment.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has been certifying the sterility of grass carp since 1979. In fiscal year 1994, over \$70,000 was spent by the Service on this program. Due to budget constraints, however, the Fish and Wildlife Service has announced that it is no longer able to bear the cost of this program. Private producers have notified the Service that they are willing to pay certification costs. This legislation will allow the fee-for-service to be established so the Service can continue the program at no cost to the Federal Government.

This legislation was the subject of a hearing in my subcommittee on June 8

and it was unanimously approved by the House Resources Committee.

It is an excellent example of how a user fee can be established that is both beneficial to those who receive the inspection services and to our taxpayers.

I want to compliment our distinguished colleague from Arkansas, BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN, for her leadership on this legislation.

I urge an “Aye” vote on S. 268.

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this legislation, which is a very good example of a private-public partnership that benefits the taxpayers, private industry, and the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Arkansas [Mrs. LINCOLN].

(Mrs. LINCOLN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from California, Mrs. MILLER, as well as the gentleman from New Jersey, Chairman SAXTON, for their assistance in this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge adoption of this legislation before the House today that epitomizes the type of relationship that should exist between private industry and the Federal Government.

For the past several years the Fish and Wildlife Service has conducted a certification program for the triploid grass carp. This beneficial fish is utilized by 29 States to help control aquatic vegetation in lakes, ponds, and streams. The triploid grass carp provides an effective, economical method of caring for these environments without the use of chemical agents.

As the use of the fish has increased over the years, a number of States have adopted regulations which require the grass carp to be certified as sterile. If a reproducing carp were introduced into these environments it could cause serious damage to the existing fish species. The certification process has assured States that the fish were sterile, thereby allowing their shipment by private aquaculturists.

In the past year the Fish and Wildlife Service conducted 550 triploid grass carp inspections at no charge to the producer. The cost of the program was \$70,000. However, this year because of the dire fiscal situation that faces many agencies, the Fish and Wildlife Service has indicated that it cannot afford to operate the program.

The producers who have utilized this program have agreed to pay a fee that would cover the entire cost of the program with the understanding that the funds would be utilized for this purpose

only. The Fish and Wildlife Service supports this arrangement but lacks the authority to implement it without congressional authorization.

This bill is identical to one that I introduced earlier this year and I appreciate the support of Chairman SAXTON, Chairman YOUNG, and Congressmen STUDDS in bringing this measure to the floor today. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentlewoman from Arkansas [Mrs. LINCOLN] for her work on this legislation. She has garnered partisan support for this legislation. We urge support of the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to build on the comments of the gentleman from California, Mr. MILLER. The gentlewoman from Arkansas, Mrs. LINCOLN, has in fact done a yeoman’s job on this bill in an atmosphere where partisan politics seems to play an overly aggressive role around here, both on the committee level and here on the House floor.

She has been able to, No. 1, fashion a bill that makes sense and, No. 2, to get support, I believe almost unanimous support, on the committee in a very, very businesslike and professional way. We appreciate that approach and are glad to have been able to work with the gentlewoman on this.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support S. 268 and feel it is appropriate to allow private fish producers to fully reimburse the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the costs of their certification to triploid grass carp.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began its involvement in the DNA certification of triploid grass carp nearly two decades ago. Since that time, the program has grown to more than 550 inspections per year for private producers whose fish are shipped to some 30 States. In fiscal year 1994, over \$70,000 was spent by the Service on this program.

This certification process is necessary to ensure that only sterile grass carp are released in public and private waters to control aquatic vegetation.

Earlier this year, the Fish and Wildlife Service announced its intention to terminate this certification program. Since States will not allow the release of grass carp without the Service’s stamp of approval, this legislation has become necessary.

S. 268 will establish a fee-for-service system and it will allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to retain those collected funds to cover the expenses of the triploid grass carp certification inspections.

I urge an “aye” vote on this measure and compliment our colleague, BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN, for her leadership in bringing this matter to our attention.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.