

time it has produced thousands of bluegills, channel catfish, largemouth bass, striped bass, and hybrid striped bass fingerlings. These fish are used to stock over 500,000 acres of public waters in the State of Alabama and they are available to over 530,000 licensed sport anglers.

In addition, the Marion Fish Hatchery has provided over 1.3 million gulf striped bass fry to 3 Federal and 2 neighboring State hatcheries and over 270,000 gulf striped bass fingerlings to support Federal and State programs in the State of Florida.

Finally, the State of Alabama has spent over \$2 million on facility improvements and renovations at the Marion National Fish Hatchery since it assumed operational control. The Alabama Game and Fish Division has stated that "the Division will continue to utilize the facility for the production of fish to enhance the freshwaters of Alabama and the thousands of people who enjoy fishing these waters."

I urge an "aye" vote on this legislation which has been endorsed by both the Clinton administration and the Governor of the State of Alabama, the Honorable Fob James, Jr.

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

Mr. SAXTON. 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 New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3557, 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.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Marion National Fish Hatchery and the Claude Harris National Aquacultural Research Center to the State of Alabama."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3557, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

#### 2002 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES FACILITATION ACT

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3907) to facilitate the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in the State of Utah at the snowbasin ski area, to provide for the acquisition of lands within the Sterling Forest Reserve, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3907

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

#### TITLE I—SNOWBASIN SKI AREA

##### SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "2002 Winter Olympic Games Facilitation Act".

##### SEC. 102. FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) in June 1995, Salt Lake City, Utah, was selected to host the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, and the Snowbasin Ski Resort, which is owned by the Sun Valley Company, was identified as the site of six Olympic events: the men's and women's downhill, men's and women's Super-Gs, and men's and women's combined downhill;

(2) in order to adequately accommodate these events, which are traditionally among the most popular and heavily attended at the Winter Olympic Games, major new skiing, visitor, and support facilities will have to be constructed at the Snowbasin Ski Resort on land currently administered by the United States Forest Service;

(3) while certain of these new facilities can be accommodated on National Forest land under traditional Forest Service permitting authorities, the base area facilities necessary to host visitors to the ski area and the Winter Olympics are of such a nature that they should logically be located on private land;

(4) land exchanges have been routinely utilized by the Forest Service to transfer base area lands to many other ski areas, and the Forest Service and the Sun Valley Company have concluded that a land exchange to transfer base area lands at the Snowbasin Ski Resort to the Sun Valley Company is both logical and advisable;

(5) an environmental impact statement and numerous resource studies have been completed by the Forest Service and the Sun Valley Company for the lands proposed to be transferred to the Sun Valley Company by this title;

(6) the Sun Valley Company has assembled lands with outstanding environmental, recreational, and other values to convey to the Forest Service in return for the lands it will receive in the exchange, and the Forest Service has identified such lands as desirable for acquisition by the United States; and

(7) completion of a land exchange and approval of a development plan for Olympic related facilities at the Snowbasin Ski Resort is essential to ensure that all necessary facilities can be constructed, tested for safety and other purposes, and become fully operational in advance of the 2002 Winter Olympics and earlier pre-Olympic events.

(b) DETERMINATION.—The Congress has reviewed the previous analyses and studies of the lands to be exchanged and developed pursuant to this title, and has made its own review of these lands and issues involved, and on the basis of those reviews hereby finds and determines that a legislated land exchange and development plan approval is necessary to meet Olympic goals and timetables.

##### SEC. 103. SNOWBASIN LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) PURPOSE AND INTENT.—The purpose of this section is to authorize and direct the Secretary to exchange 1,320 acres of federally-owned land within the Cache National Forest in the State of Utah for lands of approximately equal value owned by the Sun Valley Company. It is the intent of Congress that this exchange be completed without delay within the period specified by subsection (d).

(b) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

(1) The term "Sun Valley Company" means the Sun Valley Company, a division of Sinclair Oil Corporation, a Wyoming Corporation, or its successors or assigns.

(2) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(c) EXCHANGE.—

(1) FEDERAL SELECTED LANDS.—(A) Not later than 45 days after the final determination of value of the Federal selected lands, the Secretary shall, subject to this section, transfer all right, title, and interest of the United States in

and to the lands referred to in subparagraph (B) to the Sun Valley Company.

(B) The lands referred to in subparagraph (A) are certain lands within the Cache National Forest in the State of Utah comprising 1,320 acres, more or less, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Snowbasin Land Exchange—Proposed" and dated October 1995.

(2) NON-FEDERAL OFFERED LANDS.—Upon transfer of the Federal selected lands under paragraph (1), and in exchange for those lands, the Sun Valley Company shall simultaneously convey to the Secretary all right, title and interest of the Sun Valley Company in and to so much of the following offered lands which have been previously identified by the United States Forest Service as desirable by the United States, or which are identified pursuant to subparagraph (E) prior to the transfer of lands under paragraph (1), as are of approximate equal value to the Federal selected lands:

(A) Certain lands located within the exterior boundaries of the Cache National Forest in Weber County, Utah, which comprise approximately 640 acres and are generally depicted on a map entitled "Lightning Ridge Offered Lands", dated October 1995.

(B) Certain lands located within the Cache National Forest in Weber County, Utah, which comprise approximately 635 acres and are generally depicted on a map entitled "Wheeler Creek Watershed Offered Lands—Section 21" dated October 1995.

(C) Certain lands located within the exterior boundaries of the Cache National Forest in Weber County, Utah, and lying immediately adjacent to the outskirts of the City of Ogden, Utah, which comprise approximately 800 acres and are generally depicted on a map entitled "Taylor Canyon Offered Lands", dated October 1995.

(D) Certain lands located within the exterior boundaries of the Cache National Forest in Weber County, Utah, which comprise approximately 2,040 acres and are generally depicted on a map entitled "North Fork Ogden River—Devil's Gate Valley", dated October 1995.

(E) Such additional offered lands in the State of Utah as may be necessary to make the values of the lands exchanged pursuant to this section approximately equal, and which are acceptable to the Secretary.

(3) SUBSTITUTION OF OFFERED LANDS.—If one or more of the precise offered land parcels identified in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (2) is unable to be conveyed to the United States due to appraisal or other reasons, or if the Secretary and the Sun Valley Company mutually agree and the Secretary determines that an alternative offered land package would better serve long term public needs and objectives, the Sun Valley Company may simultaneously convey to the United States alternative offered lands in the State of Utah acceptable to the Secretary in lieu of any or all of the lands identified in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (2).

(4) VALUATION AND APPRAISALS.—(A) Values of the lands to be exchanged pursuant to this section shall be equal as determined by the Secretary utilizing nationally recognized appraisal standards and in accordance with section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The appraisal reports shall be written to Federal standards as defined in the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions. If, due to size, location, or use of lands exchanged under this section, the values are not exactly equal, they shall be equalized by the payment of cash equalization money to the Secretary or the Sun Valley Company as appropriate in accordance with section 206(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716(b)). In order to expedite the consummation of the exchange directed by this section, the Sun Valley Company shall arrange and pay for appraisals of the offered and selected lands by a qualified appraiser with experience in appraising similar properties and who

is mutually acceptable to the Sun Valley Company and the Secretary. The appraisal of the Federal selected lands shall be completed and submitted to the Secretary for technical review and approval no later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and the Secretary shall make a determination of value not later than 30 days after receipt of the appraisal. In the event the Secretary and the Sun Valley Company are unable to agree to the appraised value of a certain tract or tracts of land, the appraisal, appraisals, or appraisal issues in dispute and a final determination of value shall be resolved through a process of bargaining or submission to arbitration in accordance with section 206(d) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716(d)).

(B) In order to expedite the appraisal of the Federal selected lands, such appraisal shall—

(i) value the land in its unimproved state, as a single entity for its highest and best use as if in private ownership and as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(ii) consider the Federal lands as an independent property as though in the private marketplace and suitable for development to its highest and best use;

(iii) consider in the appraisal any encumbrance on the title anticipated to be in the conveyance to Sun Valley Company and reflect its effect on the fair market value of the property; and

(iv) not reflect any enhancement in value to the Federal selected lands based on the existence of private lands owned by the Sun Valley Company in the vicinity of the Snowbasin Ski Resort, and shall assume that private lands owned by the Sun Valley Company are not available for use in conjunction with the Federal selected lands.

(d) GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE EXCHANGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The exchange authorized by this section shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

(A) RESERVED RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—In any deed issued pursuant to subsection (c)(1), the Secretary shall reserve in the United States a right of reasonable access across the conveyed property for public access and for administrative purposes of the United States necessary to manage adjacent federally-owned lands. The terms of such reservation shall be prescribed by the Secretary within 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) RIGHT OF RESCISSION.—This section shall not be binding on either the United States or the Sun Valley Company if, within 30 days after the final determination of value of the Federal selected lands, the Sun Valley Company submits to the Secretary a duly authorized and executed resolution of the Company stating its intention not to enter into the exchange authorized by this section.

(2) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, effective on the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal selected lands described in subsection (c)(1) and all National Forest System lands currently under special use permit to the Sun Valley Company at the Snowbasin Ski Resort are hereby withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws (including the mining laws) and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing.

(3) DEED.—The conveyance of the offered lands to the United States under this section shall be by general warranty or other deed acceptable to the Secretary and in conformity with applicable title standards of the Attorney General of the United States.

(4) STATUS OF LANDS.—Upon acceptance of title by the Secretary, the land conveyed to the United States pursuant to this section shall become part of the Wasatch or Cache National Forests as appropriate, and the boundaries of such National Forests shall be adjusted to encompass such lands. Once conveyed, such lands

shall be managed in accordance with the Act of March 1, 1911, as amended (commonly known as the "Weeks Act"), and in accordance with the other laws, rules and regulations applicable to National Forest System lands. This paragraph does not limit the Secretary's authority to adjust the boundaries pursuant to section 11 of the Act of March 1, 1911 ("Weeks Act"). For the purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), the boundaries of the Wasatch and Cache National Forests, as adjusted by this section, shall be considered to be boundaries of the forests as of January 1, 1965.

(e) PHASE I FACILITY CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION.—

(1) PHASE I FACILITY FINDING AND REVIEW.—(A) The Congress has reviewed the Snowbasin Ski Area Master Development Plan dated October 1995 (hereinafter in this subsection referred to as the "Master Plan"). On the basis of such review, and review of previously completed environmental and other resource studies for the Snowbasin Ski Area, Congress hereby finds that the "Phase I" facilities referred to in the Master Plan to be located on National Forest System land after consummation of the land exchange directed by this section are limited in size and scope, are reasonable and necessary to accommodate the 2002 Olympics, and in some cases are required to provide for the safety of skiing competitors and spectators.

(B) Within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Sun Valley Company shall review the Master Plan insofar as such plan pertains to Phase I facilities which are to be constructed and operated wholly or partially on National Forest System lands retained by the Secretary after consummation of the land exchange directed by this section. The Secretary may modify such Phase I facilities upon mutual agreement with the Sun Valley Company or by imposing conditions pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(C) Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit the reviewed Master Plan on the Phase I facilities, including any modifications made thereto pursuant to subparagraph (B), to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives for a 30-day review period. At the end of the 30-day period, unless otherwise directed by Act of Congress, the Secretary may issue all necessary authorizations for construction and operation of such facilities or modifications thereof in accordance with the procedures and provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(2) PHASE I FACILITY APPROVAL, CONDITIONS, AND TIMETABLE.—Within 120 days of receipt of an application by the Sun Valley Company to authorize construction and operation of any particular Phase I facility, facilities, or group of facilities, the Secretary, in consultation with the Sun Valley Company, shall authorize construction and operation of such facility, facilities, or group of facilities, subject to the general policies of the Forest Service pertaining to the construction and operation of ski area facilities on National Forest System lands and subject to reasonable conditions to protect National Forest System resources. In providing authorization to construct and operate a facility, facilities, or group of facilities, the Secretary may not impose any condition that would significantly change the location, size, or scope of the applied for Phase I facility unless—

(A) the modification is mutually agreed to by the Secretary and the Sun Valley Company; or

(B) the modification is necessary to protect health and safety.

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect the Secretary's responsibility to monitor and assure compliance with the conditions set forth in the construction and operation authorization.

(3) CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Congress finds that consummation of the land exchange directed by this section and all determinations, authorizations, and actions taken by the Secretary pursuant to this section pertaining to Phase I facilities on National Forest System lands, or any modifications thereof, to be non-discretionary actions authorized and directed by Congress and hence to comply with all procedural and other requirements of the laws of the United States. Such determinations, authorizations, and actions shall not be subject to administrative or judicial review.

(f) NO PRECEDENT.—Nothing in subsection (c)(4)(B) of this section relating to conditions or limitations on the appraisal of the Federal lands, or any provision of subsection (e), relating to the approval by the Congress or the Forest Service of facilities on National Forest System lands, shall be construed as a precedent for subsequent legislation.

## TITLE II—STERLING FOREST

### SEC. 201. FUNDING FOR PALISADES INTERSTATE PARK COMMISSION.

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to provide funding to the Palisades Interstate Park Commission to be used for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands within the area generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Sterling Forest Reserve", numbered SFR-60,001 and dated July 1, 1994. There are authorized to be appropriated for purposes of this section not more than \$17,500,000. No funds made available under this section may be used for the acquisition of any lands or interest in lands without the consent of the owner thereof.

### SEC. 202. LAND EXCHANGE.

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to exchange unreserved unappropriated Federal lands under the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for the lands comprising approximately 2,220 acres depicted on the map entitled "Sterling Forest, Proposed Sale of Sterling Forest Lands" and dated July 25, 1996. The Secretary shall consult with the Governor of any State in which such unreserved unappropriated lands are located prior to carrying out such exchange. The lands acquired by the Secretary under this section shall be transferred to the Palisades Interstate Park Commission to be included within the Sterling Forest Reserve. The lands exchanged under this section shall be of equal value, as determined by the Secretary utilizing nationally recognized appraisal standards. The authority to exchange lands under this section shall expire on the date 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

## TITLE III—ANAKTUVUK PASS LAND EXCHANGE AND WILDERNESS REDESIGNATION

### SEC. 301. ANAKTUVUK PASS LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (94 Stat. 2371), enacted on December 2, 1980, established Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve and Gates of the Arctic Wilderness. The village of Anaktuvuk Pass, located in the highlands of the central Brooks Range, is virtually surrounded by these national park and wilderness lands and is the only Native village located within the boundary of a National Park System unit in Alaska.

(2) Unlike most other Alaskan Native communities, the village of Anaktuvuk Pass is not located on a major river, lake, or coastline that can be used as a means of access. The residents of Anaktuvuk Pass have relied increasingly on snow machines in winter and all-terrain vehicles in summer as their primary means of access to pursue caribou and other subsistence resources.

(3) In a 1983 land exchange agreement, linear easements were reserved by the Inupiat Eskimo people for use of all-terrain vehicles across certain national park lands, mostly along stream

and river banks. These linear easements proved unsatisfactory, because they provided inadequate access to subsistence resources while causing excessive environmental impact from concentrated use.

(4) The National Park Service and the Nunamiut Corporation initiated discussions in 1985 to address concerns over the use of all-terrain vehicles on park and wilderness land. These discussions resulted in an agreement, originally executed in 1992 and thereafter amended in 1993 and 1994, among the National Park Service, Nunamiut Corporation, the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, and Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. Full effectuation of this agreement, as amended, by its terms requires ratification by the Congress.

(b) RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT.—

(1) RATIFICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The terms, conditions, procedures, covenants, reservations and other provisions set forth in the document entitled "Donation, Exchange of Lands and Interests in Lands and Wilderness Redesignation Agreement Among Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Nunamiut Corporation, City of Anaktuvuk Pass and the United States of America" (hereinafter referred to in this section as "the Agreement"), executed by the parties on December 17, 1992, as amended, are hereby incorporated in this title, are ratified and confirmed, and set forth the obligations and commitments of the United States, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Nunamiut Corporation and the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, as a matter of Federal law.

(B) LAND ACQUISITION.—Lands acquired by the United States pursuant to the Agreement shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") as part of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, subject to the laws and regulations applicable thereto.

(2) MAPS.—The maps set forth as Exhibits C1, C2, and D through I to the Agreement depict the lands subject to the conveyances, retention of surface access rights, access easements and all-terrain vehicle easements. These lands are depicted in greater detail on a map entitled "Land Exchange Actions, Proposed Anaktuvuk Pass Land Exchange and Wilderness Redesignation, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve", Map No. 185/80,039, dated April 1994, and on file at the Alaska Regional Office of the National Park Service and the offices of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve in Fairbanks, Alaska. Written legal descriptions of these lands shall be prepared and made available in the above offices. In case of any discrepancies, Map No. 185/80,039 shall be controlling.

(c) NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM WILDERNESS.—

(1) GATES OF THE ARCTIC WILDERNESS.—

(A) REDESIGNATION.—Section 701(2) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (94 Stat. 2371, 2417) establishing the Gates of the Arctic Wilderness is hereby amended with the addition of approximately 56,825 acres as wilderness and the rescission of approximately 73,993 acres as wilderness, thus revising the Gates of the Arctic Wilderness to approximately 7,034,832 acres.

(B) MAP.—The lands redesignated by subparagraph (A) are depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Actions, Proposed Anaktuvuk Pass Land Exchange and Wilderness Redesignation, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve", Map No. 185/80,040, dated April 1994, and on file at the Alaska Regional Office of the National Park Service and the office of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve in Fairbanks, Alaska.

(2) NOATAK NATIONAL PRESERVE.—Section 201(8)(a) of the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (94 Stat. 2380) is amended by—

(A) striking "approximately six million four hundred and sixty thousand acres" and inserting in lieu thereof "approximately 6,477,168 acres"; and

(B) inserting "and the map entitled "Noatak National Preserve and Noatak Wilderness Addition" dated September 1994" after "July 1980".

(3) NOATAK WILDERNESS.—Section 701(7) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (94 Stat. 2417) is amended by striking "approximately five million eight hundred thousand acres" and inserting in lieu thereof "approximately 5,817,168 acres".

(d) CONFORMANCE WITH OTHER LAW.—

(1) ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT.—All of the lands, or interests therein, conveyed to and received by Arctic Slope Regional Corporation or Nunamiut Corporation pursuant to the Agreement shall be deemed conveyed and received pursuant to exchanges under section 22(f) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1601, 1621(f)). All of the lands or interests in lands conveyed pursuant to the Agreement shall be conveyed subject to valid existing rights.

(2) ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS CONSERVATION ACT.—Except to the extent specifically set forth in this section or the Agreement, nothing in this section or in the Agreement shall be construed to enlarge or diminish the rights, privileges, or obligations of any person, including specifically the preference for subsistence uses and access to subsistence resources provided under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.).

**SEC. 302. ALASKA PENINSULA SUBSURFACE CONSOLIDATION.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

(1) AGENCY.—The term agency—

(A) means any instrumentality of the United States, and any Government corporation (as defined in section 9101(1) of title 31, United States Code); and

(B) includes any element of an agency.

(2) ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATION.—The term "Alaska Native Corporation" has the same meaning as is provided for "Native Corporation" in section 3(m) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(m)).

(3) FEDERAL LANDS OR INTEREST THEREIN.—The term "Federal lands or interests therein" means any lands or properties owned by the United States (A) which are administered by the Secretary, or (B) which are subject to a lease to third parties, or (C) which have been made available to the Secretary for exchange under this section through the concurrence of the director of the agency administering such lands or properties: Provided however, That excluded from such lands shall be those lands which are within an existing conservation system unit as defined in section 102(4) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3102(4)), and those lands the mineral interest for which are currently under mineral lease.

(4) KONIAG.—The term "Koniag" means Koniag, Incorporated, which is a regional Corporation.

(5) REGIONAL CORPORATION.—The term "Regional Corporation" has the same meaning as is provided in section 3(g) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(g)).

(6) SECRETARY.—Except as otherwise provided, the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(7) SELECTION RIGHTS.—The term "selection rights" means those rights granted to Koniag and confirmed as valid selections (within Koniag's entitlement, pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of section 12, and section 14(h)(8), of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1611 and 1613(h)(8)), to receive title to the oil and gas rights and other interests in the subsurface estate of the approximately 275,000 acres of public lands in the State of Alaska identified as "Koniag Selections" on the map entitled "Koniag Interest Lands, Alaska Peninsula", dated May 1989.

(b) VALUATION OF KONIAG SELECTION RIGHTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Secretary shall value the Se-

lection Rights which Koniag possesses within the boundaries of Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge, and Becharof National Wildlife Refuge.

(2) VALUE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The value of the selection rights shall be equal to the fair market value of—

(i) the oil and gas interests in the lands or interests in lands that are the subject of the selection rights; and

(ii) in the case of the lands or interests in lands for which Koniag is to receive the entire subsurface estate, the subsurface estate of the lands or interests in lands that are the subject of the selection rights.

(B) APPRAISAL.—

(i) SELECTION OF APPRAISER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section the Secretary and Koniag shall meet to select a qualified appraiser to conduct an appraisal of the selection rights. Subject to subclause (II), the appraiser shall be selected by the mutual agreement of the Secretary and Koniag.

(II) FAILURE TO AGREE.—If the Secretary and Koniag fail to agree on an appraiser by the date that is 60 days after the date of the initial meeting referred to in subclause (I), the Secretary and Koniag shall, by the date that is not later than 90 days after the date of the initial meeting, each designate an appraiser who is qualified to perform the appraisal. The 2 appraisers so identified shall select a third qualified appraiser who shall perform the appraisal.

(ii) STANDARDS AND METHODOLOGY.—The appraisal shall be conducted in conformity with the standards of the Appraisal Foundation (as defined in section 1121(9) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3350(9))).

(iii) SUBMISSION OF APPRAISAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the selection of an appraiser pursuant to clause (i), the appraiser shall submit to the Secretary and to Koniag a written appraisal report specifying the value of the selection rights and the methodology used to arrive at the value.

(C) DETERMINATION OF VALUE.—

(i) DETERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the receipt of the appraisal report under subparagraph (B)(iii), the Secretary shall determine the value of the selection rights and shall notify Koniag of the determination.

(ii) ALTERNATIVE DETERMINATION OF VALUE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), if Koniag does not agree with the value determined by the Secretary under clause (i), the procedures specified in section 206(d) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716 (d)) shall be used to establish the value.

(II) AVERAGE VALUE LIMITATION.—The average value per acre of the selection rights shall not be less than the value utilizing the risk adjusted discount cash flow methodology, but in no event may exceed \$300.

(c) KONIAG ACCOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) The Secretary shall enter into negotiations for an agreement or agreements to exchange Federal lands or interests therein which are in the State of Alaska for the Selection Rights.

(B) If the value of the Federal property to be exchanged is less than the value of the Selection Rights established in subsection (b), and if such Federal property to be exchanged is not generating receipts to the Federal Government in excess of \$1,000,000 per year, then the Secretary may exchange the Federal property for that portion of the Selection Rights having a value equal to that of the Federal property. The remaining selection rights shall remain available for additional exchanges.

(C) For the purposes of any exchange to be consummated under this section, if less than all

the selection rights are being exchanged, then the value of the selection rights being exchanged shall be equal to the number of acres of selection rights being exchanged multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the value of all the selection rights as determined pursuant to subsection (b) hereof and the denominator of which is the total number of acres of selection rights.

(2) **ADDITIONAL EXCHANGES.**—If, after 10 years from the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary was unable to conclude such exchanges as may be required to acquire all of the selection rights, he shall conclude exchanges for the remaining selection rights for such Federal property as may be identified by Koniag, which property is available for transfer to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary under any provision of law and which property, at the time of the proposed transfer to Koniag is not generating receipts to the Federal Government in excess of \$1,000,000 per year. The Secretary shall keep Koniag advised in a timely manner as to which properties may be available for such transfer. Upon receipt of such identification by Koniag, the Secretary shall request in a timely manner the transfer of such identified property to the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior. Such property shall not be subject to the geographic limitations of section 206(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and may be retained by the Secretary solely for purposes of transferring it to Koniag to complete the exchange. Should the value of the property so identified by Koniag be in excess of the value of the remaining selection rights, then Koniag shall have the option of (A) declining to proceed with the exchange and identifying other property, or (B) paying the difference in value between the property rights.

(3) **REVENUES.**—Any property received by Koniag in an exchange entered into pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) shall be deemed to be an interest in the subsurface for purposes of section 7(i) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.): Provided however, That should Koniag make a payment to equalize the value in any such exchange, then Koniag will be deemed to hold an undivided interest in the property equal in value to such payment which interest shall not be subject to the provisions of section 7(i) of that Act.

(d) **AUTHORITY TO APPOINT AND REMOVE TRUSTEE.**—In establishing a Settlement Trust under section 39 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1629c), Koniag may delegate, in whole or in part, the authority granted to Koniag under subsection (b)(2) of such section to any entity that Koniag may select without affecting the status of the trust as a Settlement Trust under such section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] and the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN].

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

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

A half a century ago, the civic and business leaders in northern Utah joined together and acquired a magnificent mountain area called Snowbasin, just miles away from the city of Ogden. They envisioned a ski area at Snowbasin with world class potential that would attract skiers from all over the world.

Today, their dream is a reality.

On June 16, 1995, the International Olympic Committee [IOC] awarded the

honor of hosting the 2002 winter Olympic games to Salt Lake City. In so doing, Olympic experts chose Snowbasin as the site for the prestigious downhill skiing events of the winter games. Considered by Olympic experts to be one of the best downhill ski areas in North America, Snowbasin is an outstanding selection for Olympic competition because of its huge vertical and technical difficulty. In truth, the IOC members saw the very same ski potential in Snowbasin that the leaders of Ogden imagined decades ago.

As a result of this Olympic decision, I am very pleased to present to the House H.R. 3907, the 2002 Winter Olympic Games Facilitation Act, a measure that is urgently needed to enable these major men's and women's downhill ski events to occur at Snowbasin in the year 2002.

I am grateful for the tremendous support and endorsements received from those in Utah including Gov. Michael Leavitt, the Utah State Legislature, the city of Ogden, civic organizations, numerous citizens and even members of the media. I thank the chairman of the Salt Lake Olympic Organization Committee, Mr. Frank Joklik, who twice came to Washington to inform Congress of Snowbasin's importance to the winter games.

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. Speaker, as the gentleman from Utah has properly explained, this legislation provides for the Snowbasin land exchange as it was considered in the committee, and this is to facilitate the winter Olympics in Salt Lake City in 2002. We believe that that is in fact proper.

I do continue to have some reservations about our approval of a privately prepared master development plan and the sufficiency language which I believe is still in this legislation, but I also believe that this legislation is important to the facilities for the Olympics. This legislation also includes a provision for the funding of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission for acquisition of lands within Sterling Forest.

Many of our colleagues, the gentleman from New York, Mr. HINCHEY, the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. MARTINI, the gentlewoman from New Jersey, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Senator BRADLEY, Senator LAUTENBERG, the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. TORRICELLI, virtually the whole New Jersey delegation and much of the New York delegation has worked on this legislation for a considerable period of time.

This is a very important piece of legislation as is Snowbasin because this also provides for the protection of habitat of some 27 rare and endangered species and also provides the protection of a very significant watershed area for northern New Jersey and providing

drinking water for approximately 25 percent of that State's population. The legislation will allow for the joint Federal-State venture to acquire lands from a willing seller and a willing buyer to be managed by a commission which will permanently protect the watershed outdoor recreational resources and open space of the area.

Finally, this legislation includes, I believe, now a third title dealing with lands within Alaska, the Anaktuvuk pass legislation which was non-controversial and passed this House before, and Koniag, what was originally a wilderness bill authored by the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG], the chairman of our committee. As I understand it now, the wilderness provisions have been dropped for that but provides authority for selection rights.

I would like to ask the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN], chairman of the subcommittee, a question, if I might. It is my understanding that it has been amended so that the Secretary is authorized to purchase only those lands which in fact the natives actually own and not their selection rights as originally written. Is that the gentleman's understanding of the amendment?

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MILLER of California. I yield to the gentleman from Utah.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, that would be my understanding of the legislation also.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for accepting that amendment. I think it makes this legislative package much less controversial and its success chances much higher. It was my understanding that the administration did have serious problems with the Koniag portion of this legislation in the sense that the Government might get itself, under the original legislation, into the payment of rights that, in fact, perhaps were not even owned by the native corporation. I think this amendment takes care of it. I think, with that, this legislation deserves the support of all of the Members of the House.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments of the gentleman from California.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Jersey [Mrs. ROUKEMA], one who has worked very diligently on this bill.

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

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to thank the gentleman from Utah, Chairman HANSEN, for his help.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3907 and urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important legislation.

Today, we are here with good news for the people of New Jersey and New

York—H.R. 3907 is the key that will unlock the appropriated money that Congress has included in this year's Interior appropriations bill to help purchase Sterling Forest.

East has finally met West and Sterling Forest is no longer part of gridlock in this Congress. Enactment of this legislation is essential, if the Federal Government is to play a role in this public-private partnership.

We are clearing an important hurdle here today in our commitment to preserve and protect Sterling Forest once and for all.

First, I want to thank Chairman HANSEN for recognizing the overriding interests of the Nation—and for his willingness to understand that Sterling Forest is more than just a pristine piece of open space for camping, skiing, hiking, and fishing as significant an asset as this open space is to our region. It is the source of clean, safe drinking water for some 3 million northern New Jersey residents. If we allow that drinking water to be contaminated by development, we will pay the purchase price many times over in cleanup cost and the cost of building new water treatment plants. With this legislation, we are not being penny wise and pound foolish. Instead of reacting to a crisis after the fact, we are anticipating the problem now and taking steps to avoid it. This legislation is good public policy.

As you know, Sterling Forest is one of the largest tracts of privately owned, undeveloped forest land in the mid-Atlantic United States. This is heavily forested land—10 percent of which is located in my district in northern New Jersey and the remaining 90 percent of which is located in orange County, NY, our colleague BEN GILMAN's district. It currently provides countless recreational opportunities to millions of nearby residents and visitors. Again, it is not only recreation that brings me here today as high a priority as open space is to our region, but something far more fundamental—water.

As the primary source of drinking water to over 3 million residents of my State, preservation of Sterling Forest is essential. Numerous tributaries and feeder streams flow south from Sterling Forest right into the Wanaque reservoir, which supplies drinking water for 25 percent of all residents of New Jersey.

Consequently, the protection of this unique natural resource in a region struggling to grapple with urban sprawl is a matter of utmost importance. This is a critical issue for the most densely populated area of the Nation's most densely populated State, northern New Jersey.

Simply put: preserving Sterling Forest protects the drinking water supply of northern New Jersey and New York, and it is imperative for the 104th Congress to take action.

At the State level, the support for preserving Sterling Forest is equally strong.

Governor Whitman has already signed into law legislation that commits our State to spending \$10 million to help with the purchase of the forest. In addition, Governor Pataki has committed his administration in Albany to match New Jersey's contribution dollar-for-dollar.

Here in Congress, legislation to protect Sterling Forest has enjoyed bipartisan support in both the New Jersey and New York delegations, as witnessed by the presence of those Members who are speaking today.

In these times of tight budget constraints, it is simply unrealistic to expect the Government to carry the burden by itself. From the beginning the coalition behind Sterling Forest firmly believed that the best method to use in preserving and protecting Sterling Forest was a public-private partnership, with its purchase price being funded using private, State and Federal funds. That is why I introduced H.R. 194 in 1995 and have consistently supported H.R. 400 as passed by the Senate last July as the most expeditious solution to seeing that Sterling Forest was protected.

To date, at least \$5 million in private contributions have been committed toward helping protect Sterling Forest. These efforts will continue, and private funds are expected to play an important role in the purchase of this land.

And, as I have already mentioned, New Jersey and New York have committed to spending \$10 million each.

I want to emphasize something about these Federal funds: this is a one-time funding request, because this legislation provides for the Palisades Interstate Park Commission [PIPC] and the State of New York to accept financial responsibility for the long-term management of the Sterling Forest. This cost sharing is consistent with my legislation H.R. 194.

I also want to thank Chairman REGULA. For years, I have worked with him in an effort to secure appropriate funding levels for this important project. I am happy to report that this year Chairman REGULA was instrumental in seeing that language was included in the Interior appropriations bill which ranked Sterling Forest as one of the Nation's top two priorities for land acquisition and recommended that Sterling Forest receive \$9 million as a down payment on the Federal Government's \$17.5 million share of the purchase price.

Finally, I want to thank the Speaker for his strong endorsement of this important project to New Jersey. In March Speaker GINGRICH visited Sterling Forest and promised that Congress would pass legislation to protect Sterling Forest this year. Clearly, his advocacy has been an important factor in reaching this point today, and I want to express my appreciation for his assistance.

On behalf of the 3 million New Jersey residents who depend on this area for clean safe drinking water and the mil-

lions of recreational users who treasure this pristine open space, I urge you to support H.R. 3907.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation accomplishes two important objectives. First, it completes a land exchange that is key to preparing base facilities at Snowbasin for the 2002 Olympics. Second, it provides the means to allow Olympic Phase I. Facilities to be built on National Forest System lands at Snowbasin in a timely manner.

#### THE LAND EXCHANGE

Let me first discuss the land exchange. This legislation completes a land trade that has been under administrative review by the U.S. Forest Service for more than a decade. In the 1940's the ownership of Snowbasin was transferred to the Forest Service, who at the time was actively engaged in promoting skiing interests.

The need to finalize the Snowbasin land exchange was heightened when the IOC awarded the 2002 Winter Olympics to Salt Lake City. In order to accommodate the downhill ski events, which attract large crowds and extensive media coverage, major new visitor and support facilities must be constructed at the base of Snowbasin. Therefore, the need to prepare base facilities at Snowbasin for the Olympics provides greater urgency to complete the land exchange as soon as possible.

The provisions set forth in the 2002 Winter Olympic Games Facilitation Act make this a traditional land exchange in all respects, namely: The Forest Service will receive high priority lands it has designated for acquisition; Public and private lands will be appraised in accordance with Uniform Standards for Federal Land Acquisition and FLPMA; Land exchange values will be exactly equal through traditional cash equalization payments, and Public and private lands will be conveyed simultaneously.

I want to emphasize that in exchange for the 1,320 acres of land at Snowbasin, the United States will receive at least 4,100 acres of land in the same vicinity. This is beautiful mountain land that possesses outstanding recreational and environmental values. One of the exchange parcels Taylor Canyon lies directly on the outskirts of the city of Ogden. It is a magnificent canyon area that the Forest Service and residents of Ogden have desired for public acquisition. Another parcel is Lighting Ridge located about 20 miles from Ogden. Not only is this beautiful mountain land but this parcel will open public access to 4,000 acres of National Forest land. Once this land exchange is completed, the National Forest in Utah will increase in size by more than four square miles while providing public access to thousands of additional acres of National Forest land that has long been isolated.

Environmentally, the Snowbasin land exchange is based on sound merit. Numerous resource studies, including an Environmental Impact Statement, have already been completed by the Forest Service at Snowbasin. These studies, which span more than a decade, have been extensive and cover such areas as fish, wildlife, plant, water, soil, geologic, cultural, and socio-economic aspects of Snowbasin. The Forest Service has supplemented this work with specific studies on areas of special concern. Furthermore, Olympic planners also chose Snowbasin because it raised far fewer environmental concerns than other potential sites. When environmental impacts of all possible ski areas in northern Utah were considered, Snowbasin represented the best alternative.

#### PHASE I FACILITIES—CONSTRUCTION & OPERATION

The second—and perhaps most important—reason for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games Facilitation Act relates to timing. Since the Snowbasin ski area will remain in the National Forest after the trade, the downhill courses, snowmaking, chair lifts, safety netting, and equipment and other facilities must be built on National Forest land for the Olympics. These facilities are needed to accommodate the athletes, spectators and the media. My subcommittee heard compelling testimony that construction of these facilities must begin soon to prepare Snowbasin for both Olympic and pre-Olympic—World Cup—events. The first international test events at Snowbasin are scheduled for the winter of 1998–99. This Olympic timetable represents a unique circumstance and the Forest Service indicates that an expedited review and implementation process is necessary.

#### CONCLUSION

Snowbasin is the only venue of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games that will be held on National Forest land. As such, it presents a remarkable opportunity for America to showcase these magnificent lands to a worldwide television audience of about 3 billion people.

Throughout this legislative effort I have sought out the ideas and concerns of Forest Service officials, Members of Congress and professional staff, as well as senior administration officials. I have also listened closely to my Utah constituency. As a result, I can honestly say we have made a good faith effort to incorporate the views and suggestions I received. I believe we now have a very good bill that will enable Olympic progress at Snowbasin to proceed in a timely and environmentally sound manner. Therefore, I invite and ask my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this very important legislation for the 2002 Olympics.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. MARTINI], who has worked so hard on the portion of the bill on Sterling Forest.

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill—a product of much debate over the course of my service here in the House of Representatives. I must begin by thanking Speaker GINGRICH for his commitment to the acquisition of Sterling Forest, as well as to extend my thanks to Resources Subcommittee on Parks, Forests and Lands Chairman JAMES HANSEN, for working with me on this legislation to authorize both the acquisition of Sterling Forest and the Snow Basin Land exchange.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I must thank the New Jersey and New York delegation for their efforts. It was our collective pursuit of Sterling Forest that has today brought it to possible fruition.

With that said, I would like to take a moment to share with my colleagues the importance of acquiring Sterling Forest.

H.R. 3907 authorizes \$17.5 million for the purchase of the most environmentally sensitive portion of the land—approximately 90 percent that has already been negotiated with the current owner. It also offers a land exchange opportunity for the remaining 10 percent of the land, a portion that is now partially developed.

As a Passaic County Freeholder, I understood early on the need to take action to protect Sterling Forest. In fact, during my service on the Passaic County Board of Freeholders, the board was the first entity to secure part of the Sterling Forest in 1993—purchasing 2,000 acres. I have since been looking forward to the day that the reserve would have complete Federal protection.

Located in southern New York and bordering northern New Jersey, Sterling Forest, in its current undeveloped state, is important to the residents of both States for a variety of reasons. I like to think of it as a 21st Century equivalent to Central Park. While today Sterling Forest is removed from densely populated areas, just as Central Park was at its inception, decades from now the importance of this preserved open space will be ten-fold.

Sterling Forest is a 17,500 acre water and recreational reserve that area residents and public officials have repeatedly requested the Federal Government protect. As a recreational area for New York and New Jersey, Sterling Forest offers a haven for families and individuals interested in leaving behind stresses of everyday life. The picturesque beauty of this natural sanctuary provides a wide variety of outdoor activities for the enjoyment of everyone. Sterling Forest even serves as a connection to the Northeast with the Appalachian trail winding its way through the forest's rough terrain.

Most importantly, however, Sterling Forest is a watershed for most of northern New Jersey and the surrounding area. It provides nearly 2 million New Jersey residents with clean and safe drinking water.

Proposed development and urbanization of this area will destroy a great bounty of natural resources to the entire Northeast. Furthermore, if the land is developed, the water that flows from Sterling Forest could become polluted. The only viable solution at that point would be to build a water treatment center at the cost of \$150 million to New Jersey taxpayers. Not only would this cost the taxpayers revenue they just don't have but it is, at best, a second-rate solution. Truthfully, Mr. Speaker, there is just no comparison between treated water and water from a natural watershed such as Sterling Forest.

I see it as fitting that we pass today's legislation during the same week as we take up both the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 and the conference report for the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments. This string of legislation demonstrates the 104th Congress' commitment to providing safe drinking water and protecting our nations water resources for generations to come.

Some naysayers continue to challenge this Congress's record on the environment. However, the fact is that Sterling Forest has come further in the 104th Congress than ever before.

This Congress, as well as this legislation, also recognizes that the fiscal order of the House of Representatives has been neglected for too many years. There must be a balance between our fiscal responsibility and environmental protection, for the two are intertwined.

We, as a nation are now realizing that to do otherwise would be a travesty of justice—to leave our children with a nation either in financial ruin or a nation in environmental ruin. Both are unacceptable.

This legislation sets up a unique management and fiscal partnership between all levels of government. Governor Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey signed the appropriation and authorization of \$10 million towards the project, Governor George Pataki of New York approved the 1995–96 budget including \$18 million for land conservation, and private interest are also involved in the funding of this acquisition.

In fact, purchasing this land is a just a one-time expense. The Department of the Interior will not be burdened by the costs of managing and maintaining the forest, for this will be done jointly by New York and New Jersey. A partnership such as this of local, State, and Federal governments is positive for all involved and should serve as a model for future land acquisition.

To those who claim that you cannot protect the economy and the environment simultaneously, I say that our efforts demonstrate a proper balance of the two. The acquisition of Sterling Forest should clearly be viewed by my colleague here in the House of Representatives as an investment in the future of the tri-state region.

In closing, I would like to applaud the joint effort that has existed for a



number of years toward this common goal. An alliance of governmental agencies and public interest groups have joined together to save this vital resource. It is through this collective effort and I believe we will finally reach our goal and save Sterling Forest from development.

No matter how you look at this project, saving the forest yields no negative repercussions. The preservation of a vital source of water to one of the most populated areas of the country is not simply a laudable aspiration, but rather a necessary undertaking.

Furthermore, the residents are opposed to development; the local governments are opposed to development; and the taxpayers are opposed to development.

I am confident that we will all share in the success of the acquisition of Sterling Forest in the very near future and for many generations to come. Please support H.R. 3907.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to another gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN], who has worked very diligently on this bill.

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding this time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3907, and I thank the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] and the ranking member for their support and hard work in helping this long sought objective be realized.

I strongly support the provisions for the acquisition of Sterling Forest, this important largest undeveloped property in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area. It is a water and recreational reserve area and especially a valuable watershed for northern New Jersey. Approximately 3½ million citizens depend on this area for clean water.

Let me thank the Speaker, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH], the gentleman from New Jersey [Mrs. ROUKEMA], my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. MARTINI], for their leadership in preserving this valuable and scarce open space. Without their efforts, and most particularly the efforts of the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN], we would not be here today, and I am here today to support this proposal, and I urge my colleagues to adopt it.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3907, the Snowbasin Land Exchange and Sterling Forest Land Acquisition Act. I strongly support the provisions in this legislation that authorize \$17.5 million for the acquisition of Sterling Forest.

Sterling Forest consists of 20,000 acres in New York and New Jersey and is currently owned by the Sterling Forest Corp., which plans to develop residences, retail, and light industrial properties on the site. If development takes place, it will impact this critical watershed that provides water for over 3½ million people in northern New Jersey. This is al-

most 28 percent of New Jersey's water supply that would be negatively affected by development of the land tract and would possibly cost New Jersey hundreds of millions of dollars in construction costs for new water treatment plants.

This issue has been a priority for the State of New Jersey for some time, and a priority for me as well. When I served in the State Legislature as chairman of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, I was able to provide \$10 million for the acquisition of the land in the State budget. Gov. Christine Whitman has worked in conjunction with Gov. George Pataki of New York to secure adequate funding to see that both our States contribute these essential dollars toward the overall purchase price.

This legislation today continues this effort at the Federal level. And, upon authorization of this bill, I am committed to pursuing funding as a member of the Appropriations Committee. I have also received assurances from Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt on several occasions that he will support funding for Sterling Forest once the project is authorized.

Let me make clear that this authorization is a one-time cost to the Federal Government. The \$17.5 million authorized in this legislation is for acquisition costs only after that point, the area will be fully operated and managed by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. In fact, the long-term costs to the local and State Governments for water treatment and road construction will be far greater if this purchase is not made. And, the Federal Government's cost is small relative to the total amount needed to buy and maintain the property—a major commitment made by New Jersey and New York and a testament to the importance of the preservation of Sterling Forest to our area. Sterling Forest is the largest remaining undeveloped wilderness tract in the New York metropolitan region.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your commitment to preserving this land, as well as Congressman MARTINI and Congresswoman ROUKEMA for all of their work on this issue. This acquisition is for the public benefit and will serve the interest of present as well as future generations. Again, I strongly support this legislation and urge support for the bill.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES].

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

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3907 and compliment my colleagues from New Jersey and New York who have previously spoken on this very important measure.

The Sterling Forest Preserve is critical to our region of New York and New Jersey, and I want to also salute Governors Pataki and Whitman and of course the bipartisan cooperation that existed in allowing for this open space preservation.

This is a legacy, Mr. Speaker, to our children and to future generations. We want very much to make sure that this recreation preserve and the water resource that would be protected by the acquisition of these 17,500 acres must go forward. It is critical to our area, and I thank the gentleman from Utah

[Mr. HANSEN] and the committee for their leadership in allowing us to come forward, and again I want to compliment the Speaker for his leadership in allowing for this preservation.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New Jersey [Mrs. ROUKEMA].

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

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I really want to take this opportunity for unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks and acknowledge the essential role of the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], who could not be here today. He represents the New York portion of Sterling Forest. He is at a memorial service for former Congressman Fish this morning. But the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] played an invaluable role here, and I want him to be recognized here today.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support for H.R. 3109, compromise legislation that includes the Utah snowbasin ski area and provides for the acquisition of Sterling Forest.

I wish to thank Chairman HANSEN, my colleagues from New Jersey, MARGE ROUKEMA and BILL MARTINI, and my friend from New York, SHERRY BOEHLERT, for all of their hard work and persistence in bringing this bill to the floor.

In addition, I want to thank Speaker GINGRICH for all of his efforts on this matter. As my colleagues may remember the Speaker during his visit to Sterling Forest promised that the 104th Congress would preserve Sterling Forest. Today the Speaker has fulfilled his promise.

The passage of this bill will guarantee that Sterling Forest will be protected, and will ensure that the last underdeveloped tract of land in the Metropolitan New York area will be conserved, while protecting a vital watershed, wildlife, and providing additional recreational opportunities.

As the Representative of the 20th Congressional District which includes 17,500 acres of Sterling Forest, I can attest to the beauty, historical significance, and environmental need to preserve this unique tract of land.

This has been a long time coming. I am especially pleased that we are able to vote for a bill today that will benefit Utah as well as the New York metropolitan region. This is an example of what we can accomplish for the environment when East and West come together.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this important environmental measure.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3907, a bill to authorize the acquisition of Sterling Forest and the Snow Basin land exchange.

Sterling Forest is a unique area just 35 miles from New York City. Comprised of dense woodland, undisturbed meadows, and majestic ridgetops, Sterling Forest is host to a number of unique biological communities and numerous sensitive wildlife species. It also consists of a major part of the watershed for the reservoirs that provide water to 25 percent of all residents in New Jersey and most New York City residents. To maintain, not only these valuable natural resources but the quality of these waters, acquisition of Sterling Forest has been a priority for many years.

Recently, an innovative partnership strategy was developed with the States of New Jersey and New York to bring the preservation of Sterling Forest within reach. Each State has set aside \$10 million to contribute toward the acquisition and private philanthropy has donated another \$7.5 million. The final contribution needed is \$17.5 million from the Federal Government.

The House Appropriations Committee realized the need to purchase this land and has recommended \$9 million for the first-year funding of this project. This legislation will move us one step closer toward acquiring Sterling Forest. It authorizes \$17.5 million for acquisition of the most environmentally sensitive portion of the forest—90 percent of the tract—and includes a land swap for the remaining 10 percent of the property. It also directs the Secretary of the Interior to designate excess Federal lands to be sold to raise money to fund the purchase of the additional 10 percent of the land.

Mr. Speaker, the owners of the remainder of Sterling Forest have agreed to sell the majority of the property—including the most critical watershed natural, and recreation lands. Unfortunately, we only have 2 years in which to purchase the property or else the owners will move forward with a plan to build thousands of homes and millions of square feet of office and commercial space on Sterling Forest.

I commend the House of Representatives for considering H.R. 3907. After several years of stalemate on this issue we are now one step closer to preserving Sterling Forest forever.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3907, legislation which authorizes \$17.5 million for the acquisition of the important 17,500 acres Sterling Forest reserve, located in southern New York and northern New Jersey. The acquisition of the Sterling Forest represents perhaps the most important environmental issue for our region, and represents an outstanding environmental accomplishment for the 104th Congress.

Sterling Forest is at the headwaters of a system of reservoirs which provide water for 1.8 million Metropolitan area residents. It is heavily forested, accommodating a wide variety of wildlife and plant species, and also includes a portion of the Appalachian Trail. Twenty-six million Americans live within a 2-hour drive of this important environmental resource.

The acquisition of the Sterling Forest represents a unique partnership between the Federal Government, the States of New York and New Jersey, and environmental and other private sector interests. The States have each pledged \$10 million toward acquisition, and the private sector will put up \$5 million.

Protecting the Sterling Forest makes sense from an environmental standpoint, it makes sense from a recreational standpoint, and it represents a good deal for the taxpayer. In New Jersey alone, an estimated \$150 million in water treatment costs will be required if the reservoirs adjacent to the forest are polluted from runoff resulting from over-development. The modest Federal investment authorized by this legislation will protect these reservoirs for generations to come, and do so in a very cost-effective and environmentally sound manner.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

□ 1130

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3907, 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. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 84. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel BAGGER, and for other purposes.

S. 172. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation for the vessel L.R. BEATTIE.

S. 212. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel SHAMROCK V.

S. 213. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel ENDEAVOUR.

S. 278. An act to authorize a certificate of documentation for the vessel SERENITY.

S. 279. An act to authorize a certificate of documentation for the vessel WHY KNOT.

S. 475. An act to authorize a certificate of documentation for the vessel LADY HAWK.

S. 480. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel GLEAM.

S. 482. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel EMERALD AYES.

S. 492. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation for the vessel INTREPID.

S. 493. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation for the vessel CONSORTIUM.

S. 527. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel EMPRESS.

S. 528. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of docu-

mentation and coastwise trade endorsement for three vessels.

S. 535. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue certificates of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in coastwise trade for each of 2 vessels named GALLANT LADY, subject to certain conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 561. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel ISABELLE, and for other purposes.

S. 583. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for two vessels.

S. 653. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel AURA.

S. 654. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel SUNRISE.

S. 655. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel MARANTHA.

S. 656. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel QUIETLY.

S. 680. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement vessel YES DEAR.

S. 739. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel SISU, and for other purposes.

S. 763. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel EVENING STAR, and for other purposes.

S. 802. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for vessel ROYAL AFFAIRE.

S. 808. An act to extend the deadline for the conversion of the vessel M/V TWIN DRILL, and for other purposes.

S. 826. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel PRIME TIME, and for other purposes.

S. 869. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel DRAGONESSA, and for other purposes.

S. 889. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with the appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel WOLF GANG II, and for other purposes.

S. 911. An Act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade of the United States for the vessel SEA MIS-TRESS.

S. 975. An Act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel JAJO, and for other purposes.

S. 1016. An Act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of