

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FATTAH] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH].

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

Senate bill 1378 was passed by the Senate on November 5, 1997. It was referred jointly to the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation extends the authorization for use of official mail in the location and recovery of missing children through December 31, 2002. Authorization was initially approved on August 9, 1985, and extended in October of 1992. This authorization will expire at the end of this year.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation enables Members of Congress to mail a photo and description of missing children that are provided by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in their franked mail to raise public awareness in an effort to locate these children. Currently, Mr. Speaker, some 20 Members use this authority regularly to mail those types of materials.

There is, Mr. Speaker, understandably great national concern regarding the growing problem of missing children. It is indeed one of the greatest fears for parents throughout this Nation. Because of this concern, a Missing Children's Caucus was organized earlier this year in the House.

Mr. Speaker, the extension of authority of use of official mail in the location and recovery of missing children is a very meritorious program, and would I urge our colleagues to support this legislation thereby extending the current program through the year 2002.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, let me join with my colleague the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH], the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Postal Service, in urging the House to favorably consider Senate bill 1378. This is a very important and very needed reauthorization of a practice that has already been, as my colleague has mentioned, implemented by many Members here in the House.

The issue of missing children is something that is on the minds of parents throughout this Nation. And in my home city of Philadelphia, unfortunately, there have been several instances in which children have been missing for a long time. The Center for Missing and Exploited Children is a very important establishment, and this provision that allows both Members of the Senate and House to use frank mail in a way in which I am sure even those that have been the most enthusiastic

critics of frank mail for this purpose is something that we all would support.

Mr. Speaker, we do not have any further speakers on our side, so we would like to yield back the remainder of our time, assuming that the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] is the last speaker on his side.

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

I am, indeed, the only speaker on our side. So let me very briefly, in closing, extend my deepest appreciation to the ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FATTAH]. In these times of difficulty in the House and in the Senate, when we are working toward a close of the session, we far too often dwell upon those things that perhaps take us apart. And in this effort, we see something that, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FATTAH] has stated so eloquently, brings us together. And I thank my colleague for his efforts and for that side of the aisle very helpful assistance in bringing this bill to the floor.

I would urge all of our colleagues to support this very, very worthy program through this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1378.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 1378.

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

There was no objection.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998; TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1507) to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1998 to make certain technical corrections.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1507

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

SECTION 1. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC COMMERCE CAPABILITY.—(1) Section 2302c(a)(1) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting “of section 2303(a) of this title” after “paragraphs (1), (5) and (6)”.

(2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the amend-

ment to section 2302c of title 10, United States Code, made by section 850(f)(3)(A) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 to which the amendment made by paragraph (1) relates.

(b) COMMEMORATION OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN CONFLICT.—(1) Section 1083(f) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 is amended by striking out “\$100,000” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$1,000,000”.

(2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal year 1998 to which such amendment relates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE] and the gentleman from California [Mr. DELLUMS] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE].

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

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

This bill makes two technical corrections to H.R. 1119, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998. The first makes technical changes to a provision in the conference report involving electronic commerce. The change is not controversial and would simply restate references to title 10 of the United States Code more effectively by eliminating unnecessary ambiguity.

The second change would correct the ceiling on funding that has been authorized for the Secretary of Defense to begin the planning, coordination, and execution of a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Korean war. This original proposal was included in the President's budget request and in the House-passed bill. The conference outcome inadvertently placed an incorrect funding ceiling on this commemorative effort. The conference report currently limits expenditures to \$100,000. The bill before us would raise the cap to the correct level of \$1 million.

S. 1507 passed the Senate by unanimous consent last Sunday night, and I am not aware of any controversy.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill S. 1507, a bill to provide for technical corrections for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998. And I might say, Mr. Speaker, that I concur in the observations made by my distinguished colleague the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE].

This bill makes only two corrections to the authorization bill as passed in the House. One, it makes technical corrections to part B of the bill dealing with electronic commerce; and two, it corrects the amount available to the Army for support of the 50th anniversary of the Korean conflict from \$100,000 to \$1 million.

With those brief remarks, Mr. Speaker, I would indicate that I support the bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1507.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMITTING MINERAL LEASING OF INDIAN LAND LOCATED WITHIN FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1079) to permit the mineral leasing of Indian land located within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in any case in which there is consent from a majority interest in the parcel of land under consideration for lease, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1079

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

SECTION 1. LEASES OF ALLOTTED LANDS OF THE FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(A) INDIAN LAND.—The term "Indian land" means an undivided interest in a single parcel of land that—

(i) is located within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in North Dakota; and

(ii) is held in trust or restricted status by the United States.

(B) INDIVIDUALLY OWNED INDIAN LAND.—The term "individually owned Indian land" means Indian land that is owned by 1 or more individuals.

(C) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) EFFECT OF APPROVAL BY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may approve any mineral lease or agreement that affects individually owned Indian land, if—

(i) the owners of a majority of the undivided interest in the Indian land that is the subject of the mineral lease or agreement (including any interest covered by a lease or agreement executed by the Secretary under paragraph (3)) consent to the lease or agreement; and

(ii) the Secretary determines that approving the lease or agreement is in the best interest of the Indian owners of the Indian land.

(B) EFFECT OF APPROVAL.—Upon the approval by the Secretary under subparagraph (A), the lease or agreement shall be binding, to the same extent as if all of the Indian owners of the Indian land involved had consented to the lease or agreement, upon—

(i) all owners of the undivided interest in the Indian land subject to the lease or agreement (including any interest owned by an Indian tribe); and

(ii) all other parties to the lease or agreement.

(C) DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEEDS.—The proceeds derived from a lease or agreement that is approved by the Secretary under subparagraph (A) shall be distributed to all owners of the Indian land that is subject to the lease or agreement in accordance with the interest owned by each such owner.

(3) EXECUTION OF LEASE OR AGREEMENT BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary may execute a mineral lease or agreement that affects individually owned Indian land on behalf of an Indian owner if—

(A) that owner is deceased and the heirs to, or devisees of, the interest of the deceased owner have not been determined; or

(B) the heirs or devisees referred to in subparagraph (A) have been determined, but 1 or more of the heirs or devisees cannot be located.

(4) PUBLIC AUCTION OR ADVERTISED SALE NOT REQUIRED.—It shall not be a requirement for the approval or execution of a lease or agreement under this subsection that the lease or agreement be offered for sale through a public auction or advertised sale.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This Act supersedes the Act of March 3, 1909 (35 Stat. 783, chapter 263; 25 U.S.C. 396) only to the extent provided in subsection (a).

SEC. 2. PILOT PROJECT FOR PLUMAS, LASSEN, AND TAHOE NATIONAL FORESTS TO IMPLEMENT QUINCY LIBRARY GROUP PROPOSAL.

(a) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term "Quincy Library Group-Community Stability Proposal" means the agreement by a coalition of representatives of fisheries, timber, environmental, county government, citizen groups, and local communities that formed in northern California to develop a resource management program that promotes ecologic and economic health for certain Federal lands and communities in the Sierra Nevada area. Such proposal includes the map entitled "QUINCY LIBRARY GROUP Community Stability Proposal", dated October 12, 1993, and prepared by VESTRA Resources of Redding, California.

(b) PILOT PROJECT REQUIRED.—

(1) PILOT PROJECT AND PURPOSE.—The Secretary of Agriculture (in this section referred to as the "Secretary"), acting through the Forest Service and after completion of an environmental impact statement (a record of decision for which shall be adopted within 300 days), shall conduct a pilot project on the Federal lands described in paragraph (2) to implement and demonstrate the effectiveness of the resource management activities described in subsection (d) and the other requirements of this section, as recommended in the Quincy Library Group-Community Stability Proposal.

(2) PILOT PROJECT AREA.—The Secretary shall conduct the pilot project on the Federal lands within Plumas National Forest, Lassen National Forest, and the Sierraville Ranger District of Tahoe National Forest in the State of California designated as "Available for Group Selection" on the map entitled "QUINCY LIBRARY GROUP Community Stability Proposal", dated October 12, 1993 (in this section referred to as the "pilot project area"). Such map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service.

(c) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN LANDS, RIPARIAN PROTECTION AND COMPLIANCE.—

(1) EXCLUSION.—All spotted owl habitat areas and protected activity centers located within the pilot project area designated under subsection (b)(2) will be deferred from

resource management activities required under subsection (d) and timber harvesting during the term of the pilot project.

(2) RIPARIAN PROTECTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Scientific Analysis Team guidelines for riparian system protection described in subparagraph (B) shall apply to all resource management activities conducted under subsection (d) and all timber harvesting activities that occur in the pilot project area during the term of the pilot project.

(B) GUIDELINES DESCRIBED.—The guidelines referred to in subparagraph (A) are those in the document entitled "Viability Assessments and Management Considerations for Species Associated with Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forests of the Pacific Northwest", a Forest Service research document dated March 1993 and co-authored by the Scientific Analysis Team, including Dr. Jack Ward Thomas.

(C) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the application of the Scientific Analysis Team guidelines to any livestock grazing in the pilot project area during the term of the pilot project, unless the livestock grazing is being conducted in the specific location at which the Scientific Analysis Team guidelines are being applied to an activity under subsection (d).

(3) COMPLIANCE.—All resource management activities required by subsection (d) shall be implemented to the extent consistent with applicable Federal law and the standards and guidelines for the conservation of the California spotted owl as set forth in the California Spotted Owl Sierraville Interim Guidelines or the subsequently issued guidelines, whichever are in effect.

(4) ROADLESS AREA PROTECTION.—The Regional Forester for Region 5 shall direct that any resource management activity required by subsection (d)(1) and (2), all road building, all timber harvesting activities, and any riparian management under subsection (d)(4) that utilizes road construction or timber harvesting shall not be conducted on Federal lands within the Plumas National Forest, Lassen National Forest, and the Sierraville Ranger District of the Tahoe National Forest that are designated as either "Off Base" or "Deferred" on the map referred to in subsection (a). Such direction shall be effective during the term of the pilot project.

(d) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.—During the term of the pilot project, the Secretary shall implement and carry out the following resource management activities on an acreage basis on the Federal lands included within the pilot project area designated under subsection (b)(2):

(1) FUELBREAK CONSTRUCTION.—Construction of a strategic system of defensible fuel profile zones, including shaded fuelbreaks, utilizing thinning, individual tree selection, and other methods of vegetation management consistent with the Quincy Library Group-Community Stability Proposal, on not less than 40,000, but not more than 60,000, acres per year.

(2) GROUP SELECTION AND INDIVIDUAL TREE SELECTION.—Utilization of group selection and individual tree selection uneven-aged forest management prescriptions described in the Quincy Library Group-Community Stability Proposal to achieve a desired future condition of all-age, multistory, fire resilient forests as follows:

(A) GROUP SELECTION.—Group selection on an average acreage of .57 percent of the pilot project area land each year of the pilot project.

(B) INDIVIDUAL TREE SELECTION.—Individual tree selection may also be utilized within the pilot project area.

(3) TOTAL ACREAGE.—The total acreage on which resource management activities are