

good friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) to explain to the House why we are considering this matter at this time.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from New York, for yielding.

I think all of my colleagues know that U.S. Code requires engrossed bills that passed both Houses to be printed on parchment in a manner determined by the Joint Committee on Printing. For large bills such as the appropriation measures that are still under debate and discussion, this requires many additional hours of time that may in fact be saved and allow us to complete our work sooner if this statute is set aside on a temporary basis.

As most of my colleagues know, this is typically done at the end of every session of Congress, and we can in fact finish our work in a more timely manner and deliver these bills more quickly to the White House for their signature.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the joint resolution, as follows:

H.J. RES. 76

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of sections 106 and 107 of title I, United States Code, are waived for the remainder of the first session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress with respect to the printing (on parchment or otherwise) of the enrollment of any bill or joint resolution making general appropriations or continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000. The enrollment of any such bill or joint resolution shall be in such form as the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives certifies to be a true enrollment.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, House Resolution 365 is laid on the table

There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S 109TH AIRLIFT WING AND ITS RESCUE OF DR. JERRI NIELSEN FROM THE SOUTH POLE

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 205) recognizing and honoring the heroic efforts of the Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing and its rescue of Dr. Jerri Nielsen from the South Pole, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I shall not object, I rise simply to commend my colleague the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) for bringing my resolution to the floor, and to speak for a moment about its merits.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Jerri Nielsen was stationed at the South Pole during this past Antarctic winter, and by virtue of self-examination discovered a lump in her breast. She performed a biopsy. She concluded that she had breast cancer. She administered chemotherapy and tried as best she could to endure the Antarctic winter until a plane could come and rescue her and give her more comprehensive medical treatment.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this resolution is to point out the heroism of those who went to rescue Dr. Nielsen. They are the members of the Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing, which is located in my congressional district in Glendale, New York. This mission departed the Samuel S. Stratton Air National Guard Base on October 6th, arrived at the South Pole on October 15th, traveled 11,410 nautical miles, and was led by Major George McAllister, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, this trip was historic in that Major McAllister and his crew became the first persons ever to land at the South Pole so soon after an antarctic winter. I know a little bit about the dangers faced by the members of the 109th, Mr. Speaker, because I have traveled with them both to the North Pole and to the South Pole. Of course, when I went with them, it was in the middle of the Antarctic summer, which is our winter. So when I was there in January of 1994 it was a balmy 40 degrees below zero. But in the Antarctic winter, the record low temperature is 128 degrees below zero. A complex piece of machinery like a C-130 cannot operate in that kind of temperature.

But Major McAllister and his crew went in as soon as possible, rescued Dr. Nielsen, and Dr. Nielsen is now receiving the treatment that she needs.

So on this particular occasion, I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) for allowing us to consider this resolution, and I would like, Mr. Speaker, just to mention the names of those who comprised that lifesaving crew.

They are Pilot Major George R. McAllister, Jr.; Senior Mission Commander Colonel Marion G. Pritchard; Co-pilot Major David Koltermann; Navigator Lieutenant Colonel Brian M. Fennessy; Engineer Chief Master Sergeant Michael T. Cristiano; Loadmasters, Senior Master Sergeant Kurt A. Garrison and Technical Sergeant David M. Vesper; Flight Nurse Major Kimberly Terpening; and Medical Technicians Chief Master Sergeant Michael Casatelli and Master Sergeant Kelly McDowell.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues for this opportunity to salute these true American heroes, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this joint resolution.

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

Mr. McNULTY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY), for bringing this resolution.

As a former member of the New York Air National Guard, I have had an opportunity to look at our airlift units across the State. Time and time again they have been called for emergency or war, and have served gallantly, taking on the responsibilities that have been assigned them.

As the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) has indicated, this has been a very difficult mission to rescue Dr. Nielsen, who is a native of New York, in the aspect of bringing her back from the South Pole. Those who followed this as the mission was planned and then executed, and the history of it after it was completed, clearly saw the risk and danger that the men and women found themselves in as they were deployed to the South Pole in such tough winter conditions.

As a matter of fact, the mission was postponed for months until the weather was at a point they could land on the South Pole.

So to the 109th Airlift Wing, our congratulations, and to our colleague for bringing it forward.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 205

Whereas the 109th Airlift Wing of the Air National Guard is based at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Glendale, New York;

Whereas the 109th was called upon by the United States Antarctic Program to undertake a medical evacuation mission to the South Pole to rescue Dr. Jerri Nielsen, a physician who diagnosed herself with breast cancer;

Whereas the 109th is the only unit in the world trained and equipped to attempt such a mission;

Whereas the 10 crew members were pilot Maj. George R. McAllister Jr., senior mission commander Col. Marion G. Pritchard, co-pilot Maj. David Koltermann, navigator Lt. Col. Bryan M. Fennessy, engineer Ch. M. Sgt. Michael T. Cristiano, loadmasters Sr. M. Sgt. Kurt A. Garrison and T. Sgt. David M. Vesper, flight nurse Maj. Kimberly Terpening, and medical technicians Ch. M. Sgt. Michael Casatelli and M. Sgt. Kelly McDowell;

Whereas the crew departed Stratton Air Base for McMurdo Station in Antarctica via Christchurch, New Zealand, on October 6, 1999;

Whereas on October 15, 1999, Aircraft No. 096 departed McMurdo for the South Pole, where the temperature was approximately -K53 degrees Celsius;

Whereas Major McAllister piloted a 130,000 pound LC-130 Hercules cargo plane equipped with Teflon-coated skis to a safe landing on an icy runway with visibility barely above minimums established for safe operations;

Whereas less than 25 minutes later, following an emotional goodbye and brief medical evaluation, Dr. Nielsen and the crew headed back to McMurdo Station;

Whereas the mission lasted 9 days and covered 11,410 nautical miles; and

Whereas Major McAllister became the first person ever to land on a polar ice cap at this time of year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress recognizes and honors the crew of the Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing for its heroic efforts in rescuing Dr. Jerri Nielsen from the South Pole.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on a postponed question will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

ELIM NATIVE CORPORATION LAND RESTORATION ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3090) to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to restore certain lands to the Elim Native Corporation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3090

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

SECTION 1. ELIM NATIVE CORPORATION LAND RESTORATION.

Section 19 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1618) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c)(1) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

“(A) approximately 350,000 acres of land were withdrawn by Executive Orders in 1917 for the use of the United States Bureau of Education and of the Natives of Indigenous Alaskan race;

“(B) these lands comprised the Norton Bay Reservation (later referred to as Norton Bay Native Reserve) and were set aside for the benefit of the Native inhabitants of the Eskimo Village of Elim, Alaska;

“(C) in 1929, 50,000 acres of land were deleted from the Norton Bay Reservation by Executive Order.

“(D) the lands were deleted from the Reservation for the benefit of others;

“(E) the deleted lands were not available to the Native inhabitants of Elim under subsection (b) of this section at the time of passage of this Act;

“(F) the deletion of these lands has been and continues to be a source of deep concern to the indigenous people of Elim; and

“(G) until this matter is dealt with, it will continue to be a source of great frustration and sense of loss among the shareholders of the Elim Native Corporation and their descendants.

“(2) WITHDRAWAL.—The lands depicted and designated ‘Withdrawal Area’ on the map dated October 19, 1999, along with their legal descriptions, on file with the Bureau of Land Management, and entitled ‘Land Withdrawal Elim Native Corporation’, are hereby withdrawn, subject to valid existing rights, from all forms of appropriation or disposition under the public land laws, including the mining and mineral leasing laws, for a period of 2 years from the date of enactment of this subsection, for selection by the Elim Native Corporation (hereinafter referred to as ‘Elim’).

“(3) AUTHORITY TO SELECT AND CONVEY.—Elim is authorized to select in accordance with the rules set out in this paragraph, 50,000 acres of land (hereinafter referred to as ‘Conveyance Lands’) within the boundary of the Withdrawal Area described in paragraph (2). The Secretary is authorized and directed to convey to Elim in fee the surface and subsurface estates to 50,000 acres of valid selections in the Withdrawal Area, subject to the covenants, reservations, terms and conditions and other provisions of this subsection.

“(A) Elim shall have 2 years from the date of the enactment of this subsection in which to file its selection of no more than 60,000 acres of land from the area described in paragraph (2). The selection application shall be filed with the Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, shall describe a single tract adjacent to U.S. Survey No. 2548, Alaska, and shall be reasonably compact, contiguous, and in whole sections except when separated by unavailable land or when the remaining entitlement is less than a whole section. Elim shall prioritize its selections made pursuant to this subsection at the time such selections are filed, and such prioritization shall be irrevocable. Any lands selected shall remain withdrawn until conveyed or full entitlement has been achieved.

“(B) The selection filed by Elim pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to valid existing rights and may not supersede prior selections of the State of Alaska, any Native corporation, or valid entries of any private individual unless such selection or entry is relinquished, rejected, or abandoned prior to conveyance to Elim.

“(C) Upon receipt of the Conveyance Lands, Elim shall have all legal rights and privileges as landowner, subject only to the covenants, reservations, terms and conditions specified in this subsection.

“(D) Selection by Elim of lands under this subsection and final conveyance of those lands to Elim shall constitute full satisfaction of any claim of entitlement of Elim with respect to its land entitlement.

“(4) COVENANTS, RESERVATIONS, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS.—The covenants, reservations, terms and conditions set forth in this paragraph and in paragraphs (5) and (6) with respect to the Conveyance Lands shall run with the land and shall be incorporated into the interim conveyance, if any, and patent conveying the lands to Elim.

“(A) Consistent with paragraph (3)(C) and subject to the applicable covenants, reservations, terms, and conditions contained in this paragraph and paragraphs (5) and (6), Elim shall have all rights to the timber resources of the Conveyance Lands for any use including, but not limited to, construction of homes, cabins, for firewood and other domestic uses on any Elim lands: *Provided*, That cutting and removal of Merchantable Timber

from the Conveyance Lands for sale shall not be permitted: *Provided further*, That Elim shall not construct roads and related infrastructure for the support of such cutting and removal of timber for sale or permit others to do so. ‘Merchantable Timber’ means timber that can be harvested and marketed by a prudent operator.

“(B) Public Land Order 5563 of December 16, 1975, which made hot or medicinal springs available to other Native Corporations for selection and conveyance, is hereby modified to the extent necessary to permit the selection by Elim of the lands heretofore encompassed in any withdrawal of hot or medicinal springs and is withdrawn pursuant to this subsection. The Secretary is authorized and directed to convey such selections of hot or medicinal springs (hereinafter referred to as ‘hot springs’) subject to applicable covenants, reservations, terms and conditions contained in paragraphs (5) and (6).

“(C) Should Elim select and have conveyed to it lands encompassing portions of the Tubutulik River or Clear Creek, or both, Elim shall not permit surface occupancy or knowingly permit any other activity on those portions of land lying within the bed of or within 300 feet of the ordinary high waterline of either or both of these water courses for purposes associated with mineral or other development or activity if they would cause or are likely to cause erosion or siltation of either water course to an extent that would significantly adversely impact water quality or fish habitat.

“(5) RIGHTS RETAINED BY THE U.S.—With respect to conveyances authorized in paragraph (3), the following rights are retained by the United States:

“(A) To enter upon the conveyance lands, after providing reasonable advance notice in writing to Elim and after providing Elim with an opportunity to have a representative present upon such entry, in order to achieve the purpose and enforce the terms of this paragraph and paragraphs (4) and (6).

“(B) To have, in addition to such rights held by Elim, all rights and remedies available against persons, jointly or severally, who cut or remove Merchantable Timber for sale.

“(C) In cooperation with Elim, the right, but not the obligation, to reforest in the event previously existing Merchantable Timber is destroyed by fire, wind, insects, disease, or other similar manmade or natural occurrence (excluding manmade occurrences resulting from the exercise by Elim of its lawful rights to use the Conveyance Lands).

“(D) The right of ingress and egress over easements under section 17(b) for the public to visit, for noncommercial purposes, hot springs located on the Conveyance Lands and to use any part of the hot springs that is not commercially developed.

“(E) The right to enter upon the lands containing hot springs for the purpose of conducting scientific research on such hot springs and to use the results of such research without compensation to Elim. Elim shall have an equal right to conduct research on the hot springs and to use the results of such research without compensation to the United States.

“(F) A covenant that commercial development of the hot springs by Elim or its successors, assigns, or grantees shall include the right to develop only a maximum of 15 percent of the hot springs and any land within 1/4 mile of the hot springs. Such commercial development shall not alter the natural hydrologic or thermal system associated with the hot springs. Not less than 85 percent of the lands within 1/4 mile of the hot springs shall be left in their natural state.