

(Mr. MEEHAN), would amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by designating a 29-mile segment of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System. The management of the rivers will follow the direction of a cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and a local River Stewardship Council. This bill makes it clear that Federal land acquisition, including easements, is prohibited.

H.R. 193 would also authorize an appropriation to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the provisions of this bill. This appropriation shall not exceed \$100,000 per fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, the amendment to this bill simply makes a technical correction to the numbered sequence of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan measure.

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

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 193, introduced by the gentleman from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN), would designate segments of the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers totaling 29 miles in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Title VII of Public Law 101-628 authorized the study of these river systems. The study has been completed, and the river systems were found feasible and suitable for designation.

H.R. 193 would implement the recommendations of the river study, including providing for management of the river segments by the Secretary of the Interior in cooperation with a coordinating committee and in accordance with a management plan that has been completed as part of the study.

The Committee on Resources favorably reported identical legislation last Congress and an identical Senate bill passed the House last fall, with an unrelated amendment. Unfortunately, final action on that measure was not able to be completed prior to adjournment.

The bill is supported by the entire Massachusetts delegation as well as the administration. We believe that it, again, deserves the support of the full House. It is a bipartisan bill, and we would urge to our colleagues the adoption of H.R. 193.

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

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

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN).

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

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 193.

I would like to thank my colleagues in the House from both parties, and in particular the distinguished gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) for his cooperation not only this year but the last session as well.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), chair of the Committee on Resources; the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER); and the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ) in particular for all of their efforts and continuing support of this legislation.

H.R. 193 will amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate portions of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers in Massachusetts as "wild and scenic." This designation will protect these rivers from Federal projects that would otherwise have direct and adverse impacts on the free-flowing character of those rivers.

My constituents from Sudbury, Wayland, Lincoln, Concord, Carlisle and Billerica, and others from Framingham and Bedford, have invested an enormous amount of time and energy and effort in securing wild and scenic status for portions of these three beautiful rivers.

With the help of the National Park Service and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, they completed a congressionally authorized study that demonstrated the rivers' exemplary characteristics and recommended them for wild and scenic designation.

This legislation is a product of a grassroots movement that started over a decade ago. All eight towns bordering the rivers have voiced unanimous support for the designation through numerous town meeting votes. They have also approved the river conservation plan that will guide the rivers' management. It is important to note, as the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) has, that H.R. 193 explicitly precluded any Federal taking of private land.

Mr. Speaker, the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers have been cherished by Massachusetts residents for hundreds of years and are known throughout the New England region for their exceptional scenic, ecological, recreational and historic value. The historical significance of events along these rivers goes back to the American Revolution, as their banks served as a Revolutionary War battleground.

Today, people come from all over the country to visit the Old North Bridge on the Concord River where the famous "shot heard around the world" was fired. This confrontation sent British troops into retreat and back to Boston in an event that would take on global significance in man's universal struggle for liberty.

American poets, novelists and philosophers such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau have drawn inspiration over the years from these rivers, which were featured in many of their works. Over 100 years

ago, Nathaniel Hawthorne eloquently wrote, "Rowing our boat against the current, between wide meadows, we turn aside into the Assabet. A more lovely stream than this, for a mile above its junction with the Concord, has never flowed on Earth." Nowhere indeed, except to lave the interior of a poet's imagination."

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Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill.

Mr. MARKEY. I rise in support of H.R. 193, the "Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Act." Wild and scenic areas are found not only in the vast expanses of the American West but also in pockets in the midst of the cities and towns of the East. As the areas around Boston, including my own district, become increasingly crowded and urban, it is important to preserve natural areas where the beauty and tranquility of nature can become a part of the everyday lives of local communities.

Through the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord rivers has flowed a remarkable current of history and beauty. Back in 1837 Ralph Waldo Emerson commemorated events that had taken place above the Concord River in 1775 with his unforgettable words, "by the rude bridge that arched the flood, their flag to April's breeze unfurled, here once the embattled farmers stood, and fired the shot heard round the world." Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote of the beauty of the Assabet: "Rowing our boat against the current, between wide meadows, we turn aside into the Assabeth. A more lovely stream than this, for a mile above its junction with the Concord, has never flowed on Earth,—where, indeed, except to lave the interior of a poet's imagination."

Today we have even greater need of scenic rivers to excite the "poet's imagination" in each of us. This bill, by giving Wild and Scenic River status to the Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord rivers, will help ensure that they continue to inspire local communities and the nation in this and future generations. I would like to thank my distinguished colleague Mr. MEEHAN for his tenacious leadership on this bill, and I am glad to join the bipartisan roster of its supporters.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). 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. 193, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

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 H.R. 149, H.R. 171, and H.R. 193, the three bills just considered.

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

There was no objection.

HIRAM H. WARD FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 92) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 251 North Main Street in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, as the "Hiram H. Ward Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 92

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 251 North Main Street in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "Hiram H. Ward Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Hiram H. Ward Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. WISE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS).

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 92 designates the Federal building and the United States courthouse located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, as the "Hiram H. Ward Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

Hiram H. Ward is a distinguished jurist who sat on the Federal bench for more than 20 years. He was born and raised in North Carolina and served in the United States Army Air Force during World War II. In 1972, President Nixon appointed Judge Ward to the Federal bench for the Middle District for North Carolina.

He served the Middle District as a judge and chief judge until 1988 when he elected to take senior status. However, even in senior status, Judge Ward continued to sit for an additional 6 years with the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

This is a fitting tribute to a dedicated public servant. I support the bill, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

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

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I also want to echo the words of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS), our subcommittee chairman, in recognizing Judge Ward for his many accomplishments and certainly echoing our enthusiasm for naming the courthouse the "Hiram H. Ward Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

Judge Ward became the chief judge in 1982. In 1988, Judge Ward took senior status. He was a member of various judicial committees, including membership on the Committee on Codes of Conduct of the Judicial Conference.

As an alumnist of Wake Forest undergraduate school and law school, Judge Ward is an active participant on the Board of Visitors of Wake Forest University. Additionally, he is a decorated World War II veteran and earned the Purple Heart.

The committee received numerous letters of support for this bill.

I will include for the RECORD letters of support and recognition. For brevity's sake, I will summarize these letters by saying that there is unanimous agreement on Judge Ward's outstanding contributions to the judicial community as well as his tireless efforts as a public servant.

I support H.R. 92 and urge its passage.

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

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE), my distinguished colleague.

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. WISE) for their work in this matter.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is not a case of first impression before this body. It was before us in the last session of the Congress and was approved by the House where it went to the Senate to unfortunately die on the vine because the Senate adjourned prior to addressing several proposals to name buildings in honor of outstanding Americans.

My friends, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. WISE) have told us much about Judge Ward. As has been mentioned, he is an alumnist of Wake Forest University, which is not located in my district. The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT) each represent portions of Forsyth County in which Winston-Salem is located.

But I had the privilege of appearing before Judge Ward on several occasions 2½ decades ago as an assistant United States attorney. At that time, the United States Attorney was Bill Osteen who now himself sits as a United States District Judge in the Middle District of North Carolina.

As was mentioned by either the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) or the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. WISE), Judge Ward distinguished himself prominently during the Second World War, amassed a very impressive war record during that time.

Mr. Speaker, if I may, I would like to share a personal story which I think speaks volumes as to the man whom we honor today. This was the first appearance on the bench by Judge Ward. I do not recall the specific year, nor the month. But it was early in the morning, early in the morning by court standards, Mr. Speaker, 9:30, 10 o'clock. This was the judge's first appearance, as I say, as a jurist.

The first order of business that morning, my friends, was a naturalization ceremony whereby a German woman who had applied for citizenship was recognized that morning, and citizenship was in fact conferred upon her.

At the conclusion of the naturalization ceremony, the newly addressed American woman began to weep, and her sobs became almost uncontrollable. She was weeping heavily. Keep in mind, Judge Ward, although he was a seasoned trial attorney, he was nonetheless a rookie judge. This was his first day in court with the robe.

He looked down from the bench into the eyes of that sobbing German-born woman, and he said to her, "Madam, is there anything that we, the court, can do to assist you in your trouble?"

She regained her composure, and she said to Judge Ward, "My tears, Your Honor, are tears of joy." She said, "I am so happy to be a newly recognized American citizen, but I am weeping because my family and my friends are in Germany, and they are not here in Durham." This was in Durham, North Carolina. "They are not here in Durham to share this very special day in my life with me." Then her sobs became more softly expressed.

Judge Ward said to her, "Madam, most of the people in this courtroom today are Americans as a result of geographic consequences, where their parents happened to be residing at the time of their birth. But," he said to her, "you, madam, unlike most people in this courtroom today, are an American by choice. You have chosen to abandon your citizenship as a German woman, and you have become an American."

Mr. Speaker, I think I will never forget that exchange. Judge Ward's words were so comforting to her, she ceased her weeping, and her facial response expressed a smile. I think she even audibly laughed as a result.

I concluded then, I said, the calm, assuring manner expressed by Judge Ward that morning assuaged the discomfort that plagued and troubled this German-born woman upon whom American citizenship had just been conferred.

I concluded without saying so aloud that this man on the bench will become an outstanding jurist. My conclusion,