

In the DelMar exchange in Utah, the BLM paid more than seven times the appraised value.

The Forest Service acquired lands in three exchanges in Nevada that were "overvalued by a total of \$8.8 million" because the appraised values "were not supported by credible evidence."

In the Cache Creek exchange in California, the BLM failed to "present the reasons for acquiring" the land.

In another Nevada exchange, the Del Webb exchange, BLM removed an agency appraiser and violated the BLM's own policy by hiring a non-federal appraiser recommended by the exchange's private party.

The GAO said the problems were so bad that Congress should consider eliminating the programs altogether. I believe that the appropriate step is to halt the programs and then fix them. In light of the GAO's report, I asked the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to immediately suspend their programs while they evaluate the best method to achieve exchanges' laudable goals. Both agencies declined my request for a moratorium but have begun to review their exchange programs. Although, the reviews may prove to correct many of the problems, I will watch the efforts closely, especially because the BLM continues the land transactions that GAO said were illegal. So now what does this Congress do when faced with a clear demonstration of the problems of the exchange program? Instead of supporting efforts to ensure that taxpayers and the environment are protected, Congress has passed some of the worst land swaps I have seen in my 26 years of Congress.

Since the GAO report was released: The House passed and the President signed into law, S. 1629, the Oregon Land Exchange Act, which mandated the exchange of 90,000 acres without sufficient NEPA review or public disclosure of appraisal information. The House and Senate passed H.R. 4828, the Steens Mountain exchange bill. The bill contains 5 legislated land exchanges. The exchanges were negotiated behind closed doors among a select group of participants. No appraisals were done. Further, while the exchanges themselves are unequal, the ranchers asked for even more and the bill includes nearly \$5 million in cash payments to them. As if that was not enough, the bill directs the Secretary to provide fencing and water developments for their grazing operations.

Finally, these trades involve the unprecedented transfer of more than 18,000 acres of wilderness study areas (WSAs) to the ranchers. While it is true that the BLM would receive more than 14,000 acres of private land within WSAs, this is not only a net loss but it also sets a bad precedent of trading wilderness for wilderness. Further, significant private inholdings will remain in the proposed wilderness areas even after these trades.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to respond to my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), and to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) that those perfecting amendments they were talking about were, of course, removing the re-

strictions for the limitation of using this property only as a school site and also to remove the restriction of a reversionary clause, which would be that, if it were not used for a school, it would be reverted back to the Federal Government.

Those provisions are in the bill; and to remove those, of course, would allow for the appraisal process to be one which would garner that of a commercially developed piece of property. This school district is not interested in developing this property as commercial property. It certainly wants to use the property for a school site. It is going to protect the environment.

Let me also say to my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), over here that his support of H.R. 695, which is a bill that the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. TOM UDALL) supported not long ago to acquire land for San Juan College, was sold and acquired with a restriction to be used for educational purposes, which, of course, had an effect on the valuation of it.

Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of bills that have been passed through this body with the support of the other side that have not been raised on the issue of fairness to the taxpayer that actually gave property away and let Federal taxpayers receive zero, zip, nada, nothing for the property that was given away; and those are clearly on record here. I can go through and cite many of those bills, Mr. Speaker.

But this is an important piece of legislation for the education of some children. We are asking for the fair market value based on the use of the land as an educational site. It was acquired for \$500,000. I think with the restrictions placed on it that we could actually give back to the taxpayers the money they paid for it and maybe even a little extra, depending upon the valuation of that property.

But this is an important bill for the education of those children. We want to have an opportunity to give these children up there a place to go to school. The nearest, closest land that could be suitable for a school for an elementary school site in the area is about 26 miles away. Otherwise, these schoolchildren will have to be bussed over a mountainous pass in the wintertime, which is oftentimes closed by snow and ice, a very dangerous road in the wintertime.

It is the safety of these children, it is the education of these children that we are so very, very much concerned about.

Mr. Speaker, noting that my good friends on the other side of the aisle have been gracious, and I do have great respect for their opinions, I would ask that all of my colleagues support this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

The bill is considered read for amendment.

Pursuant to House Resolution 634, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill 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.

1930

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on all de novo questions on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2413, de novo;
H.R. 4940, de novo;
S. 1865, de novo; and
S. 1453, de novo.

COMPUTER SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 2413, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2413, 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.

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4940, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4940, 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.

AMERICA'S LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the Senate bill, S. 1865.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1865.

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.

SUDAN PEACE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the Senate bill, S. 1453, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1453, as amended.

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

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 the remaining motions 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 postponed questions will be taken tomorrow.

HERBERT H. BATEMAN EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Resources be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5388) to designate a building proposed to be located within the boundaries of the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, as the "Herbert H. Bateman Education and Administrative Center", and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 5388

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF HERBERT H. BATEMAN EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER.

(a) DESIGNATION.—A building proposed to be located within the boundaries of the Chin-

coteague National Wildlife Refuge, on Assateague Island, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the "Herbert H. Bateman Education and Administrative Center".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Herbert H. Bateman Education and Administrative Center".

The bill 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.

SAINT HELENA ISLAND NATIONAL SCENIC AREA ACT

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 468) to establish the Saint Helena Island National Scenic Area, with a Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Senate amendment:

Page 4, line 1, strike out all after "REQUIREMENTS.—" down to and including "Forest." in line 5 and insert: *Within 3 years of the acquisition of 50 percent of the land authorized for acquisition under section 7, the Secretary shall develop an amendment to the land and resources management plan for the Hiawatha National Forest which will direct management of the scenic area.*

Mr. HANSEN (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE ACT OF 2000

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2547) to provide for the establishment of the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve and the Baca National Wildlife Refuge in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2547

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the Great Sand Dunes National Monument in the State of Colorado was established by Presidential proclamation in 1932 to preserve Federal land containing spectacular and unique sand dunes and additional features of scenic, scientific, and educational

interest for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations;

(2) the Great Sand Dunes, together with the associated sand sheet and adjacent wetland and upland, contain a variety of rare ecological, geological, paleontological, archaeological, scenic, historical, and wildlife components, which—

(A) include the unique pulse flow characteristics of Sand Creek and Medano Creek that are integral to the existence of the dunes system;

(B) interact to sustain the unique Great Sand Dunes system beyond the boundaries of the existing National Monument;

(C) are enhanced by the serenity and rural western setting of the area; and

(D) comprise a setting of irreplaceable national significance;

(3) the Great Sand Dunes and adjacent land within the Great Sand Dunes National Monument—

(A) provide extensive opportunities for educational activities, ecological research, and recreational activities; and

(B) are publicly used for hiking, camping, and fishing, and for wilderness value (including solitude);

(4) other public and private land adjacent to the Great Sand Dunes National Monument—

(A) offers additional unique geological, hydrological, paleontological, scenic, scientific, educational, wildlife, and recreational resources; and

(B) contributes to the protection of—

(i) the sand sheet associated with the dune mass;

(ii) the surface and ground water systems that are necessary to the preservation of the dunes and the adjacent wetland; and

(iii) the wildlife, viewshed, and scenic qualities of the Great Sand Dunes National Monument;

(5) some of the private land described in paragraph (4) contains important portions of the sand dune mass, the associated sand sheet, and unique alpine environments, which would be threatened by future development pressures;

(6) the designation of a Great Sand Dunes National Park, which would encompass the existing Great Sand Dunes National Monument and additional land, would provide—

(A) greater long-term protection of the geological, hydrological, paleontological, scenic, scientific, educational, wildlife, and recreational resources of the area (including the sand sheet associated with the dune mass and the ground water system on which the sand dune and wetland systems depend); and

(B) expanded visitor use opportunities;

(7) land in and adjacent to the Great Sand Dunes National Monument is—

(A) recognized for the culturally diverse nature of the historical settlement of the area;

(B) recognized for offering natural, ecological, wildlife, cultural, scenic, paleontological, wilderness, and recreational resources; and

(C) recognized as being a fragile and irreplaceable ecological system that could be destroyed if not carefully protected; and

(8) preservation of this diversity of resources would ensure the perpetuation of the entire ecosystem for the enjoyment of future generations.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The term "Advisory Council" means the Great Sand Dunes National Park Advisory Council established under section 8(a).

(2) LUIS MARIA BACA GRANT NO. 4.—The term "Luis Maria Baca Grant No. 4" means those lands as described in the patent dated February 20, 1900, from the United States to the