

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, the Lincoln Highway Study Act.

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

Madam Speaker, I would like to begin with a testimonial to the work of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. REGULA). He not only has introduced this bill, but, as chair of the Subcommittee on Interior of the Committee on Appropriations, has made tremendous contributions this year to environmental protection and to our natural resources. Many of us would like to commend him for that.

Madam Speaker, the Lincoln Highway was begun in 1913 and eventually became the first transcontinental highway in the United States. The highway covered 13 States in its more than 3,000-mile route from New York to San Francisco, and it played an important role in allowing people and goods access to the western United States by automobile.

Eventually, many segments of the highway were abandoned or realigned, but major segments of the highway as well as intense public interest in its history remain.

H.R. 2570 would authorize a study of the routes which made up the Lincoln Highway to evaluate various options for interpretation and preservation.

The bill specifies that representatives from each State traversed by the highway as well as private nonprofit groups with an interest in the highway shall participate in the study. The legislation requires the study be presented to Congress 1 year after funds are made available to carry out this act.

As one who has traveled long stretches of this highway starting as a young boy, I offer my strong support for this study. We on the minority side join the administration in supporting H.R. 2570.

Mr. OXLEY. Madam Speaker, I am privileged to speak today in support of the Lincoln Highway Study Act, introduced by my good friend Mr. REGULA, dean of the Ohio delegation. Chairman REGULA's bill, of which I am a cosponsor, would direct the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a coast-to-coast study of the 3,384-mile Lincoln Highway. As a result of this study, the National Park Service can offer options as to how to preserve the historic nature of the road, the nation's first transcontinental highway.

First established in 1913, the Lincoln Highway connects New York City and San Francisco, running through 13 states. The official proclamation detailed the route through Ohio as following the road known as "Market Route Number Three," passing through Canton, Mansfield, Marion, Kenton, Lima, and Van Wert. In the 15 years that followed, significant revisions were made to that original list, adding and eliminating cities and villages from the planned road. Among the cities added was Bucyrus, where the first brick Lincoln Highway pillars were erected to commemorate the project. Four of these original pillars—with their plaques of red, white, and blue—are still standing today.

Throughout Ohio, the Lincoln Highway generally follows U.S. Route 30, which bisects my congressional district. Several segments of Route 30 in my district are still two-lane roads, yet regrettably carry heavy volumes of semi-traffic. My constituents are unanimous in declaring these two-lane segments the most dangerous stretches of highway they have ever traveled. I am proud, therefore, to have helped secure funding in 1998's BESTEA Act to construct a modern, four-lane Route 30. The new road, which is slated for completion within the decade, will divert this heavy traffic from the original Lincoln Highway, aiding in its restoration and preservation. I salute Chairman REGULA and the Ohio Department of Transportation for their work in advancing Route 30 modernization.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to recognize two of my constituents who are actively involved in Lincoln Highway preservation. Mr. Michael Buettner of Lima is the president of the Ohio Lincoln Highway League and author of the History and Road Guide of the Lincoln Highway in Ohio. His work in promoting the highway has made him a sought-after tour guide for Lincoln Highway historians. Also, Mr. Craig Harmon is the founder and director of the Lincoln Highway National Museum and Archives in Galion. Two years ago, Craig traveled the entire Lincoln Highway in a bucket truck, taking some 5,000 photographs along the way as a part of his project "The Lincoln Highway Comes of Age." These two gentlemen have compiled a wealth of information with which to assist in the Park Service's study; I am proud of their hard work.

I thank Mr. REGULA for his leadership on this issue, and urge my colleagues to support the preservation of this important road.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2570.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CASTLE ROCK RANCH ACQUISITION ACT OF 2000

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1705) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into land exchanges to acquire from the private owner and to convey to the State of Idaho approximately 1,240 acres of land near the City of Rocks National Reserve, Idaho, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1705

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 "Castle Rock Ranch Acquisition Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MONUMENT.—The term "Monument" means the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument, Idaho, depicted on the National Park Service map numbered 300/80,000, C.O. No. 161, and dated January 7, 1998.

(2) RANCH.—The term "Ranch" means the land comprising approximately 1,240 acres situated outside the boundary of the Reserve, known as the "Castle Rock Ranch".

(3) RESERVE.—The term "Reserve" means the City of Rocks National Reserve, located near Almo, Idaho, depicted on the National Park Service map numbered 003/80,018, C.O. No. 169, and dated March 25, 1999.

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

SEC. 3. ACQUISITION OF CASTLE ROCK RANCH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary shall acquire, by donation or by purchase with donated or appropriated funds, the Ranch.

(b) CONSENT OF LANDOWNER.—The Secretary shall acquire land under subsection (a) only with the consent of the owner of the land.

SEC. 4. LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) FEDERAL AND STATE EXCHANGE.—Subject to subsection (b), on completion of the acquisition under section 3(a), the Secretary shall convey the Ranch to the State of Idaho in exchange for approximately 492.87 acres of land near Hagerman, Idaho, located within the boundary of the Monument.

(2) STATE AND PRIVATE LANDOWNER EXCHANGE.—On completion of the exchange under paragraph (1), the State of Idaho may exchange portions of the Ranch for private land within the boundaries of the Reserve, with the consent of the owners of the private land.

(b) CONDITION OF EXCHANGE.—As a condition of the land exchange under subsection (a)(1), the State of Idaho shall administer all private land acquired within the Reserve through an exchange under this Act in accordance with title II of the Arizona-Idaho Conservation Act of 1988 (16 U.S.C. 460yy et seq.).

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—State land acquired by the United States in the land exchange under subsection (a)(1) shall be administered by the Secretary as part of the Monument.

(d) NO EXPANSION OF RESERVE.—Acquisition of the Ranch by a Federal or State agency shall not constitute any expansion of the Reserve.

(e) NO EFFECT ON EASEMENTS.—Nothing in this Act affects any easement in existence on the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include therein extraneous material on S. 1705.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, Senate 1705 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the Castle Rock Ranch in the

State of Idaho. On completion of the acquisition, the Secretary will convey the Castle Rock Ranch to the State of Idaho in exchange for approximately 500 acres of State land located within the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument.

The City of Rocks National Reserve is located in south central Idaho. Most of the reserve is owned by the National Park Service with parts of it being owned by the State of Idaho, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and private landowners. The reserve contains distinctive and majestic rock formations. These unique geological rock formations provide world-class rock climbing opportunities, in addition to other recreational opportunities.

Additionally, the site has unique historical significance. The California Trail, one of the major trails for westward expansion, passes through the reserve. The State of Idaho manages the reserve under a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service.

The Castle Rock Ranch, an approximately 1,240 acre ranch, is located near the City of Rocks. The property gets its name from historic rock formations found in the area, in particular, the Castle Rock formation that has already been designated a National Historic Site on the National Historic Registry. These extraordinary rock formations are ideal for rock climbing. In addition, the ranch contains irrigated pasture land.

Once the State acquires the ranch, they will create a new State park, opening up rock formations for rock climbing, and providing camping and hiking opportunities.

Furthermore, the State can then trade irrigated land for dry land inholdings within the national reserve. This will allow local ranchers to acquire irrigated land and allow the State to consolidate inholdings within the reserve.

The Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument contains important fossil deposits from the Pliocene time period, 3.5 million years ago. Additionally, the fossil beds contain the largest concentration of the Hagerman Horse fossils in North America.

While the State of Idaho owns the actual fossil beds, the National Park Service runs and maintains the facility. The State wants to divest its interest in the fossil beds and acquire the Castle Rock Ranch. Additionally, the National Park Service wants to acquire the fossil beds. Transferring the fossil beds to the National Park Service will make it easier for everybody to protect this important area.

In the end, the National Park Service will consolidate the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument, the State of Idaho will create a new State park, and inholdings will be consolidated at the City of Rocks National Reserve, and local ranchers will have access to irrigated pasture land.

This legislation has the support of the National Park Service, the State of

Idaho, the Conservation Fund, the Access Fund, local legislators and area residents.

I thank my colleagues for their support and urge their support of Senate 1705.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, S. 1705, the Castle Rock Ranch Acquisition Act, would require the Secretary of the Interior to purchase a ranch located near the City of Rocks National Reserve in southern Idaho. The gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) has given fine expression to the importance and the beauty of the Castle Rock area.

Under the terms of the legislation, the Secretary would then trade this ranch to the State of Idaho for lands the State currently owns within the boundaries of the nearby Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument. The State would then be authorized to exchange pieces of the ranch for private inholdings within the City of Rocks Reserve.

Such a series of exchanges raises several concerns with the minority members of the Committee on Resources. We have seen no appraisals of any of the properties included in these exchanges; and, as a result, we are unable to be certain that the taxpayers are getting a good deal under this bill.

Furthermore, it is unclear why it is in the taxpayers' interest to have the State of Idaho act as a middleman for the exchanges within the City of Rocks.

However, we fully support the goals of the legislation. The state-owned land within the monument, known as the Horse Quarry, contains perhaps the richest fossil deposits anywhere in the monument and would be an important acquisition. Similarly, consolidation of public ownership within the City of Rocks Reserve is an important goal.

Given the value of these acquisitions, we are satisfied that the exchanges here are not unreasonable, and thus the minority will not oppose the bill.

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

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

Madam Speaker, if I might just respond. One of the reasons that the State of Idaho must be the middleman in this is because Public Law 100-696, title III, specifically limits the National Park Service acquisition of this State property to only by donation or exchange. Consequently, the purchase of the Castle Rock Ranch being able to exchange that for the land in the Hagerman Falls Fossil Bed is the only way that the Federal Government can then acquire that state-owned endowment land, which is the fossil beds. That is the reason for this Byzantine method of land exchanges which is necessary for this. I appreciate the support of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I thank the gentleman for that clarification.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1705.

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.

SANTO DOMINGO PUEBLO CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2917) to settle the land claims of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2917

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 "Santo Domingo Pueblo Claims Settlement Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

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

(1) For many years the Pueblo of Santo Domingo has been asserting claims to lands within its aboriginal use area in north central New Mexico. These claims have been the subject of many lawsuits, and a number of these claims remain unresolved.

(2) In December 1927, the Pueblo Lands Board, acting pursuant to the Pueblo Lands Act of 1924 (43 Stat. 636) confirmed a survey of the boundaries of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo Grant. However, at the same time the Board purported to extinguish Indian title to approximately 27,000 acres of lands within those grant boundaries which lay within 3 other overlapping Spanish land grants. The United States Court of Appeals in *United States v. Thompson* (941 F.2d 1074 (10th Cir. 1991), cert. denied 503 U.S. 984 (1992)), held that the Board "ignored an express congressional directive" in section 14 of the Pueblo Lands Act, which "contemplated that the Pueblo would retain title to and possession of all overlap land".

(3) The Pueblo of Santo Domingo has asserted a claim to another 25,000 acres of land based on the Pueblo's purchase in 1748 of the Diego Gallegos Grant. The Pueblo possesses the original deed reflecting the purchase under Spanish law but, after the United States assumed sovereignty over New Mexico, no action was taken to confirm the Pueblo's title to these lands. Later, many of these lands were treated as public domain, and are held today by Federal agencies, the State Land Commission, other Indian tribes, and private parties. The Pueblo's lawsuit asserting this claim, Pueblo of Santo Domingo v. Rael (Civil No. 83-1888 (D.N.M.)), is still pending.

(4) The Pueblo of Santo Domingo's claims against the United States in docket No. 355 under the Act of August 13, 1946 (60 Stat. 1049; commonly referred to as the Indian Claims Commission Act) have been pending since 1951. These claims include allegations of the Federal misappropriation and mismanagement of the Pueblo's aboriginal and Spanish grant lands.