

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.

(5) Litigation to resolve the land and trespass claims of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo would take many years, and the outcome of such litigation is unclear. The pendency of these claims has clouded private land titles and has created difficulties in the management of public lands within the claim area.

(6) The United States and the Pueblo of Santo Domingo have negotiated a settlement to resolve all existing land claims, including the claims described in paragraphs (2) through (4).

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act—

(1) to remove the cloud on titles to land in the State of New Mexico resulting from the claims of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo, and to settle all of the Pueblo's claims against the United States and third parties, and the land, boundary, and trespass claims of the Pueblo in a fair, equitable, and final manner;

(2) to provide for the restoration of certain lands to the Pueblo of Santo Domingo and to confirm the Pueblo's boundaries;

(3) to clarify governmental jurisdiction over the lands within the Pueblo's land claim area; and

(4) to ratify a Settlement Agreement between the United States and the Pueblo which includes—

(A) the Pueblo's agreement to relinquish and compromise its land and trespass claims;

(B) the provision of \$8,000,000 to compensate the Pueblo for the claims it has pursued pursuant to the Act of August 13, 1946 (60 Stat. 1049; commonly referred to as the Indian Claims Commission Act);

(C) the transfer of approximately 4,577 acres of public land to the Pueblo;

(D) the sale of approximately 7,355 acres of national forest lands to the Pueblo; and

(E) the authorization of the appropriation of \$15,000,000 over 3 consecutive years which would be deposited in a Santo Domingo Lands Claims Settlement Fund for expenditure by the Pueblo for land acquisition and other enumerated tribal purposes.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to effectuate an extinguishment of, or to otherwise impair, the Pueblo's title to or interest in lands or water rights as described in section 5(a)(2).

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **FEDERALLY ADMINISTERED LANDS.**—The term "federally administered lands" means lands, waters, or interests therein, administered by Federal agencies, except for the lands, waters, or interests therein that are owned by, or for the benefit of, Indian tribes or individual Indians.

(2) **FUND.**—The term "Fund" means the Pueblo of Santo Domingo Land Claims Settlement Fund established under section 5(b)(1).

(3) **PUEBLO.**—The term "Pueblo" means the Pueblo of Santo Domingo.

(4) **SANTO DOMINGO PUEBLO GRANT.**—The term "Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant" means all of the lands within the 1907 Hall-Joy Survey, as confirmed by the Pueblo Lands Board in 1927.

(5) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior unless expressly stated otherwise.

(6) **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.**—The term "Settlement Agreement" means the Settlement Agreement dated May 26, 2000, between the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Justice and the Pueblo of Santo Domingo to Resolve All of the Pueblo's Land Title and Trespass Claims.

SEC. 4. RATIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

The Settlement Agreement is hereby approved and ratified.

SEC. 5. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES AND CLAIMS.

(a) **RELINQUISHMENT, EXTINGUISHMENT, AND COMPROMISE OF SANTO DOMINGO CLAIMS.**—

(1) **EXTINGUISHMENT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), in consideration of the benefits provided under this Act, and in accordance with the Settlement Agreement pursuant to which the Pueblo has agreed to relinquish and compromise certain claims, the Pueblo's land and trespass claims described in subparagraph (B) are hereby extinguished, effective as of the date specified in paragraph (5).

(B) **CLAIMS.**—The claims described in this subparagraph are the following:

(i) With respect to the Pueblo's claims against the United States, its agencies, officers, and instrumentalities, all claims to land, whether based on aboriginal or recognized title, and all claims for damages or other judicial relief or for administrative remedies pertaining in any way to the Pueblo's land, such as boundary, trespass, and mismanagement claims, including any claim related to—

(I) any federally administered lands, including National Forest System lands designated in the Settlement Agreement for possible sale or exchange to the Pueblo;

(II) any lands owned or held for the benefit of any Indian tribe other than the Pueblo; and

(III) all claims which were, or could have been brought against the United States in docket No. 355, pending in the United States Court of Federal Claims.

(ii) With respect to the Pueblo's claims against persons, the State of New Mexico and its subdivisions, and Indian tribes other than the Pueblo, all claims to land, whether based on aboriginal or recognized title, and all claims for damages or other judicial relief or for administrative remedies pertaining in any way to the Pueblo's land, such as boundary and trespass claims.

(iii) All claims listed on pages 13894-13895 of volume 48 of the Federal Register, published on March 31, 1983, except for claims numbered 002 and 004.

(2) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this Act (including paragraph (1)) shall be construed—

(A) to in any way effectuate an extinguishment of or otherwise impair—

(i) the Pueblo's title to lands acquired by or for the benefit of the Pueblo since December 28, 1927, or in a tract of land of approximately 150.14 acres known as the "sliver area" and described on a plat which is appendix H to the Settlement Agreement;

(ii) the Pueblo's title to land within the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant which the Pueblo Lands Board found not to have been extinguished; or

(iii) the Pueblo's water rights appurtenant to the lands described in clauses (i) and (ii); and

(B) to expand, reduce, or otherwise impair any rights which the Pueblo or its members may have under existing Federal statutes concerning religious and cultural access to and uses of the public lands.

(3) **CONFIRMATION OF DETERMINATION.**—The Pueblo Lands Board's determination on page 1 of its Report of December 28, 1927, that Santo Domingo Pueblo title, derived from the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant to the lands overlapped by the La Majada, Sitio de Juana Lopez and Mesita de Juana Lopez Grants has been extinguished is hereby confirmed as of the date of that Report.

(4) **TRANSFERS PRIOR TO ENACTMENT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In accordance with the Settlement Agreement, any transfer of land or natural resources, prior to the date of enactment of this Act, located anywhere within the United States from, by, or on behalf of the Pueblo, or any of the Pueblo's members,

shall be deemed to have been made in accordance with the Act of June 30, 1834 (4 Stat. 729; commonly referred to as the Trade and Intercourse Act), section 17 of the Act of June 7, 1924 (43 Stat. 641; commonly referred to as the Pueblo Lands Act), and any other provision of Federal law that specifically applies to transfers of land or natural resources from, by, or on behalf of an Indian tribe, and such transfers shall be deemed to be ratified effective as of the date of the transfer.

(B) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to affect or eliminate the personal claim of any individual Indian which is pursued under any law of general applicability that protects non-Indians as well as Indians.

(5) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The provisions of paragraphs (1), (3), and (4) shall take effect upon the entry of a compromise final judgment, in a form and manner acceptable to the Attorney General, in the amount of \$8,000,000 in the case of Pueblo of Santo Domingo v. United States (Indian Claims Commission docket No. 355). The judgment so entered shall be paid from funds appropriated pursuant to section 1304 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) **TRUST FUNDS; AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established in the Treasury a trust fund to be known as the "Pueblo of Santo Domingo Land Claims Settlement Fund". Funds deposited in the Fund shall be subject to the following conditions:

(A) The Fund shall be maintained and invested by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to the Act of June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a).

(B) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3), monies deposited into the Fund may be expended by the Pueblo to acquire lands within the exterior boundaries of the exclusive aboriginal occupancy area of the Pueblo, as described in the Findings of Fact of the Indian Claims Commission, dated May 9, 1973, and for use for education, economic development, youth and elderly programs, or for other tribal purposes in accordance with plans and budgets developed and approved by the Tribal Council of the Pueblo and approved by the Secretary.

(C) If the Pueblo withdraws monies from the Fund, neither the Secretary nor the Secretary of the Treasury shall retain any oversight over or liability for the accounting, disbursement, or investment of such withdrawn monies.

(D) No portion of the monies described in subparagraph (C) may be paid to Pueblo members on a per capita basis.

(E) The acquisition of lands with monies from the Fund shall be on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis, and no eminent domain authority may be exercised for purposes of acquiring lands for the benefit of the Pueblo pursuant to this Act.

(F) The provisions of Public Law 93-134, governing the distribution of Indian claims judgment funds, and the plan approval requirements of section 203 of Public Law 103-412 shall not be applicable to the Fund.

(2) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated \$15,000,000 for deposit into the Fund, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) \$5,000,000 to be deposited in the fiscal year which commences on October 1, 2001.

(B) \$5,000,000 to be deposited in the next fiscal year.

(C) The balance of the funds to be deposited in the third consecutive fiscal year.

(3) **LIMITATION ON DISBURSAL.**—Amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Fund under paragraph (2) shall not be disbursed until the following conditions are met:

(A) The case of Pueblo of Santo Domingo v. Rael (No. CIV-83-1888) in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico, has been dismissed with prejudice.

(B) A compromise final judgment in the amount of \$8,000,000 in the case of Pueblo of Santo Domingo v. United States (Indian Claims Commission docket No. 355) in a form and manner acceptable to the Attorney General, has been entered in the United States Court of Federal Claims in accordance with subsection (a)(5).

(4) DEPOSITS.—Funds awarded to the Pueblo consistent with subsection (c)(2) in docket No. 355 of the Indian Claims Commission shall be deposited into the Fund.

(c) ACTIVITIES UPON COMPROMISE.—On the date of the entry of the final compromise judgment in the case of Pueblo of Santo Domingo v. United States (Indian Claims Commission docket No. 355) in the United States Court of Federal Claims, and the dismissal with prejudice of the case of Pueblo of Santo Domingo v. Rael (No. CIV-83-1888) in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico, whichever occurs later—

(1) the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and described in section 6 of the Settlement Agreement, and consisting of approximately 4,577.10 acres of land, shall thereafter be held by the United States in trust for the benefit of the Pueblo, subject to valid existing rights and rights of public and private access, as provided for in the Settlement Agreement;

(2) the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to sell and convey National Forest System lands and the Pueblo shall have the exclusive right to acquire these lands as provided for in section 7 of the Settlement Agreement, and the funds received by the Secretary of Agriculture for such sales shall be deposited in the fund established under the Act of December 4, 1967 (16 U.S.C. 484a) and shall be available to purchase non-Federal lands within or adjacent to the National Forests in the State of New Mexico;

(3) lands conveyed by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to this section shall no longer be considered part of the National Forest System and upon any conveyance of National Forest lands, the boundaries of the Santa Fe National Forest shall be deemed modified to exclude such lands;

(4) until the National Forest lands are conveyed to the Pueblo pursuant to this section, or until the Pueblo's right to purchase such lands expires pursuant to section 7 of the Settlement Agreement, such lands are withdrawn, subject to valid existing rights, from any new public use or entry under any Federal land law, except for permits not to exceed 1 year, and shall not be identified for any disposition by or for any agency, and no mineral production or harvest of forest products shall be permitted, except that nothing in this subsection shall preclude forest management practices on such lands, including the harvest of timber in the event of fire, disease, or insect infestation; and

(5) once the Pueblo has acquired title to the former National Forest System lands, these lands may be conveyed by the Pueblo to the Secretary of the Interior who shall accept and hold such lands in the name of the United States in trust for the benefit of the Pueblo.

SEC. 6. AFFIRMATION OF ACCURATE BOUNDARIES OF SANTO DOMINGO PUEBLO GRANT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The boundaries of the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant, as determined by the 1907 Hall-Joy Survey, confirmed in the Report of the Pueblo Lands Board, dated December 28, 1927, are hereby declared to be the current boundaries of the Grant and any lands currently owned by or on behalf of the Pueblo within such boundaries, or any lands

hereinafter acquired by the Pueblo within the Grant in fee simple absolute, shall be considered to be Indian country within the meaning of section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(b) LIMITATION.—Any lands or interests in lands within the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant, that are not owned or acquired by the Pueblo, shall not be treated as Indian country within the meaning of section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(c) ACQUISITION OF FEDERAL LANDS.—Any Federal lands acquired by the Pueblo pursuant to section 5(c)(1) shall be held in trust by the Secretary for the benefit of the Pueblo, and shall be treated as Indian country within the meaning of section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(d) LAND SUBJECT TO PROVISIONS.—Any lands acquired by the Pueblo pursuant to section 5(c), or with funds subject to section 5(b), shall be subject to the provisions of section 17 of the Act of June 7, 1924 (43 Stat. 641; commonly referred to as the Pueblo Lands Act).

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act or in the Settlement Agreement shall be construed to—

(1) cloud title to federally administered lands or non-Indian or other Indian lands, with regard to claims of title which are extinguished pursuant to section 5; or

(2) affect actions taken prior to the date of enactment of this Act to manage federally administered lands within the boundaries of the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2917, the Santo Domingo Pueblo Claims Settlement Act of 2000.

This important bill is a result of decades of negotiations between the Pueblo, Department of the Interior, the Department of Justice, the Department of Agriculture, and the State of New Mexico. The entire New Mexico congressional delegation strongly supports this bill, as does the administration, the Governor of New Mexico, and, most importantly, the Pueblo.

It is not every day that we can resolve a dispute that has lasted over 150 years. I urge my colleagues to support S. 2917.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. UDALL of New Mexico asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, S. 2917, the Santo Domingo Pueblo Claims Settlement Act, sponsored by Senators DOMENICI and INOUE, settles certain outstanding land claims by the Santo Domingo Pueblo, located between Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico. I am the cosponsor of the House companion, H.R. 5374. As such, I recognize the importance of this legislation for the

Pueblo people, the citizens of New Mexico, and the Federal Government.

For years, the Pueblo of Santo Domingo has been asserting claims to lands within its aboriginal use area in north central New Mexico. The claims have been subject to numerous lawsuits, and a certain number of them remain unresolved.

For example, the Pueblo has asserted a claim to 25,000 acres of land based on the Pueblo's purchase in 1748 of the Diego Gallegos Land Grant. The Pueblo possesses the original deed reflecting the purchase under Spanish law; but, after the United States assumed sovereignty over New Mexico, titles to land, including the Pueblo's title to these lands, were never confirmed by the Federal Government. Many of these lands were later treated as public domain with title being claimed by Federal agencies, the New Mexico Land Commission, other Indian tribes, and numerous private parties. Litigation is currently pending over these issues to resolve the land and trespass claims of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo. Such action would be expected to take many years, with the outcome of such litigation unclear.

The settlement agreement is the result of a little over 4 years of intense negotiations and compromise between all parties involved.

This measure accomplishes three major points. Number one, it removes the cloud on titles to land in the State of New Mexico resulting from the claims of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo; the Pueblo claims against the United States and third parties; the land, boundary and trespass claims of the Pueblo. It does this all in a fair, equitable and final manner.

Number two, it provides for the restoration of certain lands within the Pueblo's land claim.

Number three, it ratifies the settlement agreement between the United States and the Pueblo, to include the Pueblo agreeing to relinquish and compromise its land and trespass claims.

Madam Speaker, the Santo Domingo Pueblo Claims Settlement Act serves as an excellent example of how Federal and State governments can come together with Native American nations and individual citizens to resolve disputes in the best interest of all parties.

This bill represents the negotiated settlement, and passage would ratify the agreement to resolve all existing land claims.

I, therefore, urge my colleagues to pass this measure and ratify an agreement that I believe has taken into proper consideration the many interests involved.

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. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2917.

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

DESIGNATING SEGMENTS OF MISSOURI RIVER AS WILD AND SCENIC

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5041) to establish the boundaries and classification of a segment of the Missouri River in Montana under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5041

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

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF BOUNDARIES OF SEGMENT OF UPPER MISSOURI WILD AND SCENIC RIVER, MONTANA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the Wild and Scenic River Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.)—

(1) the boundaries and classification of the Missouri River, Montana, segment designated by section 3(a)(14) of that Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)(14)) shall be the boundaries and classification published in the Federal Register on January 22, 1980 (45 Fed. Reg. 4474–4478); and

(2) the management plan for such segment shall be as set forth in—

(A) the Upper Missouri Wild and Scenic River Management Plan, dated October 1978, as updated in February 1993; and

(B) the West HiLine RMP/EIS Record of Decision covering the Upper Missouri Wild and Scenic River Corridor, dated January 1992.

(b) REVISION OF BOUNDARIES, CLASSIFICATION, AND MANAGEMENT PLAN.—This section shall not be considered to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to revise the boundaries, classification, or management plan for the Missouri River, Montana, segment referred to in subsection (a) after the date of the enactment of this Act and in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (a) shall be considered to have become effective on April 21, 1980.

1400

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

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

H.R. 5041, introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. HILL), establishes the boundaries and classification of a segment of the Missouri River in Montana under the

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The boundary and classification of this segment will conform to those published and recommended by the Department of the Interior in 1980. The Bureau of Land Management has been managing the river as wild and scenic since 1980.

In essence, Madam Speaker, this a technical correction to the law enacted in 1980. Apparently, this wild and scenic designation lacked the proper documentation and this bill clears up discrepancy.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5041.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, H.R. 5041 would establish the boundaries and classification for a segment of the Missouri River in Montana that was designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 1976. This is legislation introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. HILL).

Madam Speaker, this legislation was introduced in late July, and while the bill was never considered by the Committee on Resources, we at least have the views of the administration on this matter. In a letter dated October 3 of this year, the Department of the Interior indicated their support for H.R. 5041.

Evidently, in the late 1970s, several procedural steps were not followed in establishing the river's boundaries and providing for its classification. By adopting the river's boundaries and classification by statute, H.R. 5041 would remove any doubt that may exist on this matter.

Madam Speaker, we have no objection to this legislation, which we view as a technical housekeeping matter. We urge its passage.

Mr. HILL of Montana. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5041, a bill to establish the boundaries and classification of a segment of the Missouri River in Montana under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. This bill is a technical correction to the 1976 amendment to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River. This legislation would ensure that the 149-mile segment, approximately 90,000 acres in size, of the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River remains protected for future generations. This bill has the Administration's support.

On October 12, 1976, Congress amended the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to include the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River. The amendment required the Department of Interior to establish boundaries and prepare a development plan within one year. This information was to be published in the Federal Register, but would not become effective until 90 days after the documents were forwarded to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. When the boundaries of the Wild and Scenic River were challenged some years later, it

could not be established whether or not Congress ever received the documents that the Department of Interior prepared on this segment of the Upper Missouri River. It was also discovered that the documents were never published in the Federal Register.

On January 22, 1980, the Department of Interior promulgated regulations at 45 Fed. Reg. 4474–4478 that summarized a revised management plan and identified the boundaries and classification for the 149-mile segment of the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River from Fort Benton, Montana, downstream to the Fred Robinson Bridge. H.R. 5041 would adopt these boundaries and classification by statute, removing any doubt over the legitimacy of the boundaries that remains as a result of earlier events.

A similar bill to this one, H.R. 6046 passed the House of Representatives on September 29, 1992, but failed to pass the Senate in the closing days of the 101st Congress.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). 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. 5041.

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.

AUTHORIZING FUNDS TO REHABILITATE GOING-TO-THE-SUN ROAD IN GLACIER PARK

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4521) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to authorize and provide funding for rehabilitation of the Going-to-the-Sun Road in Glacier National Park, to authorize funds for maintenance of utilities related to the Park, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4521

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The historic significance of the 52-mile Going-to-the-Sun Road is recognized by its listing on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, designation as a National Historic Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1985, and designation as a National Historic Landmark in 1997.

(2) A contracted engineering study and Federal Highway Administration recommendations in 1997 of the Going-to-the-Sun Road verified significant structural damage to the road that has occurred since it opened in 1932.

(3) Infrastructure at most of the developed areas is inadequate for cold-season (fall, winter, and spring) operation, and maintenance backlog needs exist for normal summer operation.

(4) The Many Glacier Hotel and Lake McDonald Lodge are on the National Register of Historic Places and are National Historic Landmarks. Other accommodations operated by the