

take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of Jay's mother, Jelly Flores, President of the Autism Society of Guam and the officers and Board of Directors of the Society: Rosalina Wirkunnen, First Vice President; Lou Bascon, Second Vice President; Flor Paule, Secretary; Maritess Maulit, Treasurer; assistants Remedios Camilsola and Lirio Mondina; and board members, Beverly Bacera, Dolly Montano, Panchito Maulit, Carol Somerflec, Rupert White, Leonardo Paule, Dr. Nerissa Bretania-Shafer, Gericka Tate and Jesus Bacera, for their heroism and heartfelt commitment to fighting for the rights of individuals with autism. I also would like to acknowledge the efforts of Julian and Beka Martinez in their unceasing work to bring attention to this condition here in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 91, Recognizing the importance of increasing awareness of the autism spectrum disorder, and supporting programs for greater research and improved treatment of autism.

Autism is a developmental disability that generally appears between 15 and 20 months. Autism affects boys five times more than it affects girls, although girls are generally more severely affected. In the United States, over one half million individuals live with autism, making it more prevalent than Down Syndrome, childhood diabetes, and childhood cancer combined.

Last year the Children's Health Act was signed into law. This important bill authorized among other worthy goals:

Additional NIH "Centers of Excellence" to study autism and the "Centers of Excellence in Autism Epidemiology."

Provides for training and education grants to professionals who provide care for patients with autism.

Provides grants to states that want to establish their own autism programs.

This year we must fund the programs to their full amount.

Another area that is greatly impacted by autism is special education. For many years Congress has been struggling to increase funding for IDEA. I am happy to say that in the last six years we have done better but there is much more to do. We are still well short of the federal funding of level of 40 percent. The federal government must fulfill its commitment so every special child has access to a quality education.

April was Autism month. Families with autistic children visited many congressional offices last week. Anyone who met with these loving families know the courageous struggles that they endure everyday. We must do everything we can to help these brave children and their families. H. Con. Res. 91 reaffirms Congress' commitment to finding a cure for autism and I urge its passage.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that the House is considering H. Con. Res. 91 today. Among its provisions, this resolution expresses our strong support for the goal of increasing federal funding for autism research and treatment programs. It also emphasizes the need to begin early intervention services for children with autism.

I want to commend my colleagues, Congressmen CHRIS SMITH and JIM GREENWOOD, for their dedicated efforts to improve awareness and understanding of autism while working to expand research and treatment initia-

tives. I was pleased to work with both of them to enact children's health legislation I sponsored in the last Congress, which included provisions they authored to significantly increase federal resources in the fight against autism.

Autism is a brain disorder that most commonly begins in early childhood and persists throughout adulthood. Autism impacts the normal development of the brain in the areas of social interaction and communication skills. Children and adults with autism typically have difficulties in verbal and non-verbal communication, social interactions, and leisure or play activities. The disorder makes it hard for them to communicate with others and to relate to the outside world.

Mr. Speaker, autism is a national crisis affecting over 400,000 families and costing the nation over 13 billion dollars each year. According to recent studies, as many as 1 in every 500 children affected by this disorder.

Any parent can tell you that nothing is more heart-wrenching than watching your own child suffer with an illness. As a father and grandfather myself, I know how terrible that can be. Today, however, we have a rare opportunity to do something that will give hope to families affected by autism.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting passage of H. Con. Res. 91.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 91.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were 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.

CRATERS OF THE MOON NATIONAL MONUMENT

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 601) to ensure the continued access of hunters to those Federal lands included within the boundaries of the Craters of the Moon National Monument in the State of Idaho pursuant to Presidential Proclamation 7373 of November 9, 2000, and to continue the applicability of the Taylor Grazing Act to the disposition of grazing fees arising from the use of such lands, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 601

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

SECTION 1. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL LANDS RECENTLY ADDED TO CRATERS OF THE MOON NATIONAL MONUMENT, IDAHO.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The approximately 410,000 acres of land added to the Craters of the Moon National Monument by Presidential Proclamation 7373 of November 9, 2000, and identified on the map accompanying the Proclamation for administration by the National Park Service, shall, on and after the date of enactment of this Act, be known as the "Craters of the Moon National Preserve".

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by paragraph (2), the Craters of the Moon National Preserve shall be administered in accordance with—

(A) Presidential Proclamation 7373 of November 9, 2000;

(B) the Act of June 8, 1906, (commonly referred to as the "Antiquities Act"; 34 Stat. 225; 16 U.S.C. 431); and

(C) the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Act entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes", approved August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.).

(2) HUNTING.—The Secretary of the Interior shall permit hunting on lands within the Craters of the Moon National Preserve in accordance with the applicable laws of the United States and the State of Idaho. The Secretary, in consultation with the State of Idaho, may designate zones where, and establish periods when, no hunting may be permitted for reasons of public safety, protection of the area's resources, administration, or public use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, any regulations prescribing such restrictions relating to hunting shall be put into effect only after consultation with the State of Idaho.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) and the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks, and included extraneous material, on H.R. 601, the bill presently being considered.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), to explain H.R. 601, which he introduced.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, on November 9, 2000, former President Bill Clinton issued Presidential Proclamation 7373 to expand the boundaries of the Craters of the Moon National Monument. Prior to Clinton's proclamation, the monument, which was established by President Coolidge in 1924, comprised 54,440 acres.

Former President Clinton's proclamation expanded the boundaries to include approximately 661,287 acres of additional Federal land. The area is managed by the Secretary of Interior through the National Park Service and

the Bureau of Land Management. The National Park Service manages approximately 410,000 acres of the expansion, while the Bureau of Land Management manages the remaining 251,000 acres. When the monument was expanded, it was understood both by the congressional delegation and by the Governor of the State of Idaho that continued access to hunting would be maintained in the expanded area. However, when the proclamation was issued, hunting was restricted in the area of the expansion which was managed by the National Park Service.

Under this legislation, areas that were open to hunting before the expansion will remain open to hunting. In addition, the amended bill includes language requested by the administration to ensure that the Secretary has appropriate oversight, in cooperation and consultation with the State of Idaho, over hunting activities within the expanded area managed by the National Park Service.

Finally, the bill, as amended, designates the expanded area under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service as a national preserve rather than a national monument.

Unfortunately, due to the outmoded and antiquated national monument process, there was not a formal means by which the State of Idaho, the congressional delegation, and the general public could comment on the proposed monument expansion.

While the Idaho Fish and Game Department expressed their interest in working with the Secretary of Interior to allow for appropriate wildlife management in the expanded area, their concerns largely went unheard.

When the Idaho congressional delegation and the Governor spoke with the Secretary of the Interior regarding the Craters of the Moon expansion, we were led to believe, as I mentioned earlier, that hunting would not be affected. However, when that proclamation was issued, it was realized that current Park Service regulations preclude hunting in the area of the expansion managed by the National Park Service, therefore denying access to traditional hunting grounds.

H.R. 601 is about fairness and ensuring that Idahoans are not locked out of traditional hunting areas. H.R. 601 has the support of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, the Idaho Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Idaho Wildlife Council, Idaho Wildlife Federation, and local county commissioners. It is a bipartisan bill. It has broad bipartisan support and is also supported by the administration.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY), for his work on this and the staff, the majority staff's work on this, and also the ranking member, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), for her work, and the minority staff's work on this piece of legislation. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 601.

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

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

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 601 would provide for hunting on the Federal lands that were included within the Craters of the Moon National Monument when the monument was enlarged on November 9, 2000. The bill as introduced also provided for the disposition of grazing fees arising from the use of the expansion area. In hearings on this legislation before the Committee on Resources, the administration testified in support of allowing hunting in the 410,000-acre expansion area administered by the National Park Service, citing unique circumstances regarding shared management and problems with enforcement.

The administration also recommended an amendment to provide authority for the Secretary to exercise jurisdiction over hunting consistent with what has been done in other areas. The administration further recommended deleting the grazing language, as it is unnecessary.

On a bipartisan basis, the Committee on Resources developed and approved an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The changes made by the amendment address not only matters raised by the administration but also allow us to handle this issue in a manner consistent with long-standing park policies and procedures.

Except for the minor change made by the amendment, no other change is being made to the monument designation or to the management of the significant natural resources of the Craters of the Moon area.

Since it is long-standing policy not to permit hunting in national monuments administered by the National Park Service, the committee amendment redesignates the approximately 410,000-acre expansion area that the National Park Service manages as the Craters of the Moon National Preserve. This change is consistent with previous acts that authorize hunting in national park system units.

Other than hunting, the preserve will be managed exactly the same as the original Craters of the Moon National Monument that the National Park Service also administers.

The committee amendment also includes the administration-requested language on hunting jurisdiction and deletes the unnecessary reference to grazing.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the cooperation of the majority members of the Committee on Resources in amending this legislation. While H.R. 601 is a relatively minor clarification of a small management issue, I am encouraged by collaboration exhibited in addressing this matter. I believe we have an improved legislative product with the amendment adopted by the Committee on Resources, and I am pleased

to support the bill as amended; and I congratulate the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) for his work.

□ 1500

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to emphasize one point that the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) made: H.R. 601 is supported by the administration, and it does have strong bipartisan support. I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 601, as amended.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, Resource Committee Democrats did not object to, and in fact, support consideration of H.R. 601 because it represents a technical amendment to the recently expanded Craters of the Moon National Monument.

The legislation in no way seeks to repudiate the November 2000 action taken by the Clinton Administration to expand the monument.

In this regard, H.R. 601 simply allows hunting, a traditional use of the expanded area, to continue. Except for hunting, no other change is made or contemplated to the management of the significant natural resources of the Craters of the Moon area.

By way of background, Craters of the Moon National Monument was initially established by Proclamation of President Coolidge in 1924 and is administered by the National Park Service.

Meanwhile, the 661,287 acres of additional Federal lands added to the monument by President Clinton had been managed by the Bureau of Land Management and hunting was permitted on these lands.

Under the Clinton Proclamation, the NPS now manages approximately 410,000 acres of the expansion area which contain nationally significant exposed lava flows, while the BLM continues to administer the remaining 251,287 acre portion of the expanded monument.

As such, while hunting can continue on a portion of the expanded area, since this activity is normally not allowed in monuments administered by the NPS it is not allowed on the other portion of the expanded area.

H.R. 601 addresses this minor discrepancy by redesignating the approximately 410,000 acre expansion area that the NPS manages as the "Craters of the Moon National Preserve." Except for hunting, the preserve will be managed exactly the same as the original Craters of the Moon National Monument.

Again, except for hunting, the preserve will be managed exactly the same as the original Craters of the Moon National Monument.

This bill then in no way reflects a rollback of the Clinton Administration monument designations nor does it signal the willingness of Resources Committee Democrats to support any such move.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 601, 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.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to redesignate certain lands within the Craters of the Moon National Monument, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EIGHT MILE RIVER WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY ACT OF 2001

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 182) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Eight Mile River in the State of Connecticut for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 182

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 "Eightmile River Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) the Eightmile River in the State of Connecticut possesses important resource values, including wildlife, ecological, and scenic values, and historic sites and a cultural past important to America's heritage;

(2) there is strong support among State and local officials, area residents, and river users for a cooperative wild and scenic river study of the area; and

(3) there is a longstanding interest among State and local officials, area residents, and river users in undertaking a concerted cooperative effort to manage the river in a productive and meaningful way.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION FOR STUDY.

Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(138) EIGHTMILE RIVER, CONNECTICUT.—The segment from its headwaters downstream to its confluence with the Connecticut River."

SEC. 4. STUDY AND REPORT.

Section 5(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(18) The study of the Eightmile River, Connecticut, named in paragraph (138) of subsection (a) shall be completed by the Secretary of the Interior and the report thereon submitted to Congress not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this paragraph."

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) and the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 182, introduced by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the Eightmile River in Connecticut for the purpose of evaluating its eligibility for designation as a Wild and Scenic River. This study could ul-

timately result in adding a segment of the Eightmile River to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The Eightmile River in Connecticut is host to a variety of natural, cultural and recreational resources and is currently listed on the National Park Service Nationwide Rivers Inventory, which lists river areas believed to be good candidates for Wild and Scenic River designation.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 182 is a non-controversial bill that has strong support from State and local officials and the residents of surrounding communities in Connecticut.

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

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

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

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 182 would authorize a study to determine whether it would be appropriate to designate the Eightmile River in Connecticut as part of the Wild and Scenic Rivers program. The Eightmile has already been identified by the National Park Service as a potential Wild and Scenic River based on its outstanding scenic, geologic and wildlife values, and an official study is the next step in the process. It is our hope that once the study has been completed, the Eightmile can be added to the impressive list of waterways included in this important program.

We support H.R. 182 and urge our colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 182, which is a bill to study the inclusion of Connecticut's Eightmile River into the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Eastern Connecticut has a wealth of natural beauty, such as the Eightmile River. The river and the watershed it supports are an outstanding ecological system. The streams are free-flowing, they display excellent water quality, and they contain a diversity of fish species, including native trout. The Eightmile River is also an important recreational asset and contributes to the character of the communities that surround it.

That is why on January 3 of this year, on my very first day as a Member of this body, I introduced H.R. 182, to study the Eightmile River for wild and scenic status. I was particularly pleased to be joined in this initiative by all of my House colleagues from Connecticut across party lines. I was also pleased to be joined by Senators DODD and LIEBERMAN, who have introduced companion legislation in the Senate.

For more than 30 years, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act has safeguarded some of our Nation's most precious rivers. The act intends to select rivers of the Nation which possess exceptional scenic, recreational, geologic, fish, wildlife, historic, cultural and other values, that they be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they be protected for the benefit of present and future generations.

Designated rivers receive Federal protection to preserve their free-flowing condition, the water quality and other conservation values. Currently, only one river in Connecticut has this status, the Farmington River.

I believe that the Eightmile River also possesses all of these qualities, and I believe these protections should be considered and extended to this river by the National Park Service.

I am very proud to submit this legislation on behalf of my constituents in East Haddam, Lyme and Salem. I particularly thank East Haddam First Selectman Sue Merrow and Nathan Frohling of the Connecticut Nature Conservancy for their hard work, and I especially express my deep thanks and gratitude to the gentleman from Colorado (Chairman HEFLEY) and to the gentleman from Utah (Chairman Hansen) for moving this legislation forward so quickly.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

I would like to just add a voice to the prior issue that was discussed on the floor, H.R. 182, the Eight-Mile River Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2001. I want to compliment my colleague, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) for sponsoring the bill and spearheading the protection effort.

The Eight-Mile River is a vast watershed with farms and villages. It is an incredible resource and a treasure that the State of Connecticut has. It was once described as the Nation's best-landscaped sewer, and thanks to hard-fought clean-up and protection efforts over the last 30 years, it has been designated a Last Great Place by the Nature Conservancy.

We have made great strides in reversing years of neglect. Much remains to be accomplished. It is seriously endangered by incremental unplanned growth and pollution. What we want to do is to provide the localities there and the communities with the tools they need to balance the needs of conservation and growth to protect this national treasure.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) for his tenacious approach to this piece of legislation. The gentleman has given me no peace until