

I urge adoption of the rule.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GREAT FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY ACT OF 2001

Mr. HEFLEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 146) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Great Falls Historic District in Paterson, New Jersey, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, 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 Colorado?

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I will not object, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado for purposes of explaining the legislation.

□ 1415

Mr. HEFLEY. Madam Speaker, H.R. 146, as introduced by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Great Falls Historic District in Paterson, New Jersey as a unit of the National Park Service. Designed by Alexander Hamilton and Pierre L'Enfant in 1791, the Great Falls District is one of the earliest industrial centers of America and was once considered the manufacturing center of the United States. At 77 feet, the Great Falls is the second highest waterfall on the East Coast, second only to Niagara Falls.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 146, I believe, is not controversial. It has strong support from State and local officials, the residents of Paterson and the surrounding communities, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 146.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, continuing on my reservation, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), the former mayor of Paterson, New Jersey, and a valued member of my other committee, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, first I would like to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) for this legislation. This is very significant legislation in New Jersey and for the United States. The Great Falls Historic District possesses an historic significance that makes it an area to be preserved and treasured. I thank the gentleman for describing what this district is all about.

The Falls and the surrounding neighborhoods really represent the genesis of the American economic miracle, and increasing the presence of the National Park Service will give the area the attention and resources it rightfully needs.

These Falls represent our city, its people and all of its potential. This place can be a real destination that will create jobs, grow businesses and bring people from all over. We cannot put a velvet rope around the district. We must make it a living, breathing attraction that will celebrate our past.

In conclusion, I will steal the words of the National Park Service in the Design Guidelines created for the Great Falls Historic District in 1999. "The district bears eloquent testimony to the astounding feats of engineering and construction, to ingenious manufacturers, and to the courage, creativity and drudgery of untold lives spent within the mills. It is also about the human propensity to harness the forces of nature, to put water and gravity and stone to work. The district retains the sense of having been one large factory driven by one powerful engine, an image completely consistent with Hamilton's vision of a centralized national manufactory."

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado? There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 146

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 Falls Historic District Study Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STUDY REGARDING GREAT FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT, PATERSON, NEW JERSEY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) GREAT FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT.—The term "Great Falls Historic District" means the Great Falls Historic District in the city of Paterson, New Jersey, established as an historic district by section 510 of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-333; 110 Stat. 4158; 16 U.S.C. 461 note).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

(b) STUDY.—As soon as practicable after funds are made available to carry out this section, the Secretary shall commence a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of further recognizing the historic and cultural significance of the lands and structures of the Great Falls Historic District through the designation of the Great Falls Historic District as a unit of the National Park System.

(c) STUDY PROCESS AND COMPLETION.—Section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(c)) shall apply to the study required by this section.

(d) SUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report describing the results of the study.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

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.

ANIMAL DISEASE RISK ASSESSMENT, PREVENTION, AND CONTROL ACT OF 2001

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 700) to establish a Federal interagency task force for the purpose of coordinating actions to prevent the outbreak of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (commonly known as "mad cow disease") and foot-and-mouth disease in the United States, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

S. 700

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 "Animal Disease Risk Assessment, Prevention, and Control Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) it is in the interest of the United States to maintain healthy livestock herds;

(2) managing the risks of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases in the United States may require billions of dollars for remedial activities by consumers, producers, and distributors of livestock, and animal, and blood products;

(3) the potential introduction of those diseases into the United States would cause devastating financial losses to—

(A) the agriculture industry and other economic sectors; and

(B) United States trade in the affected animals and animal products;

(4) foot and mouth disease is a severe and highly contagious viral infection affecting cattle, deer, goats, sheep, swine, and other animals;

(5) the most effective means of eradicating foot and mouth disease is by the slaughter of affected animals;

(6) while foot and mouth disease was eradicated in the United States in 1929, the virus could be reintroduced by—

(A) a single infected animal, an animal product, or a person carrying the virus;

(B) an act of terrorism; or

(C) other means;

(7) once introduced, foot and mouth disease can spread quickly through—

(A) exposure to aerosols from infected animals;

(B) direct contact with infected animals; and

(C) contact with contaminated feed, equipment, or humans harboring the virus or carrying the virus on their clothing;

(8) foot and mouth disease is endemic to more than 3/4 of the world and is considered

to be widespread in parts of Africa, Asia, Europe, and South America;

(9) foot and mouth disease occurs in over 7 different serotypes and 60 subtypes;

(10) as foot and mouth disease outbreaks have occurred, the United States has banned the importation of live ruminants and swine and many animal products from countries affected by foot and mouth disease;

(11) recently, the United States has implemented bans in response to outbreaks in Argentina, the European Union, and Taiwan;

(12) although United States exclusion programs have been successful at keeping foot and mouth disease out of the United States since 1929, recent outbreaks in Argentina, the European Union, and Taiwan are placing an unprecedented strain on our animal health system;

(13) bovine spongiform encephalopathy is a transmissible, neuro-degenerative disease found in cattle;

(14) in cattle with bovine spongiform encephalopathy, the active agent is found primarily in the brain and spinal cord and has not been found in commonly consumed beef products;

(15) bovine spongiform encephalopathy is thought to have an incubation period of several years but is ultimately fatal to cattle within weeks of onset of the active disease;

(16) bovine spongiform encephalopathy was first widely found in 1986 in cattle in the United Kingdom;

(17) bovine spongiform encephalopathy-carrying cattle have been found in cattle in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and Switzerland;

(18) cattle infected with bovine spongiform encephalopathy originating from the United Kingdom have been found and intercepted in Canada;

(19) since 1989, the Secretary of Agriculture has prohibited the importation of live grazing animals from countries where bovine spongiform encephalopathy has been found in cattle;

(20) other products derived from grazing animals, such as blood meal, bonemeal, fat, fetal bovine serum, glands, meat-and-bone meal, and offal, are prohibited from entry, except under special conditions or under permits issued by the Secretary of Agriculture for scientific or research purposes;

(21) on December 12, 1997, the Secretary of Agriculture extended those restrictions to include all countries in Europe because of concerns about widespread risk factors and inadequate surveillance for bovine spongiform encephalopathy;

(22) on December 7, 2000, the Secretary of Agriculture prohibited all imports of rendered animal protein products from Europe;

(23) Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease is a human spongiform encephalopathy;

(24) on March 20, 1996, the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee of the United Kingdom announced the identification of 10 cases of a new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease;

(25) all 10 patients developed onsets of the disease in 1994 or 1995;

(26) scientific experts (including scientists at the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the World Health Organization) are studying the possible link (including potential routes of transmission) between bovine spongiform encephalopathy and variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease;

(27) from October 1996 to December 2000, 87 cases of variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease have been reported in the United Kingdom, 3 cases in France, and 1 case in Ireland; and

(28) to reduce the risk of human spongiform encephalopathies in the United States, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs has—

(A) banned individuals who lived in Great Britain for at least 180 days since 1980 from donating blood in the United States; and

(B) established regulations that prohibit the feeding of most animal-derived proteins to grazing animals.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide the people of the United States and Congress with information concerning—

(1) actions by Federal agencies to prevent foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases;

(2) the sufficiency of legislative authority to prevent or control foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases in the United States;

(3) the economic impacts associated with the potential introduction of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases into the United States; and

(4) the risks to public health from possible links between bovine spongiform encephalopathy and other spongiform encephalopathies to human illnesses.

SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Committees and Subcommittees described in paragraph (2) a preliminary report concerning—

(A) coordinated interagency activities to assess, prevent, and control the spread of foot and mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy in the United States;

(B) sources of information from the Federal Government available to the public on foot and mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy; and

(C) any immediate needs for additional legislative authority, appropriations, or product bans to prevent the introduction of foot and mouth disease or bovine spongiform encephalopathy into the United States.

(2) SUBMISSION OF REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit the preliminary report to—

(A) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;

(B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(C) the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(D) the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(b) FINAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Committees and Subcommittees described in subsection (a)(2) a final report that—

(A) discusses the economic impacts associated with the potential introduction of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases into the United States;

(B) discusses the potential risks to public and animal health from foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases; and

(C) provides recommendations to protect the health of animal herds and citizens of the United States from those risks including, if necessary, recommendations for additional legislation, appropriations, or product bans.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall contain—

(A) an assessment of the risks to the public presented by the potential presence of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform

encephalopathy, and related diseases in domestic and imported livestock, livestock and animal products, wildlife, and blood products;

(B) recommendations to reduce and manage the risks of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases;

(C) any plans of the Secretary to identify, prevent, and control foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases in domestic and imported livestock, livestock products, wildlife, and blood products;

(D) a description of the incidence and prevalence of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, and related diseases in other countries;

(E) a description and an analysis of the effectiveness of the measures taken to assess, prevent, and control the risks of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, and related diseases in other countries;

(F) a description and an analysis of the effectiveness of the measures that the public, private, and nonprofit sectors have taken to assess, prevent, and control the risk of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and related diseases in the United States, including controls of ports of entry and other conveyances;

(G) a description of the measures taken to prevent and control the risk of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease transmission through blood collection and transfusion;

(H) a description of any measures (including any planning or managerial initiatives such as interagency, intergovernmental, international, and public-private sector partnerships) that any Federal agency plans to initiate or continue to assess, prevent, and control the spread of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, and related diseases in the United States and other countries;

(I) plans by Federal agencies (including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)—

(i) to monitor the incidence and prevalence of the transmission of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, and related diseases in the United States; and

(ii) to assess the effectiveness of efforts to prevent and control the spread of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, and related diseases in the United States;

(J) plans by Federal agencies (including the Agricultural Research Service, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, and the National Institutes of Health) to carry out, in partnership with the private sector—

(i) research programs into the causes and mechanism of transmission of foot and mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy; and

(ii) diagnostic tools and preventive and therapeutic agents for foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, and related diseases;

(K) plans for providing appropriate compensation for affected animals in the event of the introduction of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or related diseases into the United States; and

(L) recommendations to Congress for legislation that will improve efforts to assess, prevent, or control the transmission of foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform

encephalopathy, variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, and related diseases in the United States and in other countries.

(C) CONSULTATION.—

(1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—In preparing the preliminary report under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with—

(A) the Secretary of the Treasury

(B) the Secretary of Commerce;

(C) the Secretary of State;

(D) the Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(E) the Secretary of Defense;

(F) the United States Trade Representative;

(G) the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and

(H) representatives of other appropriate Federal agencies;

(2) FINAL REPORT.—In preparing the final report under subsection (b), the Secretary shall consult with—

(A) the individuals listed in paragraph (1);

(B) private and nonprofit sector experts in infectious disease, research, prevention, and control;

(C) international, State, and local governmental animal health officials;

(D) private, nonprofit, and public sector livestock experts;

(E) representatives of blood collection and distribution entities; and

(F) representatives of consumer and patient organizations and other interested members of the public.

Mr. STENHOLM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill that deals with two, separate, animal health issues facing our nation. While Foot and Mouth Disease and BSE, commonly called "Mad Cow" disease, are not related, they are both concerns to agricultural producers and citizens of this Nation. We are thankful that our efforts have successfully prevented the introduction of either of these diseases into the United States and we all want to work to maintain our disease-free status.

I am hopeful that reports and the coordination encouraged by this bill will help to keep us free from both these diseases. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has done an excellent job thus far, but I hope that increased thought and coordination will help to make our efforts even better.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 700, the Senate bill just considered and passed.

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

There was no objection.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MICA). Pursuant to House Resolution 135 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 581.

□ 1423

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 581) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for the wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management, with Mrs. MORELLA in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) and the gentleman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 30 minutes.

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

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

Madam Chairman, I introduced H.R. 581 to assist the U.S. Forest Service in expediting the transfer of funds from the Service to other Federal agencies for critical and necessary interagency consultation activities in connection with wildland fire management.

H.R. 581 is simply a technical fix to clarify that funds appropriated in the 2001 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act for wildland fire management may be transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to reimburse those agencies for the fuel load reduction consultation activities required by section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

Madam Chairman, the fiscal 2001 Interior Appropriations Act appropriated \$2.9 billion towards the National Fire Plan in response to the devastating 1999 and 2000 fire seasons. The \$2.9 billion which was appropriated, which included \$1.6 billion designated as emergency contingent funding, is administered by the Department of Interior and the Forest Service. Included in the plan are funds specifically directed for reducing fuel load. However, before fuel loads can be reduced, the Forest Service must meet existing laws, including the Endangered Species Act.

Among the goals of the National Fire Plan are: to build firefighting readiness, to be better prepared to fight wildland fires; to reduce hazardous fuels, to invest in projects to reduce the fire risk; to restore fire-impacted sites, to restore landscapes damaged by fire; to protect communities, to concentrate efforts in the wildland-urban interface; and to assure accountability and track accomplishments of the plan.

Decades of excluding fire from our forests and past management practices

have drastically changed the ecological condition of western forests and rangelands and dramatically affected fire behavior. A century ago when low-intensity, high-frequency fires were commonplace, many forests were less dense and had larger, more fire-resistant trees. Over the last century, the number of trees has increased dramatically and composition of our forests has changed from primarily fire-resistant tree species to more species that are nonresistant to fire.

Madam Chairman, the fire ecologists point out the paradox in which we now find ourselves in terms of fire suppression: The more effective we become at fire suppression, the more fuels accumulate and ultimately create conditions for the occurrence of more intense fires, such as those we in the West have experienced the last 2 years.

To illustrate my point, here is a statistic to think about: In the early 1930s, the annual acreage burned by wildfires in the lower 48 States was about 40 million acres a year. By the late 1950s, we were effectively controlling fires at less than 5 million acres per year. Through the 1970s and much of the 1980s, the annual acreage burned by wildfires in the lower 48 States stayed at about the same levels, but in 1988 and again in the late 1990s we had severe seasons, burning close to 10 million acres each year.

Experts predict that future fire seasons will be similar to last year's devastation.

Reversing the effects of a century of aggressive fire suppression and past management practices will take time and money targeted to high-priority areas to protect people, communities, readily-accessible municipal watersheds, and habitat for threatened and endangered species. The most at-risk areas are those wildland-urban interface zones represented by areas with increased residential development in fire-prone areas adjacent to Federal land.

With continuing drought in the western and southern United States, we are facing the threat of another possibly horrendous and catastrophic wildfire season. It is important that H.R. 581 proceed expeditiously to launch the multiagency fire prevention initiative needed to ward off another devastating wildfire season.

The funds made available in this bill to the Fish and Wildlife Services and the National Marine Fisheries Services will enable the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to proceed with their fire management program, as intended by the 2001 Appropriations Act. The bill will not affect other aspects of the National Fire Plan.

Lastly, Madam Chairman, H.R. 581, I do not believe, is controversial. It is nonpartisan and it is supported by the administration. It is also reported by unanimous consent from the Committee on Resources. So I would urge an aye vote on H.R. 581.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.