

After that tragic event, Congress properly heightened Capitol security, adopting a posture that requires considerable additional manpower. Recent events have obviously underscored the need for more officers and greater security. Fortunately, additional resources are in the pipeline.

Congress has appropriated money to fund all the additional officers the Capitol police can hire and train during 2002, and supplemental funds have been provided to address needs identified since September 11.

Today, the Capitol police face evolving threats from those who, for whatever reason, wish our country harm.

What was unthinkable only a few weeks ago, has been done. We must remain vigilant and prepared as we work to rid the world of the scourge of terrorism.

We will continue to rely on the Capitol police as the first line of defense for the people's house and all who work and visit here.

The men and women of the Capitol police meet their challenges with courage and a level of professionalism not exceeded anywhere.

Since the dastardly attacks of September 11, Capitol police officers have worked long hours under adverse conditions. These men and women clearly represent the best that America has to offer.

I want to express my personal thanks for a job well done.

Men and women of the District of Columbia National Guard now ably assist our Capitol police. Congress likewise owes the guardsmen and women thanks for their assistance, and for giving our police much-needed relief.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the resolution. The police clearly deserve the honor. I applaud the gentlewoman from California [Ms. LEE] for introducing it, the chairman [Mr. NEY], the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. EHLERS], and of course my friend from Florida [Mr. DAVIS] for bringing it to the floor today.

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H.Res. 309.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of House Resolution 309, the resolution just agreed to.

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

There was no objection.

CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY IN TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3370) to amend the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 to modify the reversionary interest of the United States in a parcel of property conveyed to the Traverse City Area School District in Traverse City, Michigan.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3370

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY IN TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN.

Section 1005(c) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 (110 Stat. 3957) is amended by striking "the Traverse City Area Public School District" and inserting "a public or private nonprofit entity for an educational or recreational purpose".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. CLEMENT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

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

Initially, I want to thank two fine Members that we will hear from later, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), for bringing this matter to our attention.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3370 is a bill that allows certain property conveyed to the Traverse City Public Schools in Traverse City, Michigan, to be used by a public or private nonprofit entity for an educational or recreational purpose.

Under the 1996 language that transferred the property to the Traverse City School District, the property reverts to the Federal Government if it is not used by the school district. The local YMCA has developed a plan to improve the property and construct a three-pool swimming facility on part of the property. The school district would then use the new fields and facility and the Coast Guard will be able to use the pool for winter training and rescue swimmers.

Without the amendments made by H.R. 3370, this worthwhile project would not be able to proceed. For this reason, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I might say to my colleagues, I know the Speaker referred to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) as being from Tennessee, and he would have been a good Tennessean. We would sure have accepted him. He is an outstanding Member of the House, and I am proud to be able to call him a friend.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3370, a bill to clarify the reversionary interests of the United States Government and property conveyed to the Traverse City School District.

The Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 provided for Coast Guard real property in Traverse City, Michigan, to be conveyed to the Traverse City School District. The school district has used the property for soccer fields for their youth. However, the reversionary clause in that act required the property to be used exclusively for educational purposes. Now the school district would like to enter into a joint venture with the YMCA for additional athletic facilities for the students and community.

Under the joint venture, the school district will provide the land, and the YMCA will provide the building. The school district will be able to use the indoor pool and other athletic facilities in the building for their school activities at no cost, and other members of the community will also be able to join the YMCA and use the facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this bill will help the community of Traverse City. I would like to commend the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) for his efforts on their behalf. I urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 3370.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), a fine gentleman and a real fighter and street fighter in the House of Representatives.

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, first let me thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) for coauthoring this legislation with me and moving this bill along. He is on the floor here tonight and I am sure he will have some remarks, along with his son Andrew. Maybe we should let Andrew have his remarks on record, because at least he would be able to tell us the value of these soccer fields.

Mr. Speaker, back in 1996 we moved this land from the Coast Guard to Traverse City Area Public Schools to be used for soccer fields. It has been a great success. But as those soccer fields have been used more and more by over 3,000 students in the Traverse City area, we saw great potential in this property. By bringing the YMCA to build a new facility, which they need to do, by bringing the YMCA in, everybody will benefit even further, not only the school district, but the community as a whole, because they are going to put in three different swimming pools,

plus all the other activities that the YMCA offers. The Coast Guard will be using the pool for training, for rescue, water rescues along the Great Lakes, as they do constantly.

So it is just a great situation for everyone. The community wins, the school system wins, the Coast Guard wins, the Federal Government benefits, we all benefit. We just have to change this reverter clause so that it can be used not only for the school, but also for the YMCA and for the benefit of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to support and vote "yes" on H.R. 3370. I thank the gentleman for yielding me time. I want to thank the leadership and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. CLEMENT), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for moving this bill so quickly on the request of myself and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP), one of the authors of this fine piece of legislation.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I rise with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) on behalf of this legislation. This will bring big benefits to the residents of the Traverse City, Michigan, area. This makes a technical change in existing law to allow the Traverse City area school district to transfer a parcel of property to the local YMCA, as the gentleman mentioned, for recreational purposes. This is going to be a big benefit, as I mentioned, because this will allow the construction of a swimming pool, a gymnasium, tennis courts, soccer fields, and will be a real help to the sports teams and other residents and students, physical education classes.

They are also going to begin construction on a new alternative education facility that will be used by nearly 200 students. So this new school will enable Traverse City area students to attend a school that will actually have programs tailored to their needs.

The Coast Guard will be able to continue to use and practice lifesaving techniques, rescue and recovery missions in the new YMCA pool.

So I am pleased to support this bill, which was introduced by my colleague which will make a positive difference in the lives of so many residents in Michigan, especially younger residents. I appreciate the gentleman's work, and support of the members of the Michigan congressional delegation. I want to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) for their support in bringing this bill to the floor; and also I thank our leadership, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the majority leader, who allowed this bill to come on the suspension calendar.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill.

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time just to indicate to the gentleman from Tennessee that I very much appreciate his kind remarks. He has been someone that I have looked up to in the 7 years that I have been in Congress, and I would be remiss if I did not make mention of the fact that he apparently has used his weekend wisely and he is sporting a new hairdo and is even more dapper than he was last week.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3370.

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.

21ST CENTURY MONTGOMERY GI BILL ENHANCEMENT ACT AMENDMENTS

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 310) providing for the concurrence by the House with an amendment in the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 1291.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 310

Resolved, That, upon the adoption of this resolution, the House shall be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table the bill H.R. 1291, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to have concurred in the Senate amendment to the title of the bill and to have concurred in the Senate amendment to the text of the bill with the following amendment:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill, insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. Increase in rates of basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill.
Sec. 102. Increase in rates of survivors' and dependents' educational assistance.
Sec. 103. Restoration of certain education benefits of individuals being ordered to active duty.
Sec. 104. Accelerated payments of educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill for education leading to employment in high technology industry.
Sec. 105. Eligibility for Montgomery GI Bill benefits of certain additional Vietnam era veterans.

Sec. 106. Increase in maximum allowable annual Senior ROTC educational assistance for eligibility for benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill.

Sec. 107. Expansion of work-study opportunities.

Sec. 108. Eligibility for survivors' and dependents' educational assistance of spouses and surviving spouses of veterans with total service-connected disabilities.

Sec. 109. Expansion of special restorative training benefit to certain disabled spouses or surviving spouses.

Sec. 110. Inclusion of certain private technology entities in definition of educational institution.

Sec. 111. Distance education.

TITLE II—COMPENSATION AND PENSION PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Modification and extension of authorities on presumption of service-connection for herbicide-related disabilities of Vietnam veterans.

Sec. 202. Payment of compensation for Persian Gulf War veterans with certain chronic disabilities.

Sec. 203. Preservation of service connection for undiagnosed illnesses to provide for participation in research projects by Persian Gulf War veterans.

Sec. 204. Repeal of limitation on payments of benefits to incompetent institutionalized veterans.

Sec. 205. Extension of round-down requirement for compensation cost-of-living adjustments.

Sec. 206. Expansion of presumptions of permanent and total disability for veterans applying for non-service-connected pension.

Sec. 207. Eligibility of veterans 65 years of age or older for veterans' pension benefits.

TITLE III—TRANSITION AND OUTREACH PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Authority to establish overseas veterans assistance offices to expand transition assistance.

Sec. 302. Timing of pre-separation counseling.

Sec. 303. Improvement in education and training outreach services for separating servicemembers and veterans.

Sec. 304. Improvement of veterans outreach programs.

TITLE IV—HOUSING MATTERS

Sec. 401. Increase in home loan guaranty amount for construction and purchase of homes.

Sec. 402. Native American veteran housing loan pilot program.

Sec. 403. Modification of loan assumption notice requirement.

Sec. 404. Increase in assistance amount for specially adapted housing.

Sec. 405. Extension of other housing authorities.

Sec. 406. Clarifying amendment relating to eligibility of members of the Selected Reserve for housing loans.

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 501. Increase in burial benefits.

Sec. 502. Government markers for marked graves at private cemeteries.

Sec. 503. Increase in amount of assistance for automobile and adaptive equipment for certain disabled veterans.