

with the Gunn McKay Nature Preserve Foundation. This area will not only serve as a buffer between the residential area of Huntsville and nearby Pineview Reservoir, but it will also stand as a fitting tribute to a man whose commitment to Utah's First Congressional District and preservation of Utah's natural beauty was outstanding. When visitors go to the preserve to contemplate the solitude, hike on the trails or just enjoy nature, they will also pass by a plaque in the entrance summarizing Gunn's life and many accomplishments.

Just as the preserve will be managed in perpetuity, so will Gunn's memory live on.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3909.

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my chairman in support of H.R. 3909, the Gunn McKay Nature Preserve Act, which was introduced by the chairman of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), in honor of former Congressman Gunn McKay.

Congressman McKay represented Utah's First Congressional District from 1971 until 1980 when he was defeated by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN). The bill would designate 15 acres of land near Huntsville, Utah, as the Gunn McKay Nature Preserve. The land is presently managed by the Forest Service for recreational purposes. The Secretary of Agriculture in consultation with the city of Huntsville, Utah, and the Gunn McKay Nature Preserve Foundation would develop the plan for the preserve. No new mining claims would be permitted within the area.

This bill honors Congressman McKay, who died last year. I urge the adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON).

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my support to this legislation.

When we talk about public land in Utah, we are used to speaking in terms of 100,000 acres or million-acre parcels. We speak in terms of mountain ranges, entire deserts, and swaths of forests. But today, we are giving our blessing to the setting aside of a relatively small but immensely beautiful and important piece of land.

The creation of the Gunn McKay Nature Preserve would protect 15 acres of forest land in Huntsville, Utah. Mr. Speaker, Gunn McKay was a devoted member of the Utah delegation, and he served our State with honor and dignity from 1971 to 1981.

He was a Coast Guard veteran, a school teacher, a successful business-

man, and a chief of staff for Utah Governor Cal Rampton.

Although he told the Democratic leader, "I do not want to run for Congress; I have nine kids and a mortgage," run he did. A few terms later he was the senior member of Utah's congressional delegation, a member of the House Committee on Appropriations, and a champion for the people of his district.

Congressman McKay was a true public servant. He was quoted in one newspaper article a few years ago saying, "The greatest satisfaction was helping people who needed an advocate."

This refuge will not only serve as a lasting memorial to the work and dedication of Congressman McKay, it is also a testament to the statesmanship of the chairman, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN). Too often in politics we get caught up in petty political squabbles. We lose sight of the bigger picture, of getting important work done for the good of our constituents. The passage of this bill shows that the chairman has not lost sight of the goal. He is a true gentleman of the House, and he spent the last 20 years representing the State of Utah with the class and dignity that is true to the people who have elected him.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind remarks. I also thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), on this piece of legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3909.

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.

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AQUIA SANDSTONE QUARRIES OF STAFFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA TO CONSTRUCTION OF CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 261) recognizing the historical significance of the Aquia sandstone quarries of Government Island in Stafford County, Virginia, for their contributions to the construction of the Capital of the United States.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 261

Whereas the First Congress passed the Residence Act authorizing the establishment of

a Federal Capital as the seat of Government of the new Republic;

Whereas President George Washington, acting under the authority of the Residence Act, selected the present site of the District of Columbia as the new Federal Capital and seat of government;

Whereas President Washington, aided by then Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson, took personal charge of the plans for the development of the new seat of government;

Whereas President Washington decided that the public buildings of the new capital city should be faced in stone so that these buildings would equal or exceed in beauty the buildings of the established capitals of Europe and promote permanence and majesty on the Potomac;

Whereas President Washington, a boyhood resident of Stafford County, Virginia, recommended that the freestone quarries on Aquia Creek in Stafford County be purchased by the Commissioners of Public Buildings as stone quarries for the public buildings of the District of Columbia, a recommendation acted on by Pierre L'Enfant, the planner of the new capital city;

Whereas the new quarries, later named Government Island, became the major source of building stone for the Capitol, the White House, and numerous other public buildings in the District of Columbia;

Whereas there exists substantial evidence of 18th and 19th century stone cutting and quarrying techniques on Government Island, and this physical evidence sheds light on a valuable and informative chapter in the development of the United States Capital; and

Whereas the Board of Supervisors and residents of Stafford County, Virginia, have undertaken action to preserve Government Island for posterity and to make it available for the education and enlightenment of the public: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the national historical significance of the Aquia sandstone quarries of Government Island in Stafford County, Virginia, for their substantial contribution to the construction of the new Capital of the United States under the direction of President George Washington; and

(2) commends the Board of Supervisors and residents of Stafford County, Virginia, for their efforts to preserve Government Island and to make it available for visitation by the public.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 261, introduced by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS), would recognize the historical significance of the Aquia sandstone quarries of Government Island in Stafford County, Virginia, for their contribution to the construction of our Nation's Capital city.

The stone, selected by our first President, George Washington, was used to build the Capitol, the White House, and numerous other Federal buildings in the District of Columbia.

This stone was wisely selected by our first President in an effort to ensure that this Nation's Capital would be

every bit as elegant and stately as the capital cities of Europe.

The resolution also recognized the great efforts of the residents of Stafford County to protect Government Island and to safeguard the history surrounding this important contribution to our Nation's Capital.

I commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS), for her excellent efforts in introducing this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, this House Resolution recognizes, as you have heard, the historical significance of the Aquia sandstone quarries of Government Island in Stafford County, Virginia, for their contributions to the construction of the Capital of the United States and commend the Stafford County commissioners and local residents for their efforts to preserve the quarries.

The stone from these particular quarries dates back to the late 17th century and was chosen by then President George Washington for use at Mt. Vernon as well as the construction of the U.S. Capitol, the White House, the original Treasury building, the Patent office, and the earliest locks and bridges of the C&O Canal.

Over time, the quarries were exhausted and the site has since been through a number of private hands and has entered in and out of public ownership.

We support this resolution commending the local community for their latest efforts to preserve this interesting area.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS), the author of this legislation.

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the many historically significant contributions the Commonwealth of Virginia has offered this great Nation. Virginia has given America eight of its distinguished men to the Office of Presidency, three of whom were born in the first district that I represent, and countless other elected officials, military heroes and active citizens to the cause of freedom and democracy.

Today, I rise to pay a specific tribute to the Aquia quarries of Government Island in Stafford, Virginia, for their contributions to the construction of our Nation's Capitol building and the White House, among many other prominent structures.

As our forefathers struggled to create a nation through a Declaration of Inde-

pendence and an enduring revolution, they sought to express permanency in their new-found freedom. Led by Virginia native George Washington, America began to plan a city that would dignify the grandeur of the new United States of America. They chose the land situated geographically centered in the new Nation up the Potomac River and to the top of what was known as Jenkin's Hill, a place Pierre Charles L'Enfant, the city's planner called "a pedestal waiting for a monument."

□ 1445

I could not agree more. Our Capitol has survived over 200 years, through the War of 1812, the Civil War, and more recently, the building was a suspected target of the recent horrific terrorist attack on our country. This building has grown and matured into the great symbol of America. The freedoms that we hold so dear and recent events have only hardened my deep fondness for our Capitol and what it represents.

Although little known, the north section of the north wing of the Capitol and the White House were constructed of Aquia sandstone quarried from Government Island and along the Aquia Creek in Stafford County, Virginia; another proud Virginia contribution.

Stafford County's board of supervisors, County Administrator C.M. Williams, county historian Jane Conner, and the county's citizens should be commended for making the preservation of this island a priority. Their good work will ensure that this area is preserved for future generations to explore and enjoy.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in support of this resolution to honor the enduring construction of this building, the cornerstone of our democracy, and all that it represents.

I would like to thank the entire Virginia delegation for cosponsoring this House resolution commemorating the United States Capitol and the White House, highlighting their humble Virginia beginnings. Additionally, I would like to thank the Committee on Resources chairman, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), the ranking member, and the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands for moving this important Virginia initiative.

I again encourage my colleagues' support.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 261.

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.

AUTHORIZING STUDY OF VIRGINIA KEY BEACH, FLORIDA, FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2109) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Virginia Key Beach, Florida, for possible inclusion in the National Park System, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2109

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

SECTION 1. STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) *STUDY.*—The Secretary of the Interior (in this Act referred to as "the Secretary") shall conduct a study of Virginia Key Beach Park in Biscayne Bay, Florida, which was used for recreation by African Americans at a time when public beaches were racially segregated by law. The study shall evaluate the national significance of the site and the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park System.

(b) *CRITERIA.*—In conducting the study required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall use the criteria for the study of areas for potential inclusion in the National Park System contained in section 8 of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5; popularly known as the National Park System General Authorities Act).

(c) *REPORT.*—Upon completion of the study, the Secretary shall transmit to the Congress a report on the findings of the study and the conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

H.R. 2109, introduced by the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a resource study of Virginia Key Beach Park in Miami, Florida, to determine the suitability and feasibility of including this site as a unit of the National Park System.

Virginia Key Beach Park, located just off the coast of Miami between Key Biscayne and Fisher Island, was for decades the only beach in South Florida where African Americans were permitted during the days of segregation. This beach was very significant in the local community for its numerous gatherings, which included baptisms and religious services, courtship and honeymoons, organizational gatherings, visiting celebrities and family recreation.

However, in 1982 the city of Miami, citing the high cost of maintaining and operating the park, closed the beach. Since that time, the city of Miami has explored various options regarding ownership and the future of the beach, although nothing has yet come to fruition. Nevertheless, it is my understanding that the local community