

Louisiana to finally get a handle on controlling the widespread environmental damage caused by this noxious aquatic pest.

I urge Members also to support this important invasive-species legislation.

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

Mr. SOUDER. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PENCE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4044, 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 authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the State of Maryland and the State of Louisiana for implementation of a program to eradicate or control nutria and restore marshland damaged by nutria, and for other purposes.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### WACO MAMMOTH SITE AREA INTERIOR STUDY ACT

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1925) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1925

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

#### SECTION 1. STUDY AND REPORT REGARDING WACO MAMMOTH SITE AREA.

(a) *STUDY.*—The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the State of Texas, the city of Waco, and other appropriate organizations, shall carry out a special resource study regarding the national significance, suitability, and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area located in the city of Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System.

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

(c) *SUBMISSION OF STUDY RESULTS.*—Not later than 3 years after funds are first made available for this section, 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.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER).

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

H.R. 1925, introduced by my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS), would direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System.

Located near the confluence of the Brazos and Bosque Rivers, the Mammoth Site has become internationally known, as it contains the remains of the largest known herd of Colombian mammoths, warm weather cousins to the woolly mammoth, dying from the same event. To date, 22 mammoths have been found at the site that date back 28,000 years.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is supported by the majority and minority of the committee. In addition, the bill is supported by the administration, with the ongoing caveat that the maintenance backlog be addressed first.

I would like to add my personal congratulations and interest in this. When I was student body president at Indiana Purdue, Fort Wayne, through the geology club they promoted the nickname “The Mastedons.” It was my honor to drive through, over the objection of many, mastedons as the school name, which has stood for over 30 years. They are kind of big cousins to the mammoths.

So I am glad to see we are working to preserve this site so that we can have this for future generations to understand better the natural processes that occurred in this country and the creatures that were here before us. So, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1925, as amended.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1925, introduced by my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS), directs the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System.

The Waco Mammoth Site is believed to contain the remains of the largest concentration of mammoths killed during a single event. The site is located close to the confluence of the Brazos and Bosque Rivers near the city of Waco, Texas. The discovery of these mammoth remains has received international attention and Baylor University in the City of Waco have been working to protect the site.

In hearings before the Committee on Resources, we received testimony on the unique paleontological resources found on this site. The study called for by H.R. 1925 will examine what role, if any, that the National Park Service can play in the protection and interpretation of these unique resources.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS). I support the bill, as

amended, and look forward to its passage by the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of the bill, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS).

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I want to first thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) for yielding me this time and for her courtesy and leadership on this legislation. I also want to commend and thank my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER), for his courtesies, his comments, as well as his leadership and long understanding of the importance of these types of historic sites in our country as a way to educate future generations of young people in America about our history.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1925 is called the Waco Mammoth Site Study Bill; and as mentioned, it authorizes the study by the National Park Service to consider including the Waco Mammoth Site as a unit in the National Park System. Since there are numerous different designations in the National Park System, one of the goals of this study would be to determine the best fit for this historic site.

Mr. Speaker, as we have also heard, the Waco Mammoth Site is the largest concentration in the world of prehistoric mammoths dying from the same event. That is what makes this particular site unique and so historically significant. It is located within the city limits of Waco, Texas, my hometown, which also happens to be a suburb of the community of Crawford, Texas, a well-known central Texas community today. It is located at the confluence of the Brazos and Bosque Rivers.

The site was first discovered in 1978; and since 1984, Calvin Smith, director of the Strecker Museum at Baylor University, has been leading the effort to discovering the bones of now, I think there are even up to 24 mammoths so far. We would not be here today had it not been for the vision and dedication of Calvin Smith, and I want to thank him for his role in this legislation.

What makes this site unique, as I mentioned, is the fact that so many, in fact this could be twice the size of any previous mammoth deaths at any one site for any one given cause. What I find absolutely fascinating about it is that in the mud, again considering this was 28,000 years ago, we now have the remains of a 55-year-old bull and a 45-year-old female mammoth as they tried to lift their young calves above the flood that consumed them all. It is my understanding that this is the first known recording in history of parental instincts being shown in a prehistoric setting such as this.

This discovery has received worldwide attention. Experts such as Dr. Gary Haynes at the University of Nevada at Reno have said this site is a valuable and unique treasure that should not be lost. Dr. Haynes states the mammoth site, and I quote, “is a

part of America's rich heritage from the far past, when a much more diverse animal community populated the continent."

This site can be valued as a learning tool for school children across Texas and our country, as well as a site for study by professionals. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to approve this bill, thus bringing an invaluable archeological find one step closer to being part, as I hope, and as it should, a unit of the National Park System.

I thank all of my colleagues for their courtesy, again, their leadership; and finally, Mr. Speaker, if I could just say that nothing ever happens positive in this country or in this Congress without a real team effort, and there were a lot of folks back home as well as here in Washington that worked on this. I want to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the chairman of the Committee on Resources, for his support; the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), the ranking member, for his support; the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH); the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY); the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN); and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER). Again, we would not be here today without their leadership.

And back home, those who first had this vision and have worked to protect this site for years without Federal help so far, the city of Waco, its leadership, represented by Mayor Linda Etheridge and the Waco City Council and staff; people such as Margaret Mills; my friend Sam Jack McGlassen, now deceased, who originally donated this property to the city of Waco, Baylor University, for its important role in this effort; and people such as Allen Samuels and Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Bostick and so many others, who care about preserving our important history for future generations.

I urge, Mr. Speaker, the House to vote in support of H.R. 1925.

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

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to conclude by saying that we are looking forward to seeing the continuing development and study by the National Park Service. Our National Park Service is not just great wild places; it is also important cultural and archeological finds, such as Dinosaur National Park, such as Mesa Verde, and other types of archeological finds.

This also proves that Texas not only has the biggest cattle, they at one time had the big mammoths. Even before there were people, they had huge mammoth ranches, apparently.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1925, 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.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material in the RECORD on the three bills just considered, H.R. 1370, H.R. 1925, and H.R. 4044.

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

There was no objection.

#### REGIONAL PLANT GENOME AND GENE EXPRESSION RESEARCH ACT

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2051) to provide for the establishment of regional plant genome and gene expression research and development centers, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2051

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

#### SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term "Director" means the Director of the National Science Foundation;

(2) the term "institution of higher education" has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001); and

(3) the term "nonprofit organization" means a nonprofit research institute or a nonprofit association with experience and capability in plant biotechnology research as determined by the Director.

#### SEC. 2. MATCHING FUNDS.

The Director may establish matching fund requirements for grantees to receive grants under this Act.

#### SEC. 3. PLANT GENOME AND GENE EXPRESSION RESEARCH CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall award grants to consortia of institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations (or both) to establish regional plant genome and gene expression research centers. Grants shall be awarded under this section on a merit-reviewed, competitive basis. When making awards, the Director shall, to the extent practicable, ensure that the program created by this section examines as many different agricultural environments as possible.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the centers established pursuant to subsection (a) shall be to conduct research in plant genomics and plant gene expression. A center's activities may include—

(1) basic plant genomics research and genomics applications, including those related to cultivation of crops in extreme environments and to cultivation of crops with reduced reliance on fertilizer;

(2) basic research that will contribute to the development or use of innovative plant-derived products;

(3) basic research on alternative uses for plants and plant materials, including the use

of plants as renewable feedstock for alternative energy production and nonpetroleum-based industrial chemicals and precursors; and

(4) basic research and dissemination of information on the ecological and other consequences of genetically engineered plants.

#### SEC. 4. PARTNERSHIPS FOR PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Director shall award grants to institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, or consortia of such entities to establish research partnerships for supporting the development of plant biotechnology targeted to the needs of the developing world. The Director, by means of outreach, shall encourage inclusion of Historically Black Colleges or Universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, or tribal colleges or universities in consortia that enter into such partnerships.

(2) In order to be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an institution of higher education or eligible nonprofit organization (or consortium thereof) shall enter into a partnership with one or more research institutions in one or more developing nations and may also include for-profit companies involved in plant biotechnology.

(3) Grants under this section shall be awarded on a merit-reviewed competitive basis.

(b) PURPOSE.—Grants awarded under this section shall be used for support of research in plant biotechnology targeted to the needs of the developing world. Such activities may include—

(1) basic genomic research on crops grown in the developing world;

(2) basic research in plant biotechnology that will advance and expedite the development of improved cultivars, including those that are pest-resistant, produce increased yield, reduce the need for fertilizers, or increase tolerance to stress;

(3) basic research that could lead to the development of technologies to produce pharmaceutical compounds such as vaccines and medications in plants that can be grown in the developing world; and

(4) research on the impact of plant biotechnology on the social, political, economic, and environmental conditions in countries in the developing world.

#### SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Science Foundation \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, \$13,500,000 for fiscal year 2003, and \$13,500,000 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) will each control 20 minutes.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, does the gentlewoman from Texas claim time in opposition?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentlewoman from Texas oppose the motion?

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. No.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from Ohio oppose the motion?

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I am opposed, and I seek to claim the time in opposition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) controls the time as a true opponent of the motion.