

well. It is also important to note that we also have the remarkable assistance that these flight attendants provide every day and particularly on the day that those flights around the Nation and around the world were diverted.

The flight attendants on American Airlines Flight 63 last December recognized the terrible threat that that aircraft faced. It was not security guards. It was not air marshals. It was not a large force. It was flight attendants who helped subdue the attempted and now somewhat infamous shoe bomber, Richard Reid. They acted. They saved the lives of countless passengers on that aircraft. We are indebted to those flight attendants.

Also flight attendants helped prevent another tragedy on a flight. United Flight 855 in February of this year, a deranged individual attempted to break into a cockpit. I believe that was on a flight from South America to Miami. They also acted with heroism.

In recognition of their vital role as a first line of defense, the House voted in July to strengthen the flight attendant training program, and those reforms are long overdue because sometimes these flight attendants are left at bay to fight these terrorist acts and other disruptions on aircraft. H.R. 4635, which is primarily devoted to arming pilots and allowing pilots to defend themselves, also requires that flight attendants receive much needed hands-on training in self-defense so they too can defend themselves, the passengers, the aircraft, and again serve as a first line of defense.

As H.R. 4635 demonstrates, the House supports these brave men and women and wants to ensure their safety and their security along with that of the flying public.

So today we are considering Senate Concurrent Resolution 110. The House passed a similar version of this concurrent resolution earlier this month. The concurrent resolution recognizes the over 100,000 airline flight attendants who have dedicated themselves to serving and protecting our passengers, the flying public, on a daily basis. It also recognizes the courage and heroism of those who lost their lives on September 11. It expresses Congress' profound gratitude to airline flight attendants and it rightfully honors their courage and dedication. For all these reasons and many more, I encourage my colleagues in the House to pass the Senate concurrent resolution so rightfully honoring our flight attendants.

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

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

I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA), our subcommittee chairman. I have enjoyed serving on the Subcommittee on Aviation under his leadership, and I appreciate his leadership on this bill today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 110. It is such an appropriate thing for us to be

doing in terms of recognizing the service and honor and courage of over 100,000 flight attendants that fly in the skies above this country. It is important that we acknowledge their service. And something that has helped us focus on this service is the actions that took place on September 11 and actions that took place subsequent to September 11.

As was mentioned, 25 flight attendants lost their lives that day. That same day let us not forget that all the other planes that were up in the sky were ordered down on the ground by the FAA and a number of flight attendants on all those flights on that day faced some real challenges. They faced the fear that we all felt that day, but they also faced the job of having to work with a number of passengers on all those airplanes that were being diverted and asked to land on emergency notice, and the flight attendants in this country served us well that day in terms of dealing with that difficult situation, and that applies to the days following September 11. We had a public that was nervous, and the flight attendants represented the face of courage. They were the first line of defense, quite frankly, in maintaining security on those airplanes.

We know the stories about how they caught the shoe bomber, Richard Reid. We know that the flight attendants are keeping their eyes open.

So it is appropriate that we honor them in this context, but we ought to honor them also for all the work they have done. Let us face it. When they get on that airplane, they are the face of the airline for which they work. The traveling public at times experiences some frustrations maybe through delays, maybe through the weather or what not. Sometimes those frustrations are unfairly directed towards flight attendants because they are the ones who are there interacting with the public, and I think that as a profession they deal with that situation so well and they certainly deserve our gratitude and our respect.

It is important that we do not forget the folks who lost their lives September 11, those 25 flight attendants, and we owe them a lot. We owe them this resolution today to honor what they have done but we owe them more. We owe them the commitment that we are going to continue to move forward and try to encourage as good a security situation as we can get in our aviation industry. That is the commitment we need to make to the flight attendants as well. They are on the front lines, and we are going to do whatever we can do to back them up to make sure this is a secure situation in our aviation industry.

So it is with great pleasure that I advocate support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 110.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S.Con.Res. 110. The women and men who make up America's flight attendant workforce deserve recognition

for their role as safety professionals. As the eyes and ears of the aircraft cabin, flight attendants have historically provided detailed information on countless safety issues.

Flight attendants are a highly-trained, highly-skilled workforce, charged with the safety and security of passengers, other crewmembers, and the aircraft itself.

On September 11, 2001, twenty-five flight attendants onboard the four hijacked flights provided the government with vital information, and with little more than their own ingenuity and bravery, fought the armed hijackers and performed their duties as safety professionals to the end.

Since that day, safety in the air is of paramount concern to millions. We now understand the vulnerability that flight crews have felt for years. But today, more than 12 months after the attacks on our nation, flight attendants are no more prepared to defend the flying public today than they were on the morning of September 11, 2001.

Air Tran flight attendant Susan Cosby began developing her airline's voluntary defense training program within days of September 11. In a visit to my office, Cosby posed this question, "Flight attendants have always been expected to save lives in emergencies. Why should defending the flying public from the threat of terrorism be any different?"

Now more than ever, it is crucial for us to recognize the importance of flight attendants. It is my hope of America's 100,000 flight attendants, that the Congress will quickly pass meaningful security training legislation.

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

Mr. MICA. 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 Florida (Mr. MICA) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 110.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MICA. 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 Senate Concurrent Resolution 110.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1515

TIMPANOGOS INTERAGENCY LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2002

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1240) to provide for the acquisition of land and construction of an

interagency administrative and visitor facility at the entrance to America Fork Canyon, Utah, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1240

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

TITLE I—TIMPANOGOS INTERAGENCY LAND EXCHANGE

SEC. 101. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the facility that houses the administrative office of the Pleasant Grove Ranger District of the Uinta National Forest can no longer properly serve the purpose of the facility;

(2) a fire destroyed the Timpanogos Cave National Monument Visitor Center and administrative office in 1991, and the temporary structure that is used for a visitor center cannot adequately serve the public; and

(3) combining the administrative office of the Pleasant Grove Ranger District with a new Timpanogos Cave National Monument visitor center and administrative office in one facility would—

- (A) facilitate interagency coordination;
- (B) serve the public better; and
- (C) improve cost effectiveness.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this title are—

(1) to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to acquire by exchange non-Federal land located in Highland, Utah as the site for an interagency administrative and visitor facility;

(2) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to construct an administrative and visitor facility on the non-Federal land acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(3) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate in the development, construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility.

SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) FACILITY.—The term “facility” means the facility constructed under section 106 to house—

(A) the administrative office of the Pleasant Grove Ranger District of the Uinta National Forest; and

(B) the visitor center and administrative office of the Timpanogos Cave National Monument.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land” means the parcels of land and improvements to the land in the Salt Lake Meridian comprising—

(A) approximately 237 acres located in T. 5 S., R. 3 E., sec. 13, lot 1, SW¼, NE¼, E½, NW¼ and E½, SW¼, as depicted on the map entitled “Long Hollow-Provo Canyon Parcel”, dated March 12, 2001;

(B) approximately 0.18 acre located in T. 7 S., R. 2 E., sec. 12, NW¼, as depicted on the map entitled “Provo Sign and Radio Shop”, dated March 12, 2001;

(C) approximately 20 acres located in T. 3 S., R. 1 E., sec. 33, SE¼, as depicted on the map entitled “Corner Canyon Parcel”, dated March 12, 2001;

(D) approximately 0.18 acre located in T. 29 S., R. 7 W., sec. 15, S½, as depicted on the map entitled “Beaver Administrative Site”, dated March 12, 2001;

(E) approximately 7.37 acres located in T. 7 S., R. 3 E., sec. 28, NE¼, SW¼, as depicted on the map entitled “Springville Parcel”, dated March 12, 2001; and

(F) approximately 0.83 acre located in T. 5 S., R. 2 E., sec. 20, as depicted on the map entitled “Pleasant Grove Ranger District Parcel”, dated March 12, 2001.

(3) NON-FEDERAL LAND.—The term “non-Federal land” means the parcel of land in the Salt Lake Meridian comprising approximately 37.42 acres located at approximately 4,400 West, 11,000 North (SR-92), Highland, Utah in T. 4 S., R. 2 E., sec. 31, NW¼, as depicted on the map entitled “The Highland Property”, dated March 12, 2001.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 103. MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF MAPS.—The maps described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 102 shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service until the date on which the land depicted on the maps is exchanged under this title.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—The Secretary may correct minor errors in the legal descriptions in paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 102.

SEC. 104. EXCHANGE OF LAND FOR FACILITY SITE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary may, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, convey by quitclaim deed all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land in exchange for the conveyance of the non-Federal land.

(b) TITLE TO NON-FEDERAL LAND.—Before the land exchange takes place under subsection (a), the Secretary shall determine that title to the non-Federal land is acceptable based on the approval standards applicable to Federal land acquisitions.

(c) VALUATION OF NON-FEDERAL LAND.—

(1) DETERMINATION.—The fair market value of the land and the improvements on the land exchanged under this title shall be determined by an appraisal that—

- (A) is approved by the Secretary; and
- (B) conforms with the Federal appraisal standards, as defined in the publication entitled “Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions”.

(2) SEPARATE APPRAISALS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each parcel of Federal land described in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of section 102(2) shall be appraised separately.

(B) INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY VALUES.—The property values of each parcel shall not be affected by the unit rule described in the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions.

(d) CASH EQUALIZATION.—Notwithstanding section 206(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716(b)), the Secretary may, as the circumstances require, either make or accept a cash equalization payment in excess of 25 percent of the total value of the lands or interests transferred out of Federal ownership.

(e) ADMINISTRATION OF LAND ACQUISITION BY UNITED STATES.—

(1) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—On acceptance of title by the Secretary—

(i) the non-Federal land conveyed to the United States shall become part of the Uinta National Forest; and

(ii) the boundaries of the national forest shall be adjusted to include the land.

(B) ALLOCATION OF LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND MONEYS.—For purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-099), the boundaries of the national forest, as adjusted under this section, shall be considered to be boundaries of the national forest as of January 1, 1965.

(2) APPLICABLE LAW.—Subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary shall manage any land acquired under this section in accordance with—

(A) the Act of March 1, 1911 (16 U.S.C. 480 et seq.) (commonly known as the “Weeks Act”); and

(B) other laws (including regulations) that apply to National Forest System land.

SEC. 105. DISPOSITION OF FUNDS.

(a) DEPOSIT.—The Secretary shall deposit any cash equalization funds received in the land exchange in the fund established under Public Law 90-171 (16 U.S.C. 484a) (commonly known as the “Sisk Act”).

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds deposited under subsection (a) shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation, for the acquisition of land and interests in land for administrative sites in the State of Utah and land for the National Forest System.

SEC. 106. CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF FACILITY.

(a) CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), as soon as practicable after funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary of the Interior shall construct, and bear responsibility for all costs of construction of, a facility and all necessary infrastructure on non-Federal land acquired under section 104.

(2) DESIGN AND SPECIFICATIONS.—Prior to construction, the design and specifications of the facility shall be approved by the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITY.—The facility shall be occupied, operated, and maintained jointly by the Secretary (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service) and the Secretary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the National Park Service) under terms and conditions agreed to by the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 107. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

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

TITLE II—UTAH PUBLIC LANDS ARTIFACT PRESERVATION

SEC. 201. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the collection of the Utah Museum of Natural History in Salt Lake City, Utah, includes more than 1,000,000 archaeological, paleontological, zoological, geological, and botanical artifacts;

(2) the collection of items housed by the Museum contains artifacts from land managed by—

- (A) the Bureau of Land Management;
- (B) the Bureau of Reclamation;
- (C) the National Park Service;
- (D) the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and
- (E) the Forest Service;

(3) more than 75 percent of the Museum's collection was recovered from federally managed public land; and

(4) the Museum has been designated by the legislature of the State of Utah as the State museum of natural history.

SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) MUSEUM.—The term “Museum” means the University of Utah Museum of Natural History in Salt Lake City, Utah.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 203. ASSISTANCE FOR UNIVERSITY OF UTAH MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

(a) ASSISTANCE FOR MUSEUM.—The Secretary shall make a grant to the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah, to pay the Federal share of the costs of construction of a new facility for the Museum, including the design, planning, furnishing, and equipping of the Museum.

(b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under subsection (b), the Museum shall submit to the Secretary a proposal for the use of the grant.

(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE III—SALT RIVER BAY NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK AND ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT

SEC. 301. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.

The first sentence of section 103(b) of the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve at St. Croix, Virgin Islands, Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 410tt-1(b)) is amended to read as follows: "The park shall consist of approximately 1015 acres of lands, waters, and interests in lands as generally depicted on the map entitled 'Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve, St. Croix, U.S.V.I.', numbered 141/80002, and dated May 2, 2002."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) 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, S. 1240 would authorize the exchange of 266 acres of National Forest System land within the Uinta and Wasatch-Cache National Forests in Utah for 37 acres of private land at the mouth of American Fork Canyon. The bill would also require the Secretary of Interior to construct a joint visitor center for the Mount Timpanogos National Monument, administered by the National Park Service, and the Uinta National Forest, administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

The visitor center would replace the center that was burned down in 1991. Since that time, the park has been in the position of attempting to house its visitors and administrative offices in a double-wide trailer. On days of high visitation, the trailer is easily overwhelmed.

This bill also contains the text of H.R. 3928, passed previously by the House under suspension of the rules. This legislation would direct the Secretary of Interior to assist the University of Utah by making a grant to the University of Utah Museum of Natural History in Salt Lake City, Utah, to help pay for the Federal share of the costs of construction of a new natural history museum. The Federal share, however, would not exceed 25 percent of the total cost. It is important to note that more than 75 percent of the museum's vast collection comes from Federal lands in Utah and the surrounding States in the Intermountain West. The poor condition of the current building poses serious threats to the preservation of these artifacts and must be replaced.

Finally, the bill contains the text of H.R. 5097, which would adjust the

boundaries of the Salt River Bay National Historic Park and Ecological Preserve located in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, to include the site of a two-story, 4,800 square foot house at the site that can easily be converted to a visitor station, museum and operation center and 15.4 acres of land that has been offered as a donation to the park. This park includes the only known place in present-day U.S. territory where members of Christopher Columbus' expedition landed. This is a good bill. I urge Members to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 1240 is a package consisting of three free-standing bills which have already been explained.

For my part, I would simply note that our colleague, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON), was the original sponsor of the legislation to provide assistance to the University of Utah, and we appreciate very much the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) moving this measure forward.

I would like to highlight the fact that the text of H.R. 5097, a bill introduced by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is include in this measure. This important legislation would expand the boundaries of the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve, located on the island of St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The people of the U.S. Virgin Islands have a strong and effective advocate in the gentlewoman. It has been my pleasure to work with the gentlewoman on many issues where she has taken a leadership role in advancing the well-being of her constituents and the American public.

In particular, I want to commend the gentlewoman for the distinguished work she has done as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands. In that role the gentlewoman has assumed that responsibility not just in this Congress but in many others as well and has taken hold of that responsibility and helped shepherd numerous pieces of legislation that affect the very fabric of this great Nation. Her leadership has made possible the preservation and careful use of many of the natural and historical resources that we are blessed with across this country.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) as well, and salute him for his leadership on a number of important issues we will be addressing today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve 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.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1240 as well, and urge Members to support its passage. This bill includes my bill, H.R. 5097, to expand the boundaries of the Salt River National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve located on St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

I would like to express my gratitude to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), to the ranking member, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), and the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) for their support of my bill, which will make it possible for the National Park Service to establish an official presence at Salt River for the first time since the park was established more than 10 years ago.

Salt River Bay is located approximately 3.5 miles west of Christiansted on the north central coast of St. Croix. It became a part of the National Park System when President Bush signed H.R. 2927 into law on February 24, 1992. Salt River and its surrounding land areas comprise an important ecosystem continuum, the only one of its kind in the Virgin Islands and one of the few left in the West Indies. This unique chain of habitats functions as an intact ecosystem from the dry tropical forested hillsides down to the wetlands, streams, marshes, mangroves, salt ponds, and sea grass beds to the magnificent coral reefs and superb submarine canyon containing deep water sponges and corals.

Salt River Bay and its surrounding areas support the highest diversity of bird life known in the Virgin Islands. Twenty-four out of 110 bird species recorded within Salt River system are locally or federally listed as threatened or endangered species. In addition, seven species of endangered vertebrates occur here: The leatherback; green and hawksbill sea turtles; the brown pelican; the least and roseate tern and the peregrine falcon.

In addition to these incredible natural resources, the historical and archeological significance of Salt River is also remarkable. Salt River Bay is the first, and best-documented, site where Christopher Columbus made landfall on his second voyage to the New World in 1493.

From other archeological findings on St. Croix, experts believe Salt River was likely home to pre-ceramic peoples living more than 3,000 years ago. The site contains evidence of the only ceremonial ball court of the Carib Indian culture ever to be discovered in the Lesser Antilles.

In order to provide better service and a more rewarding experience for park visitors, it is important for the Park Service to have a place where visitors can come to learn about the park and receive assistance from the Park Service personnel. There is currently no such facility at the park. The Park Service recently identified a house at the site that can be easily converted to

a visitor station, museum and operation center that will house enforcement and maintenance personnel, and many other functions.

Because this facility is presently outside of the current park boundaries, H.R. 5097 was introduced to expand the boundaries of the park to include the site of the new facility, as well as include 15.4 acres of land that has been offered as a donation to the park.

In conclusion, I thank my colleagues on the Committee on Resources and thank majority subcommittee staff Tod Hull and Rob Howarth, as well as Rich Healy and David Watkins on the minority staff for their assistance on H.R. 5097.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Timpanogos Interagency Land Exchange Act of 2001. This legislation authorizes a land exchange between the United States Forest Service and a private citizen in my district and provides for the construction of an interagency administrative and visitor facility at the entrance of American Fork Canyon. I want to thank my colleague and fellow Utahn, Senator ROBERT BENNETT, for introducing this bill in the Senate and for his hard work in helping this bill become law.

The Timpanogos Interagency Land Exchange Act of 2001 authorizes the exchange of 266 acres of United States Forest Service land for 37 acres of private land. This exchange is being done with a willing private landowner. The values for the exchange will be equal. The exchange requires the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture and must conform to the "Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions."

The newly acquired Forest Service land will serve as the site for a new visitor center and administrative office of the Pleasant Grove Ranger District of the Uinta National Forest and the Timpanogos Cave National Monument. This new facility will greatly benefit the visiting public and result in better coordination between the NPS and the USFS.

The original visitor center at Timpanogos Cave burned down in 1991. Since then, a 20 by 60 foot double-wide trailer has served as the make-shift visitor center. This trailer is far from adequate for the monument's annual visitation of 120,000 people. It is simply too small and outdated. Additionally, the center suffers from occasional rock-falls that cause significant damage to the roof of the trailer and raises obvious public safety concerns.

The new facility will meet the space needs of the ranger district and be more technology friendly and will also be in a safer location. Furthermore, the public now will be able to visit one conveniently located office to inquire about NPS and USFS activities.

The Timpanogos Interagency Land Exchange Act of 2001 is long overdue. Its passage today will help correct a decade old problem and will help both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service serve the public better.

Mr. RAHALL. 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 Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass Senate bill, S. 1240, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALEUT CORPORATION AND UNITED STATES OF AMERICA LAND EXCHANGE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1325) to ratify an agreement between the Aleut Corporation and the United States of America to exchange land rights received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for certain land interests on Adak Island, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1325

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that:

(1) Adak Island is an isolated island located 1,200 miles southwest of Anchorage, Alaska, between the Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea. The Island, with its unique physical and biological features, including a deep water harbor and abundant marine-associated wildlife, was recognized early for both its natural and military values. In 1913, Adak Island was reserved and set aside as a Preserve because of its value to seabirds, marine mammals, and fisheries. Withdrawals of portions of Adak Island for various military purposes date back to 1901 and culminated in the 1959 withdrawal of approximately half of the Island for use by the Department of the Navy for military purposes.

(2) By 1990, military development on Adak Island supported a community of 6,000 residents. Outside of the Adak Naval Complex, there was no independent community on Adak Island.

(3) As a result of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (104 Stat. 1808), as amended, the Adak Naval Complex has been closed by the Department of Defense.

(4) The Aleut Corporation is an Alaskan Native Regional Corporation incorporated in the State of Alaska pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), as amended (43 U.S.C. 1601, et seq.). The Aleut Corporation represents the indigenous people of the Aleutian Islands who prior to the Russian exploration and settlement of the Aleutian Islands were found throughout the Aleutian Islands which includes Adak Island.

(5) None of Adak Island was available for selection by The Aleut Corporation under section 14(h)(8) of ANCSA (43 U.S.C. 1613(h)(8)) because it was part of a National Wildlife Refuge and because the portion comprising the Adak Naval Complex was withdrawn for use by the United States Navy for military purposes prior to the passage of ANCSA in December 1971.

(6) The Aleut Corporation is attempting to establish a community on Adak and has offered to exchange ANCSA land selections and entitlements for conveyance of certain lands and interests therein on a portion of Adak formerly occupied by the Navy.

(7) Removal of a portion of the Adak Island land from refuge status will be offset by the acquisition of high quality wildlife habitat in other Aleut Corporation selections within the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, maintaining a resident human population on Adak to control caribou, and making possible a continued U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service presence in that remote location

to protect the natural resources of the Aleutian Islands Unit of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

(8) It is in the public interest to promote reuse of the Adak Island lands by exchanging certain lands for lands selected by The Aleut Corporation elsewhere in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Experience with environmental problems associated with formerly used defense sites in the State of Alaska suggests that the most effective and efficient way to avoid future environmental problems on Adak is to support and encourage active reuse of Adak.

SEC. 2. RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT.

The document entitled the "Agreement Concerning the Conveyance of Property at the Adak Naval Complex" (hereinafter "the Agreement"), and dated September 20, 2000, executed by The Aleut Corporation, the Department of the Interior and the Department of the Navy, together with any technical amendments or modifications to the boundaries that may be agreed to by the parties is hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved and the terms, conditions, procedures, covenants, reservations, indemnities and other provisions set forth in the Agreement are declared to be obligations and commitments of the United States and The Aleut Corporation: *Provided*, That modifications to the maps and legal descriptions of lands to be removed from the National Wildlife Refuge System within the military withdrawal on Adak Island set forth in Public Land Order 1949 may be made only upon agreement of all Parties to the Agreement and notification given to the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate: *Provided further*, That the acreage conveyed to the United States by The Aleut Corporation under the Agreement, as modified, shall be at least 36,000 acres.

SEC. 3. REMOVAL OF LANDS FROM REFUGE.

Effective on the date of conveyance to the Aleut Corporation of the Adak Exchange Lands as described in the Agreement, all such lands shall be removed from the National Wildlife Refuge System and shall neither be considered as part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge nor be subject to any laws pertaining to lands within the boundaries of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, including the conveyance restrictions imposed by section 22(g) of the ANCSA, 43 U.S.C. 1621(g), for land in the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Secretary shall adjust the boundaries of the Refuge so as to exclude all interests in lands and land rights, surface and subsurface, received by The Aleut Corporation in accordance with this Act and the Agreement.

SEC. 4. ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT.

Lands and interests therein exchanged and conveyed by the United States pursuant to this Act shall be considered and treated as conveyances of lands or interests therein under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, except that receipt of such lands and interests therein shall not constitute a sale or disposition of land or interests received pursuant to such Act. The public easements for access to public lands and waters reserved pursuant to the Agreement are deemed to satisfy the requirements and purposes of Section 17(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

SEC. 5. REACQUISITION OF LANDS.

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire by purchase or exchange, on a willing seller basis only, any land conveyed to The Aleut Corporation under the Agreement and this Act. In the event any of the lands are subsequently acquired by the