

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site Boundary Revision Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **HISTORIC SITE.**—The term “historic site” means the Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site in Blair and Cambria Counties, Pennsylvania, established pursuant to Public Law 88-546 (78 Stat. 752; 16 U.S.C. 461 note).

(2) **MAP.**—The term “Map” means the map entitled “Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site, Blair and Cambria Counties, Pennsylvania”, numbered NERO 423/80,014 and dated May 01.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

SEC. 3. REVISION OF HISTORIC SITE BOUNDARIES.

(a) **LANDS EXCLUDED FROM AND ADDED TO HISTORIC SITE.**—The boundary of the historic site is hereby revised—

(1) by deleting—

(A) the approximately 3.09 acres depicted on the Map as tracts 105-21 and 105-15; and

(B) the approximately 7.26 acres depicted on the Map as tract 102-42; and

(2) by adding—

(A) the approximately 42.42 acres depicted on the map as tract 101-09; and

(B) the approximately 15 acres depicted on the map as tract 104-07.

(b) **AUTHORIZATION FOR ACQUISITIONS.**—

(1) **ACQUISITION 1.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary is authorized to acquire, from willing owners only, the approximately 98 acres depicted on the Map as tract 103-07 in exchange for the approximately 108 acres depicted on the Map as tracts 102-38 and 103-04.

(B) **EQUALIZATION OF VALUES.**—If the values of the tracts to be exchanged under subparagraph (A) are not equal, the difference may be equalized by donation, payment using donated or appropriated funds, or the conveyance of additional land.

(2) **ACQUISITION 2.**—The Secretary is authorized to acquire by exchange or donation, from willing owners only, the lands included within the boundary of the tract described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

(c) **REVISION OF BOUNDARIES AFTER ACQUISITIONS.**—Upon completion of the exchange under subsection (b)(1), the boundaries of the historic site shall be revised, as appropriate—

(1) by adding the land acquired by the United States; and

(2) by deleting the land that is no longer owned by the United States.

SEC. 4. AVAILABILITY OF MAP.

A copy of the Map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION OF ACQUIRED LANDS.

Lands and interests in lands added to the historic site under this Act shall be administered by the Secretary as part of the historic site in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

H.R. 4682, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MUR-

THA) would revise the boundary of the Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site. The Allegheny Portage Railroad, located in southwestern Pennsylvania, was the first railroad constructed over the Allegheny Mountains. The railroad helped to facilitate trade in the area and open the interior of the United States to settlement and was considered a technological wonder of its day because of its unique construction. The bill authorizes the acquisition of approximately 98 acres in exchange for nearly 108 acres. This will help facilitate access for a property owner that had previously been landlocked.

The bill authorizes the Secretary to acquire a tract from the State of Pennsylvania Game Lands Commission to help facilitate the development of the Harrisburg to Pittsburgh Millennium Trail. The bill comes to the floor with an amendment correcting some technical errors.

This is a good bill and I urge my colleagues 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.

This bill sponsored by my colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA), that alone makes it worthy of consideration by this body. I commend the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his excellent effort on behalf of this important national historic site, and I urge passage.

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. 4682, 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.

□ 1700

CLARIFYING TAX TREATMENT OF BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1448) to clarify the tax treatment of bonds and other obligations issued by the Government of American Samoa, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1448

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

SECTION 1. CLARIFICATION OF TAX TREATMENT OF BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA.

(a) **EXEMPTION OF ALL BONDS FROM INCOME TAXATION BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERN-**

MENTS.—Subsection (b) of section 202 of Public Law 98-454 (48 U.S.C. 1670) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) **EXEMPTION OF ALL BONDS FROM INCOME TAXATION BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The interest on any bond or other obligation issued by or on behalf of the Government of American Samoa shall be exempt from taxation by the Government of American Samoa and the governments of any of the several States, the District of Columbia, any territory or possession of the United States, and any subdivision thereof.

“(2) **EXEMPTION APPLICABLE ONLY TO INCOME TAXES.**—The exemption provided by paragraph (1) shall not apply to gift, estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or other wealth transfer taxes.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This Act shall apply to obligations issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). 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, I rise today in support of H.R. 1448, a bill to clarify the tax treatment of bonds and other obligations issued by the Government of American Samoa. This bill, introduced by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA), permits interest earned on bonds issued by the American Samoa Government to be exempt from both State and local taxation. Passage of H.R. 1448 will provide American Samoa parity in the tax treatment of their bonds with all of the other U.S. territories.

The bill was considered by both the Committee on Resources and the Committee on the Judiciary, which both reported out the identical text which is before the House today. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENBRENNER) for his cooperation in scheduling this bill today, and I ask Members to support this bill.

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

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) to explain the legislation, and commend the gentleman for his leadership.

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, this legislation has taken a roundabout journey through our committee system, particularly because the issue involves the issuance of bonds. As such, the bill was referred concurrently to the Committee on Ways and Means, as well as to the Committee on the Judiciary. But I am extremely happy and gratified that H.R. 1448 has received the approval and referral from the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on the Judiciary to the Committee on Resources, and I thank the gentleman from California (Mr.

THOMAS) and the ranking member, the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), for their approval and referral of H.R. 1448 to the Committee on Resources.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), of the Committee on the Judiciary for their support and referral of this legislation.

In particular, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT) of the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law for the comprehensive work they have done to ensure that H.R. 1448 will not conflict with other Federal laws relative to bond issues.

I want to commend these gentlemen and their staffs for all of the work that they have done to bring this bill not only before the Committee on Resources, but now for House consideration.

Mr. Speaker, under U.S. law, the territories of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands currently have the authority to issue municipal bonds to foster a broad range of economic activity. These bonds are exempt from income taxation by the Federal Government, State governments, territorial governments, municipal governments and the District of Columbia government.

However, the U.S. Territory of American Samoa also has the authority to issue bonds, but the interest earned from American Samoa bonds is subject to taxation by State and municipal governments. H.R. 1448 amends U.S. law and provides parity and equity for American Samoa by allowing interest earned on bonds issued by the American Samoa Government to be exempt from State, local and territorial taxation. In other words, H.R. 1448 will grant to American Samoa the same authority already held by the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This legislation will make American Samoa bonds more attractive to investors, and can provide an additional source of funds for the American Samoa Government.

The Governor of the Government of American Samoa has indicated that the local government could have saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest costs if the interest on the bonds the government issued in 2000 would have been tax exempt.

The local power authority, a semi-autonomous government agency, would also like to sell bonds to purchase new diesel generator sets to accommodate the territory's growing population and utility needs. This legislation will lower the interest costs of these prospective sales, and will enable the local government to address deficiencies in its current infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1448 is an early step toward providing the Government of American Samoa with additional assistance in improving the government's financial condition, which will have a direct and positive impact on the people of American Samoa.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation deserves support of this body, and I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, we have an expression on the islands, and this may be the last time I have a chance to say a few words in this body, and the saying is "aue e te seluselu mai a'u," which means do not try to comb my hair or do not try to butter me up. I realize that this may not be the last piece of legislation that the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) will be chairing or managing on the floor of the House, but I want to say to my colleagues, for almost 14 years, serving as a member of the Committee on Resources, it has been my privilege and personal honor to have known the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN). The gentleman from Utah served previously as the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, and having served as the ranking member at that time, I enjoyed tremendously not only the gentleman's outstanding leadership qualities, but also that he was always fair with me on many, many series of hearings and deliberations that were held when the gentleman served as the subcommittee chairman.

Even in the gentleman's capacity as full committee chairman, I want to say that the gentleman from Utah has always been willing to assist members with their proposed bills, and his demonstrated leadership in this institution will certainly be missed, certainly by this Member, and I am sure that the same feeling exists among all Members.

Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I have no more alumni from the University of Utah to pick on, especially when Utah always loses to the BYU Cougars. I want to say on behalf of this Member, Mr. Speaker, we are certainly going to miss the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

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 the bill, H.R. 1448, 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.

VANCOUVER NATIONAL HISTORIC RESERVE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 2099) to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide adequate funding authorization for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2099

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

SECTION 1. INCREASE IN AUTHORIZATION FOR RESERVE.

Section 502(d) of division I of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 461 note; 110 Stat. 4154) is amended by striking "\$5,000,000" and all that follows through the period and inserting "\$15,000,000 for development costs associated with capital projects consistent with the cooperative management plan, except that the Federal share of such development costs shall not exceed 50 percent of the total costs."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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, H.R. 2099, introduced by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. BAIRD) and amended by the Committee on Resources, increases the funding authorization for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve to \$15 million for development costs associated with capital projects consistent with the cooperative management plans for the site, and the Federal share of such costs will not exceed 50 percent of the total costs. The changes made by the committee concur with the actions by the other body on S. 1649.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2099, as amended, is supported by both the majority and the minority. I urge Members to support H.R. 2099, as amended.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the majority has already explained this legislation. We support it. I urge its passage, and I commend the gentleman from Washington (Mr. BAIRD) for the gentleman's leadership in bringing this bill to our attention.

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2099, legislation that would increase by \$10 million the authorization for federal spending on preserving and rehabilitating the Vancouver National Historic Reserve.

Fort Vancouver, located on the banks of the Columbia River, is perhaps the most significant historic site in the Pacific Northwest. It is rich in national historic and cultural significance, pre-dating the arrival of Lewis and Clark through the mid-20th century. Before the arrival of the American traders and well before the Lewis and Clark expedition arrived, this site on the shore of the Columbia River was home to a variety of Native American Indian tribes for over 10,000 years, including the Cascades, Chehalis, Chinook, Clallam, Cowitz, Klickitat, Nisqually, Tillamook, and Shasta tribes. Fort Vancouver was also headquarters