

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

for the Hudson's Bay Company's Columbia Department, embracing present-day British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and Idaho. The trading post, which was the center of the region's fur trading enterprise, represented Britain's business and governmental interests in competition with the United States. The 1846 treaty between Great Britain and the United States established today's northern-most boundary at the 49th parallel.

The Vancouver Barracks was established in 1849 when the first contingent of U.S. Army troops arrived in the newly acquired American lands. From 1849 until World War I, during which time some of the Army's most promising officers (including Ulysses S. Grant, Phillip Sheridan, George McClellan and George C. Marshall) were stationed at Vancouver, the barracks was the principal military headquarters for the Pacific Northwest. As a result of its national significance, the site was designated by Congress as a National Historic Monument in 1948, and later as a National Historic Site. The 55-acre Vancouver Barracks contains 32 structures, many of which have been determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including several rare examples of military architecture.

The Vancouver National Historic Reserve was designated by Congress in 1996 for the coordinated preservation, public use and management of historic sites within the Vancouver area. The Reserve was established as a partnership among the landowners in the Reserve, which include the National Park Service, the City of Vancouver, the U.S. Army and the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The 366 acre Historic Reserve contains the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, Vancouver Barracks, Officers Row, Pearson Field, the Water Resources Center and portions of the Columbia river waterfront.

H.R. 2099 seeks to preserve the Vancouver Barracks for future generations. The 1996 Act that created the Historic Reserve provided an initial \$5 million authorization for capital projects, which has been fully appropriated. It is important to note that a provision was included in the Fiscal Year 2002 Interior Appropriations bill which essentially says there would be no further federal appropriations for capital projects within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve unless and until a new "authorization" for capital projects is approved by Congress. Of great importance to my congressional district, to the Pacific Northwest and our nation, H.R. 2099, as amended by the House Resources Committee, would increase from \$5 million to \$15 million the authorization of appropriations for development costs associated with capital projects at the Vancouver National Historic Reserve.

For over half a century local, state and federal government agencies, along with numerous private individuals and organizations, have been collaborating to preserve and interpret the history of the Vancouver area and the region. During the past 15 years, in excess of \$30 million has been invested in property improvements and projects within the present Historic Reserve boundaries. The federal government has provided approximately 25% of the capital funds for these efforts. The remaining 75% has been provided by local and state governments, foundations such as the locally based Vancouver National Historic Trust, and

numerous other individuals businesses and not-for-profit organizations.

The Vancouver Barracks adaptive Reuse and Economic Analysis completed in early 2000 determined the need for additional rehabilitation of buildings and adaptations necessary for new uses in the West Barracks area. The City of Vancouver has committed \$6 million for infrastructure improvements, the state of Washington has committed \$6 million for educational uses, and private donations will make up an additional \$8 million for building preservation efforts. The increase in federal authorization of \$10 million that is contained in H.R. 2099 will be used to match non-federal funding for the West Barracks project. This federal funding has been deemed key to successful private fund-raising efforts, securing tenants for the property, minimizing the impact of inflation and avoiding additional serious property deterioration.

Finally, I would like to give a word of thanks to our partners who have helped us get to this point. I would be remiss if I did not thank Chairmen HANSEN and RADANOVICH and Representatives RAHALL and CHRISTENSEN for their assistance in bringing this bill to the House floor for consideration. On behalf of all the community leaders who have worked on this project, I want to especially thank Vancouver Mayor Royce Pollard and Bruce Hagensen, the former Mayor and current Board Member of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage passage of H.R. 2099.

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

Mr. HANSEN. 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. 2099, 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.

#### GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK LAND EXCHANGE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1105) to provide for the expeditious completion of the acquisition of State of Wyoming lands within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1105

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

#### TITLE I—GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK LAND EXCHANGE

##### SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this title:

(1) **FEDERAL LANDS.**—The term "Federal lands" means public lands as defined in section 103(e) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702(e)).

(2) **GOVERNOR.**—The term "Governor" means the Governor of the State of Wyoming.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) **STATE LANDS.**—The term "State lands" means lands and interest in lands owned by the State of Wyoming within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park as identified on a map titled "Private, State & County Inholdings Grand Teton National Park", dated March 2001, and numbered GTNP/0001.

##### SEC. 102. ACQUISITION OF STATE LANDS.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION TO ACQUIRE LANDS.**—The Secretary is authorized to acquire approximately 1,406 acres of State lands within the exterior boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, as generally depicted on the map referenced in section 101(4), by any one or a combination of the following—

(1) donation;

(2) purchase with donated or appropriated funds; or

(3) exchange of Federal lands in the State of Wyoming that are identified for disposal under approved land use plans in effect on the date of enactment of this Act under section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712) that are of equal value to the State lands acquired in the exchange.

(b) **IDENTIFICATION OF LANDS FOR EXCHANGE.**—In the event that the Secretary or the Governor determines that the Federal lands eligible for exchange under subsection (a)(3) are not sufficient or acceptable for the acquisition of all the State lands identified in section 101(4), the Secretary shall identify other Federal lands or interests therein in the State of Wyoming for possible exchange and shall identify such lands or interests together with their estimated value in a report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives. Such lands or interests shall not be available for exchange unless authorized by an Act of Congress enacted after the date of submission of the report.

##### SEC. 103. VALUATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL INTERESTS.

(a) **AGREEMENT ON APPRAISER.**—If the Secretary and the Governor are unable to agree on the value of any Federal lands eligible for exchange under section 102(a)(3) or State lands, then the Secretary and the Governor may select a qualified appraiser to conduct an appraisal of those lands. The purchase or exchange under section 102(a) shall be conducted based on the values determined by the appraisal.

(b) **NO AGREEMENT ON APPRAISER.**—If the Secretary and the Governor are unable to agree on the selection of a qualified appraiser under subsection (a), then the Secretary and the Governor shall each designate a qualified appraiser. The two designated appraisers shall select a qualified third appraiser to conduct the appraisal with the advice and assistance of the two designated appraisers. The purchase or exchange under section 102(a) shall be conducted based on the values determined by the appraisal.

(c) **APPRAISAL COSTS.**—The Secretary and the State of Wyoming shall each pay one-half of the appraisal costs under subsections (a) and (b).

##### SEC. 104. ADMINISTRATION OF STATE LANDS ACQUIRED BY THE UNITED STATES.

The State lands conveyed to the United States under section 102(a) shall become part of Grand Teton National Park. The Secretary shall manage such lands under the Act of August 25, 1916 (commonly known as the "National Park Service Organic Act") and other laws, rules, and regulations applicable to Grand Teton National Park.

##### SEC. 105. AUTHORIZATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for the purposes of this title.