

agreements with willing private and State landowners who are interested in protecting, preserving, and maintaining these important archaeological sites. It also authorizes the Secretary to purchase such lands from willing sellers.

Each cooperative agreement or land acquisition would be strictly voluntary and would be negotiated by each landowner to contain only the terms and conditions that are agreed to by both parties.

H.R. 506 has been carefully crafted to protect private landowners. Numerous safeguards prevent the Secretary from forcing cooperative agreements on the private property owner or forcing a landowner to sell the rights to the land to the Federal Government. Under H.R. 506, any action affecting the disposition of a private landowner's rights is purely in the discretion of that private party.

H.R. 506 strikes an exacting balance between protecting and preserving these delicate archaeological sites in the Galisteo Basin and protecting the rights of the State and private landowners with property interests in these sites.

Considering this, I urge my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support the preservation of the natural beauty and cultural significance of the Galisteo Basin.

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

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers at this time, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), a fellow member of the House Committee on Resources.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I want to also thank the gentleman for yielding me the time, and I will be brief; but I did want to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) for his work on behalf of this important piece of legislation and commend my cousin, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), for bringing this bill forward.

Those of us who live in the greater Southwest know that these archaeological sites are not only great attractions but they add to our quality of life and our sense of history in the greater Southwest. We also understand that these sites have much to teach us about what the people who lived in the Southwest experienced 1,000 and more years in the past, and I think they successfully lived on the land; but they also, in the long run, did not survive, it appears, or they moved to other parts of North America, and the lessons that are hidden in these ruins and these archaeological sites I think can help us be better stewards and live on the land lightly in the Southwest.

I want to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI), as well, because we understand this is a great example

of a public-private cooperative effort where landowners' rights are acknowledged and respected but also the interests of the public, and the public good are acknowledged in this important legislation.

So I rise in support and urge the House to adopt this significant piece of legislation for all of us who live in the Southwest.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Let me congratulate the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the other Members of the House Committee on Resources and the staff for their hard work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, having no additional speakers, I yield back all remaining time.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I also yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 506, 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.

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

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 982) to clarify the tax treatment of bonds and other obligations issued by the Government of American Samoa.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 982

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 GOVERNMENTS.—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.”.

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall apply to obligations issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ar-

izona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RENZI. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 982, 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), will permit the interest earned on bonds issued by the American Samoa Government to be exempt from both State and local taxation. Passage of H.R. 982 will provide parity in the tax treatment of their bonds with other territories in the United States.

It is my hope that this legislation would help to provide more funding to the American Samoa Government as well as putting this territory on the same playing field with others when investors look to the islands for economic development.

At this time, the House Committee on the Judiciary has also passed this legislation with strong bipartisan support by their Members. In the 107th Congress, we also passed this bill under suspension of the rules near the end of that Congress.

I thank the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) for his work with us to move this bill more quickly during this session, and I want to thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) for his cooperation in bringing this bill to the floor today. I ask Members to adopt H.R. 982.

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

□ 1730

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. UDALL of New Mexico asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 982, sponsored by our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA), is intended to remove a barrier to economic development in the U.S. Territory of American Samoa.

In essence, H.R. 982 provides American Samoa parity with other U.S. Territories whose bonds are not taxed by the State or local governments. I congratulate the gentleman from American Samoa for his work on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my sense of appreciation to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) who are both managing several pieces of legislation this afternoon. I thank them for their assistance and leadership in doing so.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the gentleman from California (Chairman POMBO) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), the ranking member, for the Committee on Resources; and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Chairman SENSENBRENNER) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), the ranking member from the Committee on the Judiciary, for their continued support regarding the needs of the territory of American Samoa and for their efforts to bring H.R. 982 to the floor this afternoon.

H.R. 982 would amend the U.S. Code to allow interest earned from American Samoa bonds to be exempt from both State and local taxation.

Mr. Speaker, under current Federal law, Congress has expressly provided for the exemption of State and local taxes for bonds issued for or by the territories of Guam, the Virgin Islands and the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands. While American Samoa can issue bonds similar to the other territories, the interest earned from American Samoa bonds is subject to taxation by several States, Washington, D.C. and other territories. This proposed legislation would simply provide equity and parity to the territory of American Samoa.

It has been a slight oversight over the years, that is the reason I am having to propose this legislation. H.R. 982 would also make American Samoa bonds more attractive to investors and will save the local government between \$20,000 to \$50,000 in interest alone on municipal bonds it may issue. This legislation will lower the interest costs of the prospective sales and will also enable the government to address deficiencies in its current infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is identical to H.R. 1448, which I introduced in the 107th Congress, which was adopted by both the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Resources, and finally agreed to by voice vote on September 24, 2002. Unfortunately, the other body was unable to consider this legislation before the 107th Congress adjourned.

However, the Committee on Resources and the Committee on the Judiciary have unanimously passed H.R. 982, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. In doing so, I want to thank committee staff, Tony Babauta, and my office staff, Judy Leilani and Lisa Williams, for their ef-

forts in making the proper preparations and assisting tremendously in bringing this legislation to the floor for consideration.

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to congratulate the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) on all his hard work in the Committee on Resources, his tenacity, and his persistence. I know he has worked hard and long on this very important issue to American Samoa. I just want to recognize that here today.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 982.

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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1829, FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES COMPETITION IN CONTRACTING ACT OF 2003

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-348) on the resolution (H. Res. 428) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1829) to amend title 18, United States Code, to require Federal Prison Industries to compete for its contracts minimizing its unfair competition with private sector firms and their non-inmate workers and empowering Federal agencies to get the best value for taxpayers' dollars, to provide a five-year period during which Federal Prison Industries adjusts to obtaining inmate work opportunities through other than its mandatory source sta-

tus, to enhance inmate access to remedial and vocational opportunities and other rehabilitative opportunities to better prepare inmates for a successful return to society, to authorize alternative inmate work opportunities in support of non-profit organizations, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2559, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-349) on the resolution (H. Res. 429) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2559) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 76, MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2004

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-350) on the resolution (H. Res. 430), providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 76) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Concurrent Resolution 176, by the yeas and nays; and

House Concurrent Resolution 94, by the yeas and nays. Both electronic votes will be conducted as 15-minute votes.

H.R. 2620 will be voted on tomorrow.

RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING FINANCIAL PLANNING WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 176.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER)