

project director. The president of the Kennedy Center and the administrator of General Services will serve on the team. The plaza project, when completed, will change the face of Washington in the West End. It is a monumental project that will not only enhance our Nation's Capital, but also provide safer and easier access to the center for patrons, visitors, and tourists. The center, under the leadership of Michael Kaiser, is working diligently to address general management of the facility as well as unmet personal needs. I support H.R. 3198 and urge its passage.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my strong support for H.R. 3198, "The John F. Kennedy Center Reauthorization Act of 2003."

The Kennedy Center serves an important role in our Nation. Not only is it one of the most active theaters in the world, hosting millions of patrons each year to its seven stages, but is also one of the most recognizable theater buildings.

The legislation we are considering this afternoon, which I have offered with my colleagues Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Ms. HOLMES-NORTON, reauthorizes the Capital Infrastructure program of the Kennedy Center for an additional three years. The bill also makes a number of important changes that will improve the management of large construction projects at the Kennedy Center.

This legislation will help ensure that the Kennedy Center continues to have a world class facility to house world class entertainment, which includes everything from classical opera to cutting edge films.

In addition to authorizing funds for maintenance, repair, and security as well as other capital projects, this legislation puts into place important tools for improved project management.

The legislation creates a project team for the plaza project. This team will include the secretary of transportation, administrator of general services, and chairman of the board of trustees of The Kennedy Center. This team will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the plaza project through a project director, who reports to the project team and is appointed by the Secretary of Transportation.

The legislation also provides for ongoing review by the General Accounting Office of the plaza project until its completion, with periodic reporting to the Congress. The GAO will be looking at the personnel, policies and procedures used to carry out the project.

I support The Kennedy Center Reauthorization and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. PORTER. 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 Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3198.

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.

CONVEYANCE TO FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, OF EXISTING FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1274) to direct the Administrator of General Services to convey to Fresno County, California, the existing Federal courthouse in that county, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1274

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE TO FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

[On completion of a new Federal courthouse in Fresno, California, the Administrator of General Services shall convey to Fresno County, California, without consideration, the existing Federal courthouse in that county.]

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF B.F. SISK FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE, CALIFORNIA.

(a) *CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.*—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator of General Services may convey to Fresno County, California, for nominal consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the building and site located at 1130 O Street in Fresno, California, known as the B.F. Sisk Federal Building and United States Courthouse.

(b) *TIMING OF CONVEYANCE.*—The Administrator may make the conveyance under subsection (a) only after the completion of construction of a new Federal courthouse in Fresno County and the relocation of the tenants in the building referred to in subsection (a) to the new Federal courthouse.

(c) *RESTRICTIONS ON USE.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The deed for the conveyance under subsection (a) shall include a covenant that provides that the property will be used for public use purposes, and specifically provides for substantial use of the property for the administration of justice.

(2) *REVERSION.*—If the Administrator determines that the property is not being used for the purposes described in paragraph (1), all right, title, and interest in and to the property shall revert to the United States, at the option of the United States.

(3) *EXPIRATION.*—The reversionary interest of the United States in the property under this subsection shall expire 20 years after the date of the conveyance.

(d) *ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—The Administrator may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Administrator considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(e) *APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.*—This section is not subject to the provisions of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11301 et seq.).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1274, introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr.

DOOLEY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH), allows the administrator of General Services to convey the B.F. Sisk United States Courthouse located in Fresno, California, to Fresno County. This is a worthwhile endeavor, as the GSA is currently constructing a new Federal courthouse in Fresno, and this legislation will ensure that the people of Fresno County continue to receive a judicial benefit from the existing Federal courthouse.

This legislation also includes a number of provisions that will help protect the interests of the Federal Government. Among the provisions included in this legislation are the requirement that the courthouse be used for public purpose for at least 20 years, that the transfer not take place until the new courthouse is completed and occupied, and the conveyance may also include any additional provisions the administrator deems necessary to protect the interests of the government. I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1274, as amended, a bill to convey a Federal courthouse in Fresno, California, to the County of Fresno. The bill transfers for a nominal fee an obsolete Federal building in Fresno, California, to the County of Fresno. The bill ensures that the transfer documents contain a reverter clause, as well as a public use clause, both of which protect Federal interests.

I would like to thank the chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), and ranking member, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), for their work on this legislation and for recognizing that outmoded Federal buildings are still viable and can continue to serve a public purpose. I also commend the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLEY) for introducing this bill, which is a win/win for all parties involved.

I support H.R. 1274 and urge its passage.

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

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLEY).

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1274 as introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and me, and I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) for their work in advancing this piece of legislation.

The Eastern District of California is very pleased that they have decided to

build a new Federal courthouse in the city of Fresno. The entire community, as well as the surrounding areas, is very pleased with this investment into the construction of a new courthouse which will serve the needs of the entire Eastern District of California.

This legislation is also very important in that it will transfer the B.F. Sisk Building to the County of Fresno, with the appropriate stipulations that this legislation embodies, ensuring that it remains in public use for a considerable period of time. This also meets the needs of Fresno, it meets the needs of public service, and ensures that the taxpayers' interests are protected. I thank the committee members for advancing this legislation.

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

Mr. PORTER. 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 Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1274, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTER. 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 H.R. 3198 and H.R. 1274, the measures just considered by the House.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1545

CLARIFYING ACREAGE FOR IRRIGATION WATER UNDER MISSOURI RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3209) to amend the Reclamation Project Authorization Act of 1972 to clarify the acreage for which the North Loup division is authorized to provide irrigation water under the Missouri River Basin project.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3209

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

SECTION 1. CLARIFICATION OF ACREAGE FOR IRRIGATION WATER.

Section 501 of the Reclamation Project Authorization Act of 1972 (43 U.S.C. 615ddd) is

amended by striking "fifty-three thousand acres" and inserting "approximately 53,000 acres".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days 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 Nebraska?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3209 is a bill I introduced to clarify the amount of acreage for which the North Loup Division is authorized under the Missouri River Basin Project. This bill provides for a technical correction by inserting the word "approximately" on the amount of acreage authorized under the project.

Under current law, irrigators must cite the specific amount of irrigated acreage served under the North Loup project. Conflicting Federal and State statutes for reporting irrigable service areas, conversion of irrigated ground to right-of-ways, land conservation programs and habitat easements are causing ever-changing and misunderstood adjustments to irrigated acreage. This bill allows for more flexibility in determining the amount of irrigated acreage.

This is not a new concept and would bring consistency to the act, as well as to contracts between the irrigation districts and the United States. I urge my colleagues to support this non-controversial bill.

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

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

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3209 would make a minor change by requiring the North Loup Division of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program to deliver water to "approximately" 53,000 acres. Existing law, as was explained by my colleague, requires the project to deliver to exactly 53,000 acres. Yet, the project does not annually deliver water to precisely 53,000 acres.

The bill is not controversial. I urge Members to support this legislation.

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

Mr. OSBORNE. 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 Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3209.

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.

AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS, WATER RECYCLING AND REUSE PROJECT

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1732) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Williamson County, Texas, Water Recycling and Reuse Project, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1732

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

SECTION 1. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Williamson County Water Recycling Act of 2003".

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Title XVI of Public Law 102-575; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 1635 the following new section: "SEC. 1636. WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS, WATER RECYCLING AND REUSE PROJECT.

"(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Lower Colorado River Authority, Texas, is authorized to participate in the design, planning, and construction of permanent facilities to reclaim and reuse water in Williamson County, Texas.

"(b) COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost.

"(c) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the project described in subsection (a)."

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1635 the following:

"Sec. 1636. Williamson County, Texas, Water Recycling and Reuse Project."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days 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 Nebraska?

There was no objection.