

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.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1732, offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning and construction of facilities to reclaim and reuse water in Williamson County, Texas. Williamson County is one of the fastest growing counties in the State of Texas. The Texas Water Development Board has concluded that existing water wells are being overdrawn, and surface water supplies are not meeting current drinking water demands. This bill will allow the communities to stretch potable water resources by replacing drinking water with recycled water on parks, golf courses and school grounds.

This bill is a commonsense solution for communities that want to safeguard drinking water supplies for future generations. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan 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, I rise in support of H.R. 1732. This bill provides the Secretary of the Interior with authority to help finance a water recycling project to serve residents of Williamson County, Texas. As my colleagues know, these water recycling projects are becoming not only increasingly popular but necessary with communities who need reliable and cost-effective ways to firm up their community clean water supplies. It is unfortunate, however, that this administration refuses to understand and fund the potential of these projects. We will continue to press the administration to support these projects.

H.R. 1732 is not controversial. I urge support for this bill.

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

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly support H.R. 1732 which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Williamson County, Texas, water recycling and reuse project. I am proud to represent Williamson County, or most of it, and I have been living there for over 30 years. During this time, I have witnessed Williamson County become one of the fastest growing communities in the entire Nation and it has been consistently the fastest growing county for over a decade. I have observed the needs of this county because it has a limited supply of water. Today some would say that water has replaced oil as the commodity most important to the future of

Texas. Unfortunately, current water supplies will simply not meet the growing needs of Williamson County and that community.

To meet this need, I introduced H.R. 1732 to allow the Lower Colorado River Authority, the Brazos River Authority and local communities to work with the Bureau of Reclamation to design, build and construct permanent facilities to reclaim and reuse water in Williamson County. This partnership will be an essential part of the county's water planning efforts.

In short, this legislation will ensure current and future sources of drinking water are made available for the residents of Williamson County. I am excited about this partnership and believe it is a great example of Federal and local agencies working together to make a positive difference.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO), the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and their staffs for their efforts in having this legislation brought to the floor in a timely manner. I would also like to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS), my neighbor to the north, for joining me in this effort. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

I am very happy to hear the remarks of my colleagues. Water reuse, water recycling has been a very, very critical project and favorite subject of mine. Having been born and raised in Brownsville, Texas, I understand a lot of the Texas issues with the drought along the border that is creating havoc with farming and the economy thereof. I hope that we can continue to address and include funding to be able to expand not only to those areas that are in critical need but also those areas that can be used.

We have no new water in this world. It is all the same water that Mother Earth is recycling for us and we are helping recycle. We just trust that we can convince the administration of its need and begin doing it before we face very critical needs.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS), the coauthor of this bill.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I would first like to thank the gentlewoman from California for her leadership in this very, very important area. I also want to congratulate my colleague and neighbor in Williamson County (Mr. CARTER) for offering this important piece of legislation. Just as oil and gas was the economic engine for Texas in the 20th century, the availability of water will be the economic engine to Texas in the future in the 21st century.

As someone who represents part of Williamson County, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) represents about 80 percent of that county, it is one of the largest, fastest-growing

counties in the country. Water usage there is increasing dramatically. Yet our water supply is limited. I was very glad to cosponsor this bill with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) and will look forward to working with him to try to see that we find the appropriations to fund this important piece of legislation.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and 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. 1732, 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.

CORRECTING TECHNICAL ERROR FROM UNIT OF JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1066) to correct a technical error from Unit T-07 of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1066

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

SECTION 1. REPLACEMENT OF JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The map described in subsection (b) is replaced by the map entitled “John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Matagorda Peninsula Unit T07/T07P” and dated July 12, 2002.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF REPLACED MAP.—The map referred to in subsection (a) is the map relating to the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier System unit designated as Coastal Barrier Resources System Matagorda Peninsula Unit T07/T07P that is subtitled “T07/T07P” and included in the set of maps entitled “Coastal Barrier Resources System” and referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)).

(c) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep the replacement map referred to in subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

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