

plants such as bulrush and cattails, will remove nitrogen and other pollutants from surface runoff. It is expected that this natural treatment system will reduce fecal coliform levels by over 26 percent and each year remove 126,000 pounds of nitrogen and 21,000 pounds of phosphorus from the San Diego Creek.

In this way, the natural treatment system will help prevent unwanted sediment, nutrients and contaminants from polluting and clogging up San Diego Creek and Upper Newport Bay. It will also provide another major benefit. The creation of all these new wetlands will provide considerable additional wildlife habitat and open space, including habitat for the many threatened and endangered species of the Upper Newport Bay.

□ 1600

For all of these reasons, the Natural Treatment System established by this legislation is strongly supported by local environmental groups, including Orange County Coastkeepers and the Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends. This legislation is also fully supported by our local public officials, including the Irvine Ranch Water District, the County of Orange and the cities of Newport Beach, Lake Forest, Irvine, Orange, Santa Ana, and Tustin.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, will be of tremendous help to our local environmental efforts. By allowing the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which has extensive experience in wetlands restoration, to serve as a partner in this important regional project, H.R. 1598 is an important step toward assuring that the Natural Treatment System moves forward as quickly and cost effectively as possible.

Finally, I would like to point out that the Natural Treatment System will also provide significant cost savings for the Federal Government. Since the Upper Newport Bay is a Federal waterway, the U.S. Corps of Engineers regularly dredges the bay to remove the accumulation of silt and pollutants. By significantly reducing silt runoff into Upper Newport Bay, the Natural Treatment System will reduce both the Corps of Engineers' dredging expenses and the bill to Federal taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1598 so that we can move forward with this important environmental initiative for Southern California.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1598.

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.

#### JOHNSTOWN FLOOD NATIONAL MEMORIAL BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1521) to provide for additional lands to be included within the boundary of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial in the State of Pennsylvania, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1521

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

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Johnstown Flood National Memorial Boundary Adjustment Act of 2003".*

##### SEC. 2. BOUNDARY OF JOHNSTOWN FLOOD NATIONAL MEMORIAL.

*The boundary of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial ("Memorial") is modified to include the area as generally depicted on the map entitled "Johnstown Flood National Memorial, Cambria County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania", numbered N.E.R.O. 427/80,008 and dated June, 2003. The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.*

##### SEC. 3. ACQUISITION OF LANDS.

*The Secretary of the Interior ("Secretary") is authorized to acquire from willing sellers the land or interests in land as described in section 2 by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.*

##### SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF LANDS.

*Lands added to the Memorial by section 2 shall be administered by the Secretary as part of the Memorial in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.*

##### SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

*In addition to amounts otherwise made available for land acquisition, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.*

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1521, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) and amended by the Committee on Resources, would revise the boundaries of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial. The Secretary of the Interior would be authorized to acquire approximately 15 acres of land from willing sellers to be included within the boundary of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial. Acquisition of these additional lands would provide permanent protection for resources that are integral to the historic flood of 1889.

Both property owners, Tom and Ann Furlong and the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Preservation Society, are supportive of the bill and the

acquisition of their properties. One parcel of land originally in the proposal has been removed, as the owner is no longer a willing seller. Therefore, there are no private property conflicts with this legislation.

The Johnstown Flood Memorial comprises nearly 165 acres in western Pennsylvania and tells the story of the events leading up to the 1889 Johnstown flood, of the flood itself, and its effects on Johnstown and the Nation.

My colleagues may be interested to know it was during the Johnstown flood that Clara Barton successfully led the Red Cross in its first disaster relief effort. H.R. 1521, as amended, is supported by the majority and minority of the subcommittee and the administration. I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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. 1521, sponsored by our colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA), would expand the boundaries of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial. There are several private property owners interested in selling their land for inclusion within the memorial, and this legislation is needed to facilitate these acquisitions.

On the afternoon of May 31, 1889, after several days of torrential rains, the South Fork Dam on Lake Conemaugh in southwest Pennsylvania failed, sending 20 million tons of water into Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The resulting flood killed more than 2,200 people, making it one of the worst natural disasters in American history. The Johnstown Flood Memorial is a powerful tribute to the lives lost during this tragedy, and the parcels which would be added under H.R. 1521 would be important additions to the memorial.

I expressly want to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) for his diligence in moving this legislation through the House, and I urge all our House colleagues to support H.R. 1521. I also want to thank the chairman of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO), for his assistance in this.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, this bill will authorize the expansion of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial, a National Park Service site in South Fork, Pennsylvania.

Specifically, the bill will enable the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire adjacent properties and historically significant structures that are an integral part of the story of the Johnstown Flood.

The Great Johnstown Flood, which occurred on May 31, 1889, was the largest news story in the era next to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. It swept away an entire city, causing the loss of over 2,209 people. Though members of the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club, which owned the earthen dam and

was situated above it, worked feverishly during the storm to prevent the dam from bursting, their efforts were futile.

The Johnstown Flood Memorial was dedicated in 1964. Today the park consists of 165 acres and receives over 126,000 visitors annually. It preserves the remains of the old South Fork Dam which was breached in the flood, as well as portions of the former Conemaugh Lake bed.

This bill would authorize the purchase or acquisition by NPS, from willing sellers, an additional approximately 14½ acres. This property holds certain related historic structures such as the "Moorhead Cottage" and the "Clubhouse." Both of these are significant to the story of the Johnstown Flood as they represent the life and role of club members both before and after the flood. The property offers a unique opportunity to use tangible resources to interpret the events that led to the Johnstown Flood, and the club members' response to the Flood.

These structures were built near the shore of Conemaugh Lake, by the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club. In 1889, the Club had 61 members who were wealthy industrialists, bankers and merchants from Pittsburgh, including Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick and Andrew W. Mellon. The Clubhouse contained 47 rooms, where the majority of members stayed. The cottages did not have kitchens, so the Clubhouse was the focal point of the Club.

The Clubhouse is clearly among the most significant historical structures not only in the Johnstown Flood story but in our entire region. The 1889 South Fork Fishing & Hunting Club National Historical Society has done a tremendous job over the years in preserving this vital piece of history, but these dedicated volunteers can't be expected to finance the cost of needed repairs, maintenance and interpretive features. Our best alternative to preserve this vital history is to add these structures to the National Park Service.

The Johnstown Flood story continues to fascinate people even though the tragedy happened more than 100 years ago. There is such drama in the story of wealthy Pittsburgh industrialists who owned the poorly-maintained dam that collapsed, causing the worst man-made disaster in history by claiming 2,209 lives. Adding the Clubhouse and these other structures to the National Park will greatly enrich the interpretive potential of this site.

I would like to thank my Colleagues for their consideration of this bill. Thank you for your time.

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

Mr. POMBO. 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 California (Mr. POMBO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1521, 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.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bills H.R. 1442, H.R. 1092, H.R. 1598, and H.R. 1521.

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

There was no objection.

#### AWARDING A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO DR. DOROTHY HEIGHT IN RECOGNITION OF HER MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATION

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1821) to award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Dorothy Height in recognition of her many contributions to the Nation.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1821

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

#### SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Dr. Dorothy Irene Height was born March 24, 1912, to James Edward Height and Fannie (Boroughs) Height in Richmond, Virginia and raised in Rankin, Pennsylvania.

(2) Dr. Height is recognized as one of the preeminent social and civil rights activists of her time, particularly in the struggle for equality, social justice, and human rights for all peoples.

(3) Beginning as a civil rights advocate in the 1930s, she soon gained prominence through her tireless efforts to promote interracial schooling, to register and educate voters, and to increase the visibility and status of women in our society.

(4) She has labored to provide hope for inner-city children and their families, and she can claim responsibility for many of the advances made by women and African-Americans over the course of this century.

(5) Her public career spans over 65 years.

(6) Dr. Height was a valued consultant on human and civil rights issues to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and she encouraged President Eisenhower to desegregate the Nation's schools and President Johnson to appoint African-American women to sub-Cabinet posts.

(7) Dr. Height has been President of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) since 1957, a position to which she was appointed upon the retirement of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, one of the most influential African-American women in United States history.

(8) The National Council of Negro Women is currently the umbrella organization for 250 local groups and 38 national groups engaged in economic development and women's issues.

(9) Under Dr. Height's leadership, the National Council of Negro Women implemented a number of new and innovative programs and initiatives, including the following:

(A) Operation Woman Power, a project to expand business ownership by women and to provide funds for vocational training.

(B) Leadership training for African-American women in the rural South.

(C) The Black Family Reunion, a nationwide annual gathering to encourage, renew and celebrate the concept of not only the Black family but all families.

(D) The Women's Center for Education and Career Advancement to empower minority women in nontraditional careers.

(E) The Bethune Museum and Archives, a museum devoted to African-American women's history.

(10) Dr. Height has been at the forefront of AIDS education, both nationally and internationally; under her direction, the National Council of Negro Women established offices in West Africa and South Africa and worked to improve the conditions of women in the developing world.

(11) Dr. Height has been central in the success of 2 other influential women's organizations, as follows:

(A) As president and executive board member of Delta Sigma Theta, Dr. Height left the sorority more efficient and globally focused with a centralized headquarters.

(B) Her work with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) led to its integration and more active participation in the civil rights movement.

(12) As a member of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders with Whitney Young, A. Philip Randolph, Martin Luther King, Jr., James Farmer, and Roy Wilkins, Dr. Height was the only female at the table when the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others made plans for the civil rights movement.

(13) Dr. Height is the recipient of many awards and accolades for her efforts on behalf of women's rights, including the following:

(A) The Spingarn Award, the NAACP's highest honor for civil rights contributions.

(B) The Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded by President Clinton.

(C) The John F. Kennedy Memorial Award from the National Council of Jewish Women.

(D) The Ministerial Interfaith Association Award for her contributions to interfaith, interracial, and ecumenical movements for over 30 years;

(E) The Lovejoy Award, the highest recognition by the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World for outstanding contributions to human relations.

(F) The Ladies Home Journal Woman of the Year Award in recognition for her work for human rights.

(G) The William L. Dawson Award presented by the Congressional Black Caucus for decades of public service to people of color and particularly women.

(H) The Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service presented by President Reagan.

(I) The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom Medal awarded by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.

(14) Dr. Dorothy Height has established a lasting legacy of public service that has been an invaluable contribution to the progress of this Nation.

#### SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, to Dr. Dorothy Irene Height a gold medal of appropriate design in recognition of her many contributions to the Nation.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

#### SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals