

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE HONORABLE RONALD WILSON REAGAN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 663, and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Speaker appointed himself and the entire membership of the House to attend the funeral services for former President Ronald Wilson Reagan held Wednesday, June 9, 2004, in the Rotunda of the Capitol and Friday, June 11, 2004, at the Washington National Cathedral.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(c) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLANCE), the whole number of the House is adjusted to 434.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Washington, DC, June 9, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following messages from the Secretary of the Senate on June 9, 2004 at 5:59 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. Res. 373.
That the Senate passed S. Res. 374.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1822.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2130.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2438.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3029.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3059.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3068.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3234.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3300.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3353.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3536.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3537.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3538.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3690.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3733.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3740.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3769.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3855.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3917.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3939.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3942.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4037.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4176.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4299.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH,
Clerk of the House.

CONGRESS MUST PERMANENTLY END DEATH TAX

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, thanks to President Bush's historic tax relief, our economy is surging and 1.4 million jobs have been created since August. However, if we do not act, one of the hardest and most unjust penalties on Americans, the death tax, will return in full force in 2011.

The death tax essentially is a double tax that forces families to pay taxes on estates that are passed on from generation to generation. According to Citizens For a Sound Economy, nearly 70 percent of small businesses do not make it past the first generation because of this tax. Additionally, American Farm Bureau President Bob Stallman has pointed out that many of our Nation's farmers must sell parts or all of their land to simply pay taxes. This is also catastrophic for family-owned auto dealerships, funeral homes, and beverage distributors.

The American people know it is fundamentally wrong to be taxed twice and know the importance of passing something of value on to their own children. I urge Congress to act quickly and kill the death tax once and for all.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

ADJUSTMENT IN NUMBER OF FREE ROAMING HORSES PERMITTED IN CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 2055) to amend Public Law 89-366 to allow for an adjustment in the number of free roaming horses permitted in Cape Lookout National Seashore.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2055

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

SECTION 1. ADJUSTMENT IN THE NUMBER OF FREE ROAMING HORSES PERMITTED IN CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE, NC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The first subsection (b) of section 5 of Public Law 89-366 (16 U.S.C. 459g-4) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "100 free roaming horses" and inserting "not less than 110 free roaming horses, with a target population of between 120 and 130 free roaming horses,";

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

"(B) unless removal is carried out as part of a plan to maintain the viability of the herd; or"; and

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking "100" and inserting "110".

(b) REPEAL OF DUPLICATE SUBSECTIONS.—Section 5 of Public Law 89-366 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "(a)" after "(a)"; and

(2) by striking the second subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) 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.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2055, introduced by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) from the Committee on Resources, would allow for the adjustment in the number of free-roaming horses permitted in the Cape Lookout National Seashore. Specifically, H.R. 2055 would permit the number of free-roaming horses to increase to 110 from its current level of 100 with a targeted population of 120 to 130 horses, and would not permit the removal of the horses unless the removal is carried out as part of a plan to maintain the viability of the herd.

H.R. 2055 is supported by the majority and the minority of the Committee on Resources and the administration. I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the majority of the committee for the management of this legislation. I also would be remiss if I did not extend my personal commendation to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), the chief sponsor of this legislation, which has been carried on for the past several Congresses. I congratulate the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for his tenacity and persistence in moving this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, in the course of the last several hundred years, a herd of wild horses has established itself on the Shackleford Banks area of Cape Lookout, North Carolina. The herd developed on the banks because of shipwrecks and abandonment. When the national seashore was established, there were approximately 100 wild horses on the barrier island. Over the years, the National Park Service has taken steps to control the herd size to prevent damage to park resources.

As the majority explained, this bill makes a number of slight adjustments in the management of the herd as a means to ensure their long-term survival.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2055 is a workable solution to the wild horse management needs at Cape Lookout, and we support adoption of the legislation by the House 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. 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. 2055.

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.

MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION ACT OF 2004

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3378) to assist in the conservation of marine turtles and the nesting habitats of marine turtles in foreign countries, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3378

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 "Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—
(1) marine turtle populations have declined to the point that the long-term survival of the loggerhead, green, hawksbill, Kemp's rid-

ley, olive ridley, and leatherback turtle in the wild is in serious jeopardy;

(2) 6 of the 7 recognized species of marine turtles are listed as threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and all 7 species have been included in Appendix I of CITES;

(3) because marine turtles are long-lived, late-maturing, and highly migratory, marine turtles are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of human exploitation and habitat loss;

(4) illegal international trade seriously threatens wild populations of some marine turtle species, particularly the hawksbill turtle;

(5) the challenges facing marine turtles are immense, and the resources available have not been sufficient to cope with the continued loss of nesting habitats caused by human activities and the consequent diminution of marine turtle populations;

(6) because marine turtles are flagship species for the ecosystems in which marine turtles are found, sustaining healthy populations of marine turtles provides benefits to many other species of wildlife, including many other threatened or endangered species;

(7) marine turtles are important components of the ecosystems that they inhabit, and studies of wild populations of marine turtles have provided important biological insights;

(8) changes in marine turtle populations are most reliably indicated by changes in the numbers of nests and nesting females; and

(9) the reduction, removal, or other effective addressing of the threats to the long-term viability of populations of marine turtles will require the joint commitment and effort of—

(A) countries that have within their boundaries marine turtle nesting habitats; and

(B) persons with expertise in the conservation of marine turtles.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to assist in the conservation of marine turtles and the nesting habitats of marine turtles in foreign countries by supporting and providing financial resources for projects to conserve the nesting habitats, conserve marine turtles in those habitats, and address other threats to the survival of marine turtles.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CITES.—The term "CITES" means the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (27 UST 1087; TIAS 8249).

(2) CONSERVATION.—The term "conservation" means the use of all methods and procedures necessary to protect nesting habitats of marine turtles in foreign countries and of marine turtles in those habitats, including—

(A) protection, restoration, and management of nesting habitats;

(B) onsite research and monitoring of nesting populations, nesting habitats, annual reproduction, and species population trends;

(C) assistance in the development, implementation, and improvement of national and regional management plans for nesting habitat ranges;

(D) enforcement and implementation of CITES and laws of foreign countries to—

(i) protect and manage nesting populations and nesting habitats; and

(ii) prevent illegal trade of marine turtles;

(E) training of local law enforcement officials in the interdiction and prevention of—

(i) the illegal killing of marine turtles on nesting habitat; and

(ii) illegal trade in marine turtles;

(F) initiatives to resolve conflicts between humans and marine turtles over habitat used by marine turtles for nesting;

(G) community outreach and education; and

(H) strengthening of the ability of local communities to implement nesting population and nesting habitat conservation programs.

(3) FUND.—The term "Fund" means the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund established by section 5.

(4) MARINE TURTLE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "marine turtle" means any member of the family Cheloniidae or Dermochelyidae.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term "marine turtle" includes—

(i) any part, product, egg, or offspring of a turtle described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) a carcass of such a turtle.

(5) MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND.—The term "Multinational Species Conservation Fund" means the fund established under the heading "multinational species conservation fund" in title I of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (16 U.S.C. 4246).

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

SEC. 4. MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of funds and in consultation with other Federal officials, the Secretary shall use amounts in the Fund to provide financial assistance for projects for the conservation of marine turtles for which project proposals are approved by the Secretary in accordance with this section.

(b) PROJECT PROPOSALS.—

(1) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—A proposal for a project for the conservation of marine turtles may be submitted to the Secretary by—

(A) any wildlife management authority of a foreign country that has within its boundaries marine turtle nesting habitat if the activities of the authority directly or indirectly affect marine turtle conservation; or

(B) any other person or group with the demonstrated expertise required for the conservation of marine turtles.

(2) REQUIRED ELEMENTS.—A project proposal shall include—

(A) a statement of the purposes of the project;

(B) the name of the individual with overall responsibility for the project;

(C) a description of the qualifications of the individuals that will conduct the project;

(D) a description of—

(i) methods for project implementation and outcome assessment;

(ii) staff and community management for the project; and

(iii) the logistics of the project;

(E) an estimate of the funds and time required to complete the project;

(F) evidence of support for the project by appropriate governmental entities of the countries in which the project will be conducted, if the Secretary determines that such support is required for the success of the project;

(G) information regarding the source and amount of matching funding available for the project; and

(H) any other information that the Secretary considers to be necessary for evaluating the eligibility of the project for funding under this Act.

(c) PROJECT REVIEW AND APPROVAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) not later than 30 days after receiving a project proposal, provide a copy of the proposal to other Federal officials, as appropriate; and