

of Supervisors, the city of Holbrook and the city of Winslow, Arizona.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1630, the Petrified Forest National Park Expansion Act of 2004.

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

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1630 as it is being brought to the floor today is not the same bill that passed the Committee on Resources in July. An issue was raised by the majority on the acquisition of the private lands within the park, but I am pleased that the language has been worked out and that it is language that is acceptable to both sides.

So, Mr. Speaker, we will support this new amended version of H.R. 1630.

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, 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. GIBBONS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1630, 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.

TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS SPECIAL RESOURCES STUDY ACT

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2129) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating certain historic buildings and areas in Taunton, Massachusetts, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2129

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 "Taunton, Massachusetts Special Resources Study Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The city of Taunton, Massachusetts, is home to 9 distinct historic districts, with more than 600 properties on the National Register of Historic Places. Included among these districts are the Church Green Historic District, the Courthouse Historic District, the Taunton Green Historic District, and the Reed and Barton Historic District.

(2) All of these districts include buildings and building facades of great historical, cultural, and architectural value.

(3) Taunton Green is the site where the Sons of Liberty first raised the Liberty and Union Flag in 1774, an event that helped to spark a popular movement, culminating in the American Revolution, and Taunton citizens have been

among the first to volunteer for America's subsequent wars.

(4) Robert Treat Paine, a citizen of Taunton, and the first Attorney General of Massachusetts, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

(5) Taunton was a leading community in the Industrial Revolution, and its industrial area has been the site of many innovations in such industries as silver manufacture, paper manufacture, and ship building.

(6) The landscaping of the Courthouse Green was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, who also left landscaping ideas and plans for other areas in the city which have great value and interest as historical archives and objects of future study.

(7) Main Street, which connects many of the historic districts, is home to the Taunton City Hall and the Leonard Block building, 2 outstanding examples of early 19th Century American architecture, as well as many other historically and architecturally significant structures.

(8) The city and people of Taunton have preserved many artifacts, gravesites, and important documents dating back to 1638 when Taunton was founded.

(9) Taunton was and continues to be an important destination for immigrants from Europe and other parts of the world who have helped to give Southeastern Massachusetts its unique ethnic character.

SEC. 3. STUDY.

The Secretary, in consultation with the appropriate State historic preservation officers, State historical societies, the city of Taunton, and other appropriate organizations, shall conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating certain historic buildings and areas in Taunton, Massachusetts, as a unit of the National Park System. The study shall be conducted and completed in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(c)) and shall include analysis, documentation, and determinations regarding whether the historic areas in Taunton—

(1) can be managed, curated, interpreted, restored, preserved, and presented as an organic whole under management by the National Park Service or under an alternative management structure;

(2) have an assemblage of natural, historic, and cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use;

(3) reflect traditions, customs, beliefs, and historical events that are valuable parts of the national story;

(4) provide outstanding opportunities to conserve natural, historic, cultural, architectural, or scenic features;

(5) provide outstanding recreational and educational opportunities; and

(6) can be managed by the National Park Service in partnership with residents, business interests, nonprofit organizations, and State and local governments to develop a unit of the National Park System consistent with State and local economic activity.

SEC. 4. REPORT.

Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which funds are first made available for this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study required under section 3.

SEC. 5. PRIVATE PROPERTY.

The recommendations in the report submitted pursuant to section 4 shall discuss and consider the concerns expressed by private landowners with respect to designating the certain structures referred to in this Act as a unit of the National Park System.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is 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 Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIBBONS. 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 Nevada?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2129, introduced by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating certain historic buildings and areas in Taunton, Massachusetts, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes. The city of Taunton, Massachusetts, is home to nine distinct historic districts, with more than 600 properties on the National Register of Historic Places. Included among these districts is the Taunton Green Historic District, the site where the Sons of Liberty first raised the Liberty and Union Flag in 1774, an event that helped to spark a popular movement culminating in the American Revolution. Taunton was also a leading community in the industrial revolution, and its industrial area has been the site of many innovations in silver manufacture, paper manufacture, and shipbuilding. Main Street, which connects many of the historic districts, is the home of the Taunton City Hall and the Leonard Block building, two outstanding examples of early 19th century American architecture, as well as many other historical and architecturally significant structures.

The city has historically been and continues to be an important destination for immigrants migrating from Europe, as well as other parts of the world, and contributes greatly to the unique ethnic character of southeastern Massachusetts.

H.R. 2129, as amended, is supported by the majority and minority of the Committee on Resources. I would urge adoption of this bill, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, Taunton, Massachusetts, is a city rich

in its significant cultural and historical resources. As a result, we support authorizing the National Park Service to study this area to determine how these resources might best be conserved and interpreted for generations to come. I join the gentleman from West Virginia (Ranking Member Rahall) in congratulating the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) for his hard work on behalf of this legislation and this community, and we look forward to working with him on legislation to implement any recommendations which come out of this study that we are authorizing today. So we urge the passage of H.R. 2129.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), the sponsor of the legislation.

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Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time.

I thank the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) for his courtesy; and I am grateful to the leadership of the committee, the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), for bringing this forward.

Massachusetts is rich in history, but this is a particularly significant piece of Massachusetts from an historic standpoint. As the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) pointed out, the Liberty and Union Flag was raised there in 1774. This is the place here in Taunton where the revolution was fueled. Robert Treat Paine, a resident of Taunton, signed the Declaration, and it continues to be important.

The courthouse green, a lovely area, was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, the greatest landscape architect in our history and, probably, the history of the world. I am privileged to have an office right in the midst of this. So I guess I should say I would be a beneficiary of this. But it is for the city, and it will be passed on.

I also should say that I became the Representative of Taunton in the last redistricting. And for the prior couple of decades it was extraordinarily well-represented by one of our great former colleagues, the gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. Moakley, who was sadly taken from us a few years ago. So as we put this bill forward, I am delighted to do it, but I also want people to understand that I do this in tribute, in part, to the legacy of Joe Moakley, one of the great leaders in this House, widely respected and even loved by both sides.

This is a genuinely important historical operation. It played a historic role in the Revolution. We had Frederick Law Olmsted there. It was also very important in the Industrial Revolution. It continues today to be a very important community.

So I am grateful to the committee for bringing this forward and I look forward to the passage of this bill and subsequent action by the Park Service.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill. I have no additional speakers, 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 Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2129, 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.

RESOLUTION OF BOUNDARY ENCROACHMENT ON LAND OF UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY IN TIPTON, CALIFORNIA

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4817) to facilitate the resolution of a minor boundary encroachment on lands of the Union Pacific Railroad Company in Tipton, California, which were originally conveyed by the United States as part of the right-of-way granted for the construction of transcontinental railroads, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4817

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

SECTION 1. RELEASE OF UNITED STATES INTERESTS IN CERTAIN RAILROAD GRANT LANDS IN TIPTON, CALIFORNIA.

(a) PROPERTY DEFINED.—In this section, the term “property” means that portion of the existing building located at 615 North Burnett Road in Tipton, California, which encroaches upon land that, subject to a reversionary interest, was conveyed by the United States pursuant to the Act of July 27, 1866 (14 Stat. 292).

(b) RELEASE OF INTERESTS IN PROPERTY.—There is hereby released, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the surface portion of the property. The United States retains any subsurface mineral rights held by the United States as of the date of the enactment of this Act associated with the property.

(c) INSTRUMENT OF RELEASE.—The Secretary of the Interior shall execute and file in the appropriate office a deed of release, amended deed, or other appropriate instrument effectuating the release of interests made by subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIBBONS. 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. 4817.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4817, introduced by my Committee on Resources colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. NUNES), and amended by the Committee on Resources would facilitate the resolution of a minor boundary encroachment on lands of the Union Pacific Railroad Company in Tipton, California. The bill is supported by the majority and minority of the Committee on Resources and the administration.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a very minor boundary issue left over from rights-of-way granted in the 19th century. We have reviewed the legislation and we do not oppose the passage of H.R. 4817.

Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill. I have no additional speakers, 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. GIBBONS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4817, 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.

RECOGNIZING THAT NOVEMBER 2, 2003, SHALL BE DEDICATED TO “A TRIBUTE TO SURVIVORS” AT THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 76) recognizing that November 2, 2003, shall be dedicated as “A Tribute To Survivors” at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 76

Whereas, in 1945, American soldiers and other Allied forces, defeated Nazi Germany, ending World War II in Europe and the systematic murder of Europe’s Jews and other targeted groups;

Whereas 6,000,000 Jews were killed during the Holocaust, and after World War II hundreds of thousands of survivors immigrated to the United States, where in spite of their enormous suffering, they rebuilt their lives, and embraced and enriched their adopted homeland;