

(1) in subsection (b)(3), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) the date that is 1 year after the date on which the Secretary makes the certification required under section 8(a)(4) of the American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 2201 note; Public Law 108-374); or”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “section” and all that follows through “the Indian tribe” and inserting “section 207(b)(2)(A)(ii), the Indian tribe”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)(i)(II)(bb), by inserting “in writing” after “agrees”.

SEC. 4. DESCENT AND DISTRIBUTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 207 of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2206) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (h) through (p) as subsections (g) through (o), respectively;

(2) in subsection (g) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “specifically” after “pertains”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) the allotted land (or any interest relating to such land) of 1 or more specific Indian tribes expressly identified in Federal law, including any of the Federal laws governing the probate or determination of heirs associated with, or otherwise relating to, the land, interest in land, or other interests or assets that are owned by individuals in—

“(i) Five Civilized Tribes restricted fee status; or

“(ii) Osage Tribe restricted fee status.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) EFFECT OF SUBSECTION.—Except to the extent that this Act otherwise affects the application of a Federal law described in paragraph (2), nothing in this subsection limits the application of this Act to trust or restricted land, interests in such land, or any other trust or restricted interests or assets.”;

(3) in subsection (h) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) in paragraph (6), by striking “(25 U.S.C. 2205)”; and

(B) in paragraph (7), by inserting “in trust or restricted status” after “testator”;

(4) in subsection (j) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “the date of enactment of this subparagraph” and inserting “the date that is 1 year after the date on which the Secretary publishes a notice of certification under section 8(a)(4) of the American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 2201 note; Public Law 108-374)”; and

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking “the provisions of section 207(a)(2)(A)” and inserting “subsection (a)(2)(A)”; and

(B) in paragraph (8)(D), by striking “the provisions of section 207(a)(2)(D) (25 U.S.C. 2206(a)(2)(D))” and inserting “subsection (a)(2)(D)”; and

(C) in paragraph (9)(C)—

(i) by striking “section 207(e) (25 U.S.C. 2206(e))” and inserting “subsection (e)”; and

(ii) by striking “section 207(p) (25 U.S.C. 2206(p))” and inserting “subsection (o)”; and

(5) in subsection (o) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “section 207(a)(2)(A) or (D)” and inserting “subparagraph (A) or (D) of subsection (a)(2)”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “section 207(b)(1)(A)” and inserting “subsection (b)(1)(A)”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking “section 207(a)(2)(A) or (D)” and inserting “subparagraph (A) or (D) of subsection (a)(2)”; and

(C) in paragraph (6)—

(i) in the first sentence, by striking “Proceeds” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Proceeds”; and

(ii) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

“(B) HOLDING IN TRUST.—Proceeds described in subparagraph (A) shall be deposited and held in an account as trust property if the interest sold would otherwise pass to—

“(i) the heir, by intestate succession under subsection (a); or

“(ii) the devisee in trust or restricted status under subsection (b)(1).”.

(b) NONTESTAMENTARY DISPOSITION.—Section 207(a)(2)(D)(iv)(I)(aa) of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2206(a)(2)(D)(iv)(I)(aa)) is amended—

(1) by striking “clause (iii)” and inserting “this subparagraph”; and

(2) in subitem (BB), by striking “any co-owner” and inserting “not more than 1 co-owner”.

(c) JOINT TENANCY; RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP.—Section 207(c) of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2206(c)) is amended by striking the subsection heading and inserting the following:

“(c) JOINT TENANCY; RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP.—”.

(d) ESTATE PLANNING ASSISTANCE.—Section 207(f)(3) of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2206(f)(3)) is amended in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by inserting “, including noncompetitive grants,” after “grants”.

SEC. 5. FRACTIONAL INTEREST ACQUISITION PROGRAM.

Section 213 of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2212) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

“SEC. 213. FRACTIONAL INTEREST ACQUISITION PROGRAM.”;

and

(2) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “(25 U.S.C. 2206(p))”.

SEC. 6. ESTABLISHING FAIR MARKET VALUE.

Section 215 of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2214) is amended by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: “Such a system may govern the amounts offered for the purchase of interests in trust or restricted land under this Act.”.

SEC. 7. LAND OWNERSHIP INFORMATION.

Section 217(e) of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2216(e)) is amended by striking “be made available to” and inserting “be made available to—”.

SEC. 8. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) PROBATE REFORM.—The American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 2201 note; Public Law 108-374) is amended—

(1) in section 4, by striking “(as amended by section 6(a)(2))”; and

(2) in section 9, by striking “section 205(d)(2)(I)(i)” and inserting “section 205(c)(2)(I)(i) of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2204(c)(2)(I)(i))”.

(b) TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE OF LAND.—Section 4 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 464) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE OF RESTRICTED INDIAN LAND AND SHARES OF INDIAN TRIBES AND CORPORATIONS.

“(a) APPROVAL.—Except as provided in this section, no sale, devise, gift, exchange, or other transfer of restricted Indian land or

shares in the assets of an Indian tribe or corporation organized under this Act shall be made or approved.

“(b) TRANSFER TO INDIAN TRIBE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Land or shares described in subsection (a) may be sold, devised, or otherwise transferred to the Indian tribe on the reservation of which the land is located, or in the corporation of which the shares are held or were derived (or a successor of such a corporation), with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

“(2) DESCENT AND DEVISE.—Land and shares transferred under paragraph (1) shall descend or be devised to any member of the Indian tribe or corporation (or an heir of such a member) in accordance with the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.), including a tribal probate code approved under that Act (including regulations).

“(c) VOLUNTARY EXCHANGES.—The Secretary of the Interior may authorize a voluntary exchange of land or shares described in subsection (a) that the Secretary determines to be of equal value if the Secretary determines that the exchange is—

“(1) expedient;

“(2) beneficial for, or compatible with, achieving proper consolidation of Indian land; and

“(3) for the benefit of cooperative organizations.”.

SEC. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall be effective as if included in the American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 2201 note; Public Law 108-374).

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRIBAL CLAIMS

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 1892) to amend Public Law 107-153 to modify a certain date, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

S. 1892

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

SECTION 1. SETTLEMENT OF TRIBAL CLAIMS.

Section 1(a) of Public Law 107-153 (25 U.S.C. 4044 note; 116 Stat. 79) is amended by striking “December 31, 1999” and inserting “December 31, 2000”.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ARABIA MOUNTAIN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ACT

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Resources be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2099) to establish the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area, and

for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 2099

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Act”.

(b) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Arabia Mountain area contains a variety of natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources that together represent distinctive aspects of the heritage of the United States that are worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use.

(2) The best methods for managing the resources of the Arabia Mountain area would be through partnerships between public and private entities that combine diverse resources and active communities.

(3) Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve, a 535-acre park in DeKalb County, Georgia—

(A) protects granite outcrop ecosystems, wetland, and pine and oak forests; and

(B) includes federally-protected plant species.

(4) Panola Mountain, a national natural landmark, located in the 860-acre Panola Mountain State Conservation Park, is a rare example of a pristine granite outcrop.

(5) The archaeological site at Miners Creek Preserve along the South River contains documented evidence of early human activity.

(6) The city of Lithonia, Georgia, and related sites of Arabia Mountain and Stone Mountain possess sites that display the history of granite mining as an industry and culture in Georgia, and the impact of that industry on the United States.

(7) The community of Klondike is eligible for designation as a National Historic District.

(8) The city of Lithonia has 2 structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

(c) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this Act are as follows:

(1) To recognize, preserve, promote, interpret, and make available for the benefit of the public the natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources in the area that includes Arabia Mountain, Panola Mountain, Miners Creek, and other significant sites and communities.

(2) To assist the State of Georgia and the counties of DeKalb, Rockdale, and Henry in the State in developing and implementing an integrated cultural, historical, and land resource management program to protect, enhance, and interpret the significant resources within the heritage area.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “heritage area” means the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area established by section 3.

(2) **MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The term “management entity” means the DeKalb County Parks and Recreation Department or a successor of the DeKalb County Parks and Recreation Department.

(3) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—The term “management plan” means the management plan

for the heritage area developed under section 5.

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(5) **STATE.**—The term “State” means the State of Georgia.

SEC. 3. ARABIA MOUNTAIN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area in the State.

(b) **BOUNDARIES.**—The heritage area shall consist of certain parcels of land in the counties of DeKalb, Rockdale, and Henry in the State, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area”, numbered AMNHA/80,000, and dated October, 2003.

(c) **AVAILABILITY OF MAP.**—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(d) **MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance shall be the management entity for the heritage area.

SEC. 4. AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF THE MANAGEMENT ENTITY.

(a) **AUTHORITIES.**—For purposes of developing and implementing the management plan, the management entity may—

(1) make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the State, political subdivisions of the State, and private organizations;

(2) hire and compensate staff; and

(3) enter into contracts for goods and services.

(b) **DUTIES.**—

(1) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The management entity shall develop and submit to the Secretary the management plan.

(B) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In developing and implementing the management plan, the management entity shall consider the interests of diverse governmental, business, and nonprofit groups within the heritage area.

(2) **PRIORITIES.**—The management entity shall give priority to implementing actions described in the management plan, including the following:

(A) Assisting units of government and nonprofit organizations in preserving resources within the heritage area.

(B) Encouraging local governments to adopt land use policies consistent with the management of the heritage area and the goals of the management plan.

(3) **PUBLIC MEETINGS.**—The management entity shall conduct public meetings at least quarterly on the implementation of the management plan.

(4) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—For any year in which Federal funds have been made available under this Act, the management entity shall submit to the Secretary an annual report that describes the following:

(A) The accomplishments of the management entity.

(B) The expenses and income of the management entity.

(5) **AUDIT.**—The management entity shall—

(A) make available to the Secretary for audit all records relating to the expenditure of Federal funds and any matching funds; and

(B) require, with respect to all agreements authorizing expenditure of Federal funds by other organizations, that the receiving organizations make available to the Secretary for audit all records concerning the expenditure of those funds.

(c) **USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The management entity shall not use Federal funds made available under this Act to acquire real property or an interest in real property.

(2) **OTHER SOURCES.**—Nothing in this Act precludes the management entity from using Federal funds made available under other Federal laws for any purpose for which the funds are authorized to be used.

SEC. 5. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The management entity shall develop a management plan for the heritage area that incorporates an integrated and cooperative approach to protect, interpret, and enhance the natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources of the heritage area.

(b) **BASIS.**—The management plan shall be based on the preferred concept in the document entitled “Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Feasibility Study”, dated February 28, 2001.

(c) **CONSIDERATION OF OTHER PLANS AND ACTIONS.**—The management plan shall—

(1) take into consideration State and local plans; and

(2) involve residents, public agencies, and private organizations in the heritage area.

(d) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The management plan shall include the following:

(1) An inventory of the resources in the heritage area, including—

(A) a list of property in the heritage area that—

(i) relates to the purposes of the heritage area; and

(ii) should be preserved, restored, managed, or maintained because of the significance of the property; and

(B) an assessment of cultural landscapes within the heritage area.

(2) Provisions for the protection, interpretation, and enjoyment of the resources of the heritage area consistent with the purposes of this Act.

(3) An interpretation plan for the heritage area.

(4) A program for implementation of the management plan that includes—

(A) actions to be carried out by units of government, private organizations, and public-private partnerships to protect the resources of the heritage area; and

(B) the identification of existing and potential sources of funding for implementing the plan.

(5) A description and evaluation of the management entity, including the membership and organizational structure of the management entity.

(e) **SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY FOR APPROVAL.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the management entity shall submit the management plan to the Secretary for approval.

(2) **EFFECT OF FAILURE TO SUBMIT.**—If a management plan is not submitted to the Secretary by the date specified in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall not provide any additional funding under this Act until such date as a management plan for the heritage area is submitted to the Secretary.

(f) **APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after receiving the management plan submitted under subsection (e), the Secretary, in consultation with the State, shall approve or disapprove the management plan.

(2) **ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.**—

(A) **REVISION.**—If the Secretary disapproves a management plan submitted under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(i) advise the management entity in writing of the reasons for the disapproval;

(ii) make recommendations for revisions to the management plan; and

(iii) allow the management entity to submit to the Secretary revisions to the management plan.

(B) DEADLINE FOR APPROVAL OF REVISION.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a revision is submitted under subparagraph (A)(iii), the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the revision.

(g) REVISION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After approval by the Secretary of a management plan, the management entity shall periodically—

(A) review the management plan; and

(B) submit to the Secretary, for review and approval by the Secretary, the recommendations of the management entity for any revisions to the management plan that the management entity considers to be appropriate.

(2) EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—No funds made available under this Act shall be used to implement any revision proposed by the management entity under paragraph (1)(B) until the Secretary approves the revision.

SEC. 6. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—At the request of the management entity, the Secretary may provide technical and financial assistance to the heritage area to develop and implement the management plan.

(b) PRIORITY.—In providing assistance under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give priority to actions that facilitate—

(1) the conservation of the significant natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources that support the purposes of the heritage area; and

(2) the provision of educational, interpretive, and recreational opportunities that are consistent with the resources and associated values of the heritage area.

SEC. 7. EFFECT ON CERTAIN AUTHORITY.

(a) OCCUPATIONAL, SAFETY, CONSERVATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION.—Nothing in this Act—

(1) imposes an occupational, safety, conservation, or environmental regulation on the heritage area that is more stringent than the regulations that would be applicable to the land described in section 3(b) but for the establishment of the heritage area by section 3; or

(2) authorizes a Federal agency to promulgate an occupational, safety, conservation, or environmental regulation for the heritage area that is more stringent than the regulations applicable to the land described in section 3(b) as of the date of enactment of this Act, solely as a result of the establishment of the heritage area by section 3.

(b) LAND USE REGULATION.—Nothing in this Act—

(1) modifies, enlarges, or diminishes any authority of the Federal Government or a State or local government to regulate any use of land as provided for by law (including regulations) in existence on the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) grants powers of zoning or land use to the management entity.

SEC. 8. REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.

(a) NOTIFICATION AND CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNERS REQUIRED.—No privately owned property shall be preserved, conserved, or promoted by the management plan for the Heritage Area until the owner of that private property has been notified in writing by the management entity and has given written consent for such preservation, conservation, or promotion to the management entity.

(b) LANDOWNER WITHDRAW.—Any owner of private property included within the boundary of the Heritage Area shall have their property immediately removed from the boundary by submitting a written request to the management entity.

SEC. 9. PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION.

(a) ACCESS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to—

(1) require any private property owner to allow public access (including Federal, State, or local government access) to such private property; or

(2) modify any provision of Federal, State, or local law with regard to public access to or use of private property.

(b) LIABILITY.—Designation of the Heritage Area shall not be considered to create any liability, or to have any effect on any liability under any other law, of any private property owner with respect to any persons injured on such private property.

(c) RECOGNITION OF AUTHORITY TO CONTROL LAND USE.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to modify the authority of Federal, State, or local governments to regulate land use.

(d) PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS IN HERITAGE AREA.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require the owner of any private property located within the boundaries of the Heritage Area to participate in or be associated with the Heritage Area.

(e) EFFECT OF ESTABLISHMENT.—The boundaries designated for the Heritage Area represent the area within which Federal funds appropriated for the purpose of this Act may be expended. The establishment of the Heritage Area and its boundaries shall not be construed to provide any nonexisting regulatory authority on land use within the Heritage Area or its viewshed by the Secretary, the National Park Service, or the management entity.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not more than \$1,000,000 may be used in any fiscal year.

(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of any project or activity carried out using funds made available under this Act shall not exceed 50 percent.

SEC. 11. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.

The authority of the Secretary to make any grant or provide any assistance under this Act shall terminate on September 30, 2016.

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. POMBO

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. POMBO:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

TITLE I—ARABIA MOUNTAIN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

SECTION 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Act”.

SEC. 102. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Arabia Mountain area contains a variety of natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources that together represent distinctive aspects of the heritage of the United States that are worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use.

(2) The best methods for managing the resources of the Arabia Mountain area would be through partnerships between public and private entities that combine diverse resources and active communities.

(3) Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve, a 535-acre park in DeKalb County, Georgia—

(A) protects granite outcrop ecosystems, wetland, and pine and oak forests; and

(B) includes federally-protected plant species.

(4) Panola Mountain, a national natural landmark, located in the 860-acre Panola Mountain State Conservation Park, is a rare example of a pristine granite outcrop.

(5) The archaeological site at Miners Creek Preserve along the South River contains documented evidence of early human activity.

(6) The city of Lithonia, Georgia, and related sites of Arabia Mountain and Stone Mountain possess sites that display the history of granite mining as an industry and culture in Georgia, and the impact of that industry on the United States.

(7) The community of Klondike is eligible for designation as a National Historic District.

(8) The city of Lithonia has 2 structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this title are as follows:

(1) To recognize, preserve, promote, interpret, and make available for the benefit of the public the natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources in the area that includes Arabia Mountain, Panola Mountain, Miners Creek, and other significant sites and communities.

(2) To assist the State of Georgia and the counties of DeKalb, Rockdale, and Henry in the State in developing and implementing an integrated cultural, historical, and land resource management program to protect, enhance, and interpret the significant resources within the heritage area.

SEC. 103. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “heritage area” means the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area established by section 4(a).

(2) LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.—The term “local coordinating entity” means the Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance or a successor of the Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance.

(3) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term “management plan” means the management plan for the heritage area developed under section 6.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(5) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of Georgia.

SEC. 104. ARABIA MOUNTAIN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area in the State.

(b) BOUNDARIES.—The heritage area shall consist of certain parcels of land in the counties of DeKalb, Rockdale, and Henry in the State, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area”, numbered AMNHA-80,000, and dated October 2003.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(d) LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.—The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance shall be the local coordinating entity for the heritage area.

SEC. 105. AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF THE LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.

(a) AUTHORITIES.—For purposes of developing and implementing the management plan, the local coordinating entity may—

(1) make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the State, political subdivisions of the State, and private organizations;

(2) hire and compensate staff; and

(3) enter into contracts for goods and services.

(b) DUTIES.—

(1) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The local coordinating entity shall develop and submit to the Secretary the management plan.

(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing and implementing the management plan, the local coordinating entity shall consider the interests of diverse governmental, business, and nonprofit groups within the heritage area.

(2) PRIORITIES.—The local coordinating entity shall give priority to implementing actions described in the management plan, including the following:

(A) Assisting units of government and nonprofit organizations in preserving resources within the heritage area.

(B) Encouraging local governments to adopt land use policies consistent with the management of the heritage area and the goals of the management plan.

(3) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—The local coordinating entity shall conduct public meetings at least quarterly on the implementation of the management plan.

(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—For any year in which Federal funds have been made available under this title, the local coordinating entity shall submit to the Secretary an annual report that describes the following:

(A) The accomplishments of the local coordinating entity.

(B) The expenses and income of the local coordinating entity.

(5) AUDIT.—The local coordinating entity shall—

(A) make available to the Secretary for audit all records relating to the expenditure of Federal funds and any matching funds; and

(B) require, with respect to all agreements authorizing expenditure of Federal funds by other organizations, that the receiving organizations make available to the Secretary for audit all records concerning the expenditure of those funds.

(c) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The local coordinating entity shall not use Federal funds made available under this title to acquire real property or an interest in real property.

(2) OTHER SOURCES.—Nothing in this title precludes the local coordinating entity from using Federal funds made available under other Federal laws for any purpose for which the funds are authorized to be used.

SEC. 106. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The local coordinating entity shall develop a management plan for the heritage area that incorporates an integrated and cooperative approach to protect, interpret, and enhance the natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources of the heritage area.

(b) BASIS.—The management plan shall be based on the preferred concept in the document entitled "Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Feasibility Study", dated February 28, 2001.

(c) CONSIDERATION OF OTHER PLANS AND ACTIONS.—The management plan shall—

(1) take into consideration State and local plans; and

(2) involve residents, public agencies, and private organizations in the heritage area.

(d) REQUIREMENTS.—The management plan shall include the following:

(1) An inventory of the resources in the heritage area, including—

(A) a list of property in the heritage area that—

(i) relates to the purposes of the heritage area; and

(ii) should be preserved, restored, managed, or maintained because of the significance of the property; and

(B) an assessment of cultural landscapes within the heritage area.

(2) Provisions for the protection, interpretation, and enjoyment of the resources of the heritage area consistent with the purposes of this title.

(3) An interpretation plan for the heritage area.

(4) A program for implementation of the management plan that includes—

(A) actions to be carried out by units of government, private organizations, and public-private partnerships to protect the resources of the heritage area; and

(B) the identification of existing and potential sources of funding for implementing the plan.

(5) A description and evaluation of the local coordinating entity, including the membership and organizational structure of the local coordinating entity.

(e) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY FOR APPROVAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the local coordinating entity shall submit the management plan to the Secretary for approval.

(2) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO SUBMIT.—If a management plan is not submitted to the Secretary by the date specified in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall not provide any additional funding under this title until such date as a management plan for the heritage area is submitted to the Secretary.

(f) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after receiving the management plan submitted under subsection (e), the Secretary, in consultation with the State, shall approve or disapprove the management plan.

(2) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—

(A) REVISION.—If the Secretary disapproves a management plan submitted under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(i) advise the local coordinating entity in writing of the reasons for the disapproval;

(ii) make recommendations for revisions to the management plan; and

(iii) allow the local coordinating entity to submit to the Secretary revisions to the management plan.

(B) DEADLINE FOR APPROVAL OF REVISION.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a revision is submitted under subparagraph (A)(iii), the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the revision.

(g) REVISION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After approval by the Secretary of a management plan, the local coordinating entity shall periodically—

(A) review the management plan; and

(B) submit to the Secretary, for review and approval by the Secretary, the recommendations of the local coordinating entity for any revisions to the management plan that the local coordinating entity considers to be appropriate.

(2) EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—No funds made available under this title shall be used to implement any revision proposed by the local coordinating entity under paragraph (1)(B) until the Secretary approves the revision.

SEC. 107. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—At the request of the local coordinating entity, the Secretary may provide technical and financial assistance to the heritage area to develop and implement the management plan.

(b) PRIORITY.—In providing assistance under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give priority to actions that facilitate—

(1) the conservation of the significant natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resources that support the purposes of the heritage area; and

(2) the provision of educational, interpretive, and recreational opportunities that are consistent with the resources and associated values of the heritage area.

SEC. 108. EFFECT ON CERTAIN AUTHORITY.

(a) OCCUPATIONAL, SAFETY, CONSERVATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION.—Nothing in this title—

(1) imposes an occupational, safety, conservation, or environmental regulation on the heritage area that is more stringent than the regulations that would be applicable to the land described in section 4(b) but for the establishment of the heritage area by section 4(a); or

(2) authorizes a Federal agency to promulgate an occupational, safety, conservation, or environmental regulation for the heritage area that is more stringent than the regulations applicable to the land described in section 4(b) as of the date of enactment of this Act, solely as a result of the establishment of the heritage area by section 4(a).

(b) LAND USE REGULATION.—Nothing in this title—

(1) modifies, enlarges, or diminishes any authority of the Federal Government or a State or local government to regulate any use of land as provided for by law (including regulations) in existence on the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) grants powers of zoning or land use to the local coordinating entity.

SEC. 109. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not more than \$1,000,000 may be authorized to be appropriated for any fiscal year.

(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of any project or activity carried out using funds made available under this title shall not exceed 50 percent.

SEC. 110. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.

The authority of the Secretary to provide assistance under this title terminates on the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment of this title.

SEC. 111. REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.

(a) NOTIFICATION AND CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNERS REQUIRED.—No privately owned property shall be preserved, conserved, or promoted by the management plan for the Heritage Area until the owner of that private property has been notified in writing by the management entity and has given written consent for such preservation, conservation, or promotion to the management entity.

(b) LANDOWNER WITHDRAW.—Any owner of private property included within the boundary of the Heritage Area shall have their property immediately removed from the boundary by submitting a written request to the management entity.

SEC. 112. PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION.

(a) ACCESS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to—

(1) require any private property owner to allow public access (including Federal, State, or local government access) to such private property; or

(2) modify any provision of Federal, State, or local law with regard to public access to or use of private property.

(b) LIABILITY.—Designation of the Heritage Area shall not be considered to create any liability, or to have any effect on any liability under any other law, of any private property owner with respect to any persons injured on such private property.

(c) RECOGNITION OF AUTHORITY TO CONTROL LAND USE.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to modify the authority of Federal, State, or local governments to regulate land use.

(d) PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS IN HERITAGE AREA.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to require the owner of any private property located within the boundaries of the Heritage Area to participate in or be associated with the Heritage Area.

(e) EFFECT OF ESTABLISHMENT.—The boundaries designated for the Heritage Area represent the area within which Federal funds appropriated for the purpose of this title may be expended. The establishment of the Heritage Area and its boundaries shall not be construed to provide any nonexistent regulatory authority on land use within the Heritage Area or its viewshed by the Secretary, the National Park Service, or the management entity.

TITLE II—ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR ACT AMENDMENTS

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ‘‘Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor Act Amendments of 2005’’.

SEC. 202. TRANSITION AND PROVISIONS FOR NEW LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.

The Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor Act of 1984 (Public Law 98–398; 16 U.S.C. 461 note) is amended as follows:

- (1) In section 103—
 - (A) in paragraph (8), by striking ‘‘and’’;
 - (B) in paragraph (9), by striking the period and inserting ‘‘; and’’; and
 - (C) by adding at the end the following:
 - ‘‘(10) the term ‘Association’ means the Canal Corridor Association (an organization described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code).’’

(2) By adding at the end of section 112 the following new paragraph:

- ‘‘(7) The Secretary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Association to help ensure appropriate transition of the local coordinating entity to the Association and coordination with the Association regarding that role.’’

(3) By adding at the end the following new sections:

- ‘‘SEC. 119. ASSOCIATION AS LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.
 - ‘‘Upon the termination of the Commission, the local coordinating entity for the corridor shall be the Association.’’

‘‘SEC. 120. DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES OF ASSOCIATION.

- ‘‘For purposes of preparing and implementing the management plan developed under section 121, the Association may use Federal funds made available under this title—
 - ‘‘(1) to make loans and grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, States and their political subdivisions, private organizations, or any person;
 - ‘‘(2) to hire, train, and compensate staff; and
 - ‘‘(3) to enter into contracts for goods and services.’’

‘‘SEC. 121. DUTIES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

- ‘‘The Association shall—
 - ‘‘(1) develop and submit to the Secretary for approval under section 123 a proposed management plan for the corridor not later than 2 years after Federal funds are made available for this purpose;
 - ‘‘(2) give priority to implementing actions set forth in the management plan, including taking steps to assist units of local government, regional planning organizations, and other organizations—
 - ‘‘(A) in preserving the corridor;
 - ‘‘(B) in establishing and maintaining interpretive exhibits in the corridor;
 - ‘‘(C) in developing recreational resources in the corridor;

‘‘(D) in increasing public awareness of and appreciation for the natural, historical, and architectural resources and sites in the corridor; and

‘‘(E) in facilitating the restoration of any historic building relating to the themes of the corridor;

‘‘(3) encourage by appropriate means economic viability in the corridor consistent with the goals of the management plan;

‘‘(4) consider the interests of diverse governmental, business, and other groups within the corridor;

‘‘(5) conduct public meetings at least quarterly regarding the implementation of the management plan;

‘‘(6) submit substantial changes (including any increase of more than 20 percent in the cost estimates for implementation) to the management plan to the Secretary; and

‘‘(7) for any year in which Federal funds have been received under this title—

‘‘(A) submit an annual report to the Secretary setting forth the Association’s accomplishments, expenses and income, and the identity of each entity to which any loans and grants were made during the year for which the report is made;

‘‘(B) make available for audit all records pertaining to the expenditure of such funds and any matching funds; and

‘‘(C) require, for all agreements authorizing expenditure of Federal funds by other organizations, that the receiving organizations make available for audit all records pertaining to the expenditure of such funds.’’

‘‘SEC. 122. USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

- ‘‘(a) IN GENERAL.—The Association shall not use Federal funds received under this title to acquire real property or an interest in real property.

‘‘(b) OTHER SOURCES.—Nothing in this title precludes the Association from using Federal funds from other sources for authorized purposes.’’

‘‘SEC. 123. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

- ‘‘(a) PREPARATION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 2 years after the date that Federal funds are made available for this purpose, the Association shall submit to the Secretary for approval a proposed management plan that shall—
 - ‘‘(1) take into consideration State and local plans and involve residents, local governments and public agencies, and private organizations in the corridor;
 - ‘‘(2) present comprehensive recommendations for the corridor’s conservation, funding, management, and development;
 - ‘‘(3) include actions proposed to be undertaken by units of government and non-governmental and private organizations to protect the resources of the corridor;
 - ‘‘(4) specify the existing and potential sources of funding to protect, manage, and develop the corridor; and
 - ‘‘(5) include—
 - ‘‘(A) identification of the geographic boundaries of the corridor;
 - ‘‘(B) a brief description and map of the corridor’s overall concept or vision that show key sites, visitor facilities and attractions, and physical linkages;
 - ‘‘(C) identification of overall goals and the strategies and tasks intended to reach them, and a realistic schedule for completing the tasks;
 - ‘‘(D) a listing of the key resources and themes of the corridor;
 - ‘‘(E) identification of parties proposed to be responsible for carrying out the tasks;
 - ‘‘(F) a financial plan and other information on costs and sources of funds;
 - ‘‘(G) a description of the public participation process used in developing the plan and a proposal for public participation in the implementation of the management plan;

‘‘(6) submit substantial changes (including any increase of more than 20 percent in the cost estimates for implementation) to the management plan to the Secretary; and

‘‘(7) for any year in which Federal funds have been received under this title—

‘‘(A) submit an annual report to the Secretary setting forth the Association’s accomplishments, expenses and income, and the identity of each entity to which any loans and grants were made during the year for which the report is made;

‘‘(B) make available for audit all records pertaining to the expenditure of such funds and any matching funds; and

‘‘(C) require, for all agreements authorizing expenditure of Federal funds by other organizations, that the receiving organizations make available for audit all records pertaining to the expenditure of such funds.’’

‘‘(H) a mechanism and schedule for updating the plan based on actual progress;

‘‘(I) a bibliography of documents used to develop the management plan; and

‘‘(J) a discussion of any other relevant issues relating to the management plan.’’

‘‘(b) DISQUALIFICATION FROM FUNDING.—If a proposed management plan is not submitted to the Secretary within 2 years after the date that Federal funds are made available for this purpose, the Association shall be ineligible to receive additional funds under this title until the Secretary receives a proposed management plan from the Association.

‘‘(c) APPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The Secretary shall approve or disapprove a proposed management plan submitted under this title not later than 180 days after receiving such proposed management plan. If action is not taken by the Secretary within the time period specified in the preceding sentence, the management plan shall be deemed approved. The Secretary shall consult with the local entities representing the diverse interests of the corridor including governments, natural and historic resource protection organizations, educational institutions, businesses, recreational organizations, community residents, and private property owners prior to approving the management plan. The Association shall conduct semi-annual public meetings, workshops, and hearings to provide adequate opportunity for the public and local and governmental entities to review and to aid in the preparation and implementation of the management plan.

‘‘(d) EFFECT OF APPROVAL.—Upon the approval of the management plan as provided in subsection (c), the management plan shall supersede the conceptual plan contained in the National Park Service report.

‘‘(e) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—If the Secretary disapproves a proposed management plan within the time period specified in subsection (c), the Secretary shall advise the Association in writing of the reasons for the disapproval and shall make recommendations for revisions to the proposed management plan.

‘‘(f) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS.—The Secretary shall review and approve all substantial amendments (including any increase of more than 20 percent in the cost estimates for implementation) to the management plan. Funds made available under this title may not be expended to implement any changes made by a substantial amendment until the Secretary approves that substantial amendment.’’

‘‘SEC. 124. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE; OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.

- ‘‘(a) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—Upon the request of the Association, the Secretary may provide technical assistance, on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, and financial assistance to the Association to develop and implement the management plan. The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with the Association and other public or private entities for this purpose. In assisting the Association, the Secretary shall give priority to actions that in general assist in—
 - ‘‘(1) conserving the significant natural, historic, cultural, and scenic resources of the corridor; and
 - ‘‘(2) providing educational, interpretive, and recreational opportunities consistent with the purposes of the corridor.’’

‘‘(b) DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Any Federal agency conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the corridor shall—

‘‘(1) consult with the Secretary and the Association with respect to such activities;

‘‘(2) cooperate with the Secretary and the Association in carrying out their duties under this title;

“(3) to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activities with the carrying out of such duties; and

“(4) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct or support such activities in a manner which the Association determines is not likely to have an adverse effect on the corridor.

“SEC. 125. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To carry out this title there is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000, except that not more than \$1,000,000 may be appropriated to carry out this title for any fiscal year.

“(b) 50 PERCENT MATCH.—The Federal share of the cost of activities carried out using any assistance or grant under this title shall not exceed 50 percent of that cost.

“SEC. 126. SUNSET.

“The authority of the Secretary to provide assistance under this title terminates on the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment of this section.”

SEC. 203. PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION.

The Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor Act of 1984 is further amended by adding after section 126 (as added by section 402) the following new sections:

“SEC. 127. REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.

“(a) NOTIFICATION AND CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNERS REQUIRED.—No privately owned property shall be preserved, conserved, or promoted by the management plan for the corridor until the owner of that private property has been notified in writing by the Association and has given written consent for such preservation, conservation, or promotion to the Association.

“(b) LANDOWNER WITHDRAWAL.—Any owner of private property included within the boundary of the corridor, and not notified under subsection (a), shall have their property immediately removed from the boundary of the corridor by submitting a written request to the Association.

“SEC. 128. PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION.

“(a) ACCESS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to—

“(1) require any private property owner to allow public access (including Federal, State, or local government access) to such private property; or

“(2) modify any provision of Federal, State, or local law with regard to public access to or use of private property.

“(b) LIABILITY.—Designation of the corridor shall not be considered to create any liability, or to have any effect on any liability under any other law, of any private property owner with respect to any persons injured on such private property.

“(c) RECOGNITION OF AUTHORITY TO CONTROL LAND USE.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to modify the authority of Federal, State, or local governments to regulate land use.

“(d) PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS IN CORRIDOR.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to require the owner of any private property located within the boundaries of the corridor to participate in or be associated with the corridor.

“(e) EFFECT OF ESTABLISHMENT.—The boundaries designated for the corridor represent the area within which Federal funds appropriated for the purpose of this title may be expended. The establishment of the corridor and its boundaries shall not be construed to provide any nonexisting regulatory authority on land use within the corridor or its viewshed by the Secretary, the National Park Service, or the Association.”

SEC. 204. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Section 116 of Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor Act of 1984 is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b); and

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “(a)” and all that follows through “For each” and inserting “(a) For each”;

(B) by striking “Commission” and inserting “Association”;

(C) by striking “Commission’s” and inserting “Association’s”;

(D) by redesignating paragraph (2) as subsection (b); and

(E) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

Mr. POMBO (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment in the nature of a substitute be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to object.

What is the amendment about? Can you read it?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman object to dispensing with the reading?

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

There was no objection.

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 2099. Among its provisions, H.R. 2099 reauthorizes the Illinois and Michigan (I&M) Canal National Heritage Corridor to receive appropriations and transfers management entity status from the federal, I&M Commission to the non-profit Canal Corridor Association. I would like to commend Chairman Pombo and the House Committee on Resources for their hard work on this important piece of legislation.

The I&M Canal changed the nation in 1848 when it opened the first shipping route between New York and New Orleans, designating Chicago as the nation’s greatest inland port. While the canal eventually fell into disuse due to new transportation methods and routes, in 1982, business and industry leaders founded the Canal Corridor Association to help revitalize the I&M Canal region, and in doing so, created a national model for regional partnership, conservation and renewal. I am proud to say that the I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor was America’s charter National Heritage area, being created by an act of Congress in 1984. For 20 years, the federal I&M Commission has worked to carry out the mission of the I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor. Its efforts have been particularly successful during the past five years that Phyllis Ellin has provided strong leadership as the Executive Director of the Commission.

Since 1984, the I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor has increasingly become an engine of economic growth in communities up and down the length of the Corridor; primarily through an increase in tourism but also in the use of the Corridor for recreational purposes. After consulting with local officials and those most interested and involved in the I&M Canal, it seems that the private sector approach offers more advantages to handle the increased work load brought on by the recent success of the canal and interest in heritage tourism.

As a result, H.R. 2099 designates the Canal Corridor Association (CCA) as the new management entity of the I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor. The CCA seeks to enhance economic vitality by raising awareness of and expanding the parks, trails, landscapes, and historic sites that make the I&M Canal region a special place. They have also successfully implemented education programs and improved the cultural, environmental, historic and tourism resources that the canal offers.

Under the leadership of the CCA, through their governance of the I&M Canal, will continue to successfully educate citizens of the nationally historical importance of the I&M Canal and to play a pivotal role in the continued economic redevelopment of the region.

Once again, I would like to thank Chairman POMBO and the entire Resources committee for making sure this important legislation passes before we adjourn.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support a bill that is close to my heart as well as the hearts of many others in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia. That is, H.R. 2099, the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Act. It would establish Arabia Mountain as a National Heritage Area, a recognition that is long overdue.

Arabia Mountain, a hidden treasure in its own right, is a place where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources are intricately woven together to form an interconnected, nationally unique landscape. A true Georgia treasure—and an American one, too.

Arabia Mountain spans 4,000 acres and three counties.

Arabia Mountain is part of an area in eastern Metropolitan Atlanta that has been linked to human settlement and activity for thousands of years. This area not only includes the mountain, but also lakes, rivers, quarries, marked trails, and farmland in the surrounding area.

The history of human settlement in this region is intimately connected to its geological resources, starting over 7,000 years ago with the quarrying and trading of soapstone. Not only is this home for deer, beavers, and other animals but a place where everyday people can find peace and get away from the hustle and bustle of urban sprawl and enjoy a piece of America’s true beauty.

Arabia Mountain is home to plants that only can be found on the mountain. Arabia Mountain is truly a national heritage area.

Arabia Mountain is also a place where families can come together to take a hike, be a part of a class, and even enjoy a cookout. We are in the midst of a season that causes us to remember the most important things in our lives—family.

Family, Mr. Speaker, is what Arabia Mountain is about. It is a place where you can watch the sunset with someone you love, photograph unique flora, discover Georgia’s lizards with your child, or blowout her candles at a birthday party. I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote yes on H.R. 2099, the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Act. Arabia Mountain is, indeed, a genuine American beauty.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Georgia Senators SAXBY CHAMBLISS and JOHNNY ISAKSON for their support; Georgia’s Department of Natural Resources for its valuable input; my colleagues DAVID SCOTT and JIM MARSHALL for cosponsoring this bill; and my staff for preparing this

bill and helping it get to the Floor of the House today. I'd especially like to thank Congressman POMBO, Chairman of the House Resources Committee and his staff and NICK RAHALL, its Ranking Member, and his staff, for their advice and counsel as this bill went through the legislative process in the House.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JUNIOR DUCK STAMP REAUTHORIZATION AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2005

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Resources be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3179) to reauthorize and amend the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

Mr. OBEY. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, for the last 8 hours, we have been dealing with a majority leadership that has stripped out of the appropriations process and out of the conference virtually every major understanding we have had on those bills. We have had the United States Senate ram down our throats an ANWR provision. And then after we were assured in conference that there would be no language with respect to drug company indemnification, 3 hours after the conference report we get 45 pages of language which Senator FRIST and the Speaker of the House demanded be included in the conference report after the conference was specifically told it would not be in there.

Now, I want to know how do we have assurances on any bill brought to this floor under unanimous consent that that same kind of nonsense is not occurring in these instances? I have a responsibility as the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee to try to defend the integrity of this House, and I will use any opportunity I can to point out how the majority leadership in this House is destroying the principle that this is supposed to be the greatest deliberative body in the world.

How long is the bill? Because, Mr. Speaker, I am tempted to demand that every single bill that comes up tonight be read in its entirety.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill is four pages.

Mr. OBEY. I would like to have the bill read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under this unanimous-consent procedure a bill is reported by title only.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw that request because I did not inform the gentleman ahead of time, and he just happened to get in the line of

fire on something he should not have been involved in.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. Absolutely.

Mr. POMBO. The bills that we are doing by UC right now are bills that have been before the committee for a long time. The particular bill you are objecting to is a bill that the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ) has been working on for years. It is something that means a lot to him. He was sitting right behind you just a minute ago, and I am sure he would be happy to explain it to you. We are not adding anything new into the bill of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ).

Mr. OBEY. I am not objecting to any bill, and I am not suggesting you did. What I am doing is using the only avenue available to me since we are operating under some very strange rules in this House to point out that even if these matters had been cleared on both sides of the aisle, there is really no way for the individual Member to protect himself if the leadership of this House is going to depart from what ought to be the custom in this place of not dictating what goes into conference reports.

Mr. POMBO. If the gentleman will yield, these bills have been worked out. They have been cleared by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) and myself. Most of these bills are from your side of the aisle, and they are bills that have been worked on for a number of years. There is nothing in here that has changed. I understand your frustration. It happens every year when we get to the end of the session that stupid stuff happens.

Mr. OBEY. With all due respect, what does not happen is that the leadership does not abuse its power routinely to alter the contents of conference reports. So I know the gentleman didn't, and I have no objection to the gentleman proceeding. But I wanted to use this as an opportunity to point out that the leadership of this House, starting with the Speaker of the House, is abdicating his responsibility to protect the integrity of this institution.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to object.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my unanimous consent request.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The request is withdrawn.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Resources be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3179) to reauthorize and amend the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

Mr. MARKEY. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, this is one of the most preposterous situations that the

House has ever been placed in. Poised to be placed before the House in just a matter of moments is a bill, the Defense appropriations bill, which is in violation of the germaneness rules of the House; it is in violation of any scope that the Defense appropriations bill has ever allowed to be considered in that bill because inside that bill is a provision which will in fact allow for the drilling in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge.

The gentleman from California is the chairman of the committee, the Natural Resources Committee, which has jurisdiction over the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my unanimous consent request.

Mr. MARKEY. The gentleman is out here propounding. I would like to continue to be recognized.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

The request is withdrawn.

□ 0115

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2863, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-361) on the resolution (H. Res. 639) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1932, DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT OF 2005

Mr. NUSSLE submitted the following conference report and statement on the Senate bill (S. 1932) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(a) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006 (H. Con. Res. 95):

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2863, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 639 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

[Conference report will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.]

H. RES. 639

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration