

strong and prosperous. These settlers, mostly from Connecticut, were descendants of the brave immigrants who came to the Americas in the 17th century.

It is with great honor that by passing this legislation we will preserve the integrity of the cultural landscape for future generations to call home.

The Western Reserve is significant to our Nation's history, and it will be through education and public investment that we will help redefine our communities with the designation they so deserve.

The Western Reserve holds the distinction of being home to three U.S. Presidents and three U.S. Supreme Court Justices. This was home to the foundation of the steel industry and the world's rubber capital. The Western Reserve had the first U.S. newspaper for African Americans and the oldest labor newspaper. We are an inventive people, with many firsts in the automotive and electrical worlds. This is the birthplace of Thomas Edison and John Brown, the famous abolitionist.

We have regional strengths that set us apart from other areas, from our respected universities to our diverse business community to a wide range of natural and recreational resources. The agricultural and industrial base that began in the Western Reserve still lives strong in these prosperous and historical counties. These counties include Trumbull, Mahoning, Summit, Portage, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Medina, Ottawa, Ashland, Lake, Geauga, Lorain, Huron, and Erie.

The Western Reserve Heritage Area will unite northern Ohio and will help develop a plan focused on conserving the special qualities of the local culture and landscape that will once again define these communities as a good place to settle and make new beginnings.

We are already starting to see some of the benefits. The original Packard car was developed in this Western Reserve and the annual event that we have brings \$5 million to Trumbull County in travel tourism money.

I would just like to share a quote because now, not only with the Western Reserve Heritage Area coming together, the counties in the old Western Reserve are coming together economically as well. The foundations are coming together to focus their efforts and their money and certain aspects that will help transform our economy. I would just like to share a quote from the fund of all of these, the Fund For Our Economic Future and the fund chairman, Robert Briggs, says that "most of the pieces needed to make northeast Ohio a global economic powerhouse are in place. One of the missing pieces, however, is a shared vision and understanding that the residents in these counties in northeast Ohio are interconnected in a regional economy. By breaking down jurisdictional boundaries created by cities and counties and thinking regionally, we will think eco-

nomonic transformation to stimulate exponential growth."

The Western Reserve Heritage Area can be the organizing principle of this area and lead to the transformation of our economy.

I thank my colleagues for the opportunity to share these views today.

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. 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 North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 412.

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.

GULLAH/GEECHEE CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 694) to enhance the preservation and interpretation of the Gullah/Geechee cultural heritage, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 694

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 "Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act".

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are to—

(1) recognize the important contributions made to American culture and history by African Americans known as the Gullah/Geechee who settled in the coastal counties of South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida;

(2) assist State and local governments and public and private entities in South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida in interpreting the story of the Gullah/Geechee and preserving Gullah/Geechee folklore, arts, crafts, and music; and

(3) assist in identifying and preserving sites, historical data, artifacts, and objects associated with the Gullah/Geechee for the benefit and education of the public.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

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

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission established under this Act.

(2) HERITAGE CORRIDOR.—The term "Heritage Corridor" means the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor established by this Act.

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

SEC. 4. GULLAH/GEECHEE CULTURAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor.

(b) BOUNDARIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Heritage Corridor shall be comprised of those lands and waters generally depicted on a map entitled "Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor" numbered GGCHC 80,000 and dated September 2004. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service and in an appropriate State office in each of the States included in the Heritage Corridor. The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register, as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, a detailed description and map of the boundaries established under this subsection.

(2) REVISIONS.—The boundaries of the heritage corridor may be revised if the revision is—

(A) proposed in the management plan developed for the Heritage Corridor;

(B) approved by the Secretary in accordance with this Act; and

(C) placed on file in accordance with paragraph (1).

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Heritage Corridor shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. GULLAH/GEECHEE CULTURAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a commission to be known as the "Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission" whose purpose shall be to assist Federal, State, and local authorities in the development and implementation of a management plan for those land and waters specified in section 4.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be composed of 15 members appointed by the Secretary as follows:

(1) Four individuals nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer of South Carolina and two individuals each nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer of each of Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida and appointed by the Secretary.

(2) Two individuals from South Carolina and one individual from each of Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida who are recognized experts in historic preservation, anthropology, and folklore, appointed by the Secretary.

(c) TERMS.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed to terms not to exceed 3 years. The Secretary may stagger the terms of the initial appointments to the Commission in order to assure continuity of operation. Any member of the Commission may serve after the expiration of their term until a successor is appointed. A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(d) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6. OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.—To further the purposes of the Heritage Corridor, the Commission shall—

(1) prepare and submit a management plan to the Secretary in accordance with section 7;

(2) assist units of local government and other persons in implementing the approved management plan by—

(A) carrying out programs and projects that recognize, protect, and enhance important resource values within the Heritage Corridor;

(B) establishing and maintaining interpretive exhibits and programs within the Heritage Corridor;

(C) developing recreational and educational opportunities in the Heritage Corridor;

(D) increasing public awareness of and appreciation for the historical, cultural, natural, and scenic resources of the Heritage Corridor;

(E) protecting and restoring historic sites and buildings in the Heritage Corridor that are consistent with heritage corridor themes;

(F) ensuring that clear, consistent, and appropriate signs identifying points of public access and sites of interest are posted throughout the Heritage Corridor; and

(G) promoting a wide range of partnerships among governments, organizations, and individuals to further the purposes of the Heritage Corridor;

(3) consider the interests of diverse units of government, business, organizations, and individuals in the Heritage Corridor in the preparation and implementation of the management plan;

(4) conduct meetings open to the public at least quarterly regarding the development and implementation of the management plan;

(5) submit an annual report to the Secretary for any fiscal year in which the Commission receives Federal funds under this Act, setting forth its accomplishments, expenses, and income, including grants made to any other entities during the year for which the report is made;

(6) make available for audit for any fiscal year in which it receives Federal funds under this Act, all information pertaining to the expenditure of such funds and any matching funds, and require all agreements authorizing expenditures of Federal funds by other organizations, that the receiving organization make available for audit all records and other information pertaining to the expenditure of such funds; and

(7) encourage by appropriate means economic viability that is consistent with the purposes of the Heritage Corridor.

(b) **AUTHORITIES.**—The Commission may, for the purposes of preparing and implementing the management plan, use funds made available under this Act to—

(1) make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the States of South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, and Georgia, political subdivisions of those States, a nonprofit organization, or any person;

(2) hire and compensate staff;

(3) obtain funds from any source including any that are provided under any other Federal law or program; and

(4) contract for goods and services.

SEC. 7. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The management plan for the Heritage Corridor shall—

(1) include comprehensive policies, strategies, and recommendations for conservation, funding, management, and development of the Heritage Corridor;

(2) take into consideration existing State, county, and local plans in the development of the management plan and its implementation;

(3) include a description of actions that governments, private organizations, and individuals have agreed to take to protect the historical, cultural, and natural resources of the Heritage Corridor;

(4) specify the existing and potential sources of funding to protect, manage, and develop the Heritage Corridor in the first 5 years of implementation;

(5) include an inventory of the historical, cultural, natural, resources of the Heritage Corridor related to the themes of the Heritage Corridor that should be preserved, restored, managed, developed, or maintained;

(6) recommend policies and strategies for resource management that consider and detail the application of appropriate land and

water management techniques, including the development of intergovernmental and interagency cooperative agreements to protect the Heritage Corridor's historical, cultural, and natural resources;

(7) describe a program for implementation of the management plan including plans for resources protection, restoration, construction, and specific commitments for implementation that have been made by the Commission or any government, organization, or individual for the first 5 years of implementation;

(8) include an analysis and recommendations for the ways in which Federal, State, or local programs may best be coordinated to further the purposes of this Act; and

(9) include an interpretive plan for the Heritage Corridor.

(b) **SUBMITTAL OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—The Commission shall submit the management plan to the Secretary for approval not later than 3 years after funds are made available for this Act.

(c) **FAILURE TO SUBMIT.**—If the Commission fails to submit the management plan to the Secretary in accordance with subsection (b), the Heritage Corridor shall not qualify for Federal funding until the management plan is submitted.

(d) **APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall approve or disapprove the management plan not later than 90 days after receiving the management plan.

(2) **CRITERIA.**—In determining whether to approve the management plan, the Secretary shall consider whether—

(A) the Commission has afforded adequate opportunity, including public hearings, for public and governmental involvement in the preparation of the management plan;

(B) the resource preservation and interpretation strategies contained in the management plan would adequately protect the cultural and historic resources of the Heritage Corridor; and

(C) the Secretary has received adequate assurances from appropriate State and local officials whose support is needed to ensure the effective implementation of the State and local aspects of the plan.

(3) **ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.**—If the Secretary disapproves the management plan, the Secretary shall advise the Commission in writing of the reasons therefor and shall make recommendations for revisions to the management plan. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove a proposed revision not later than 60 days after the date it is submitted.

(4) **APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS.**—Substantial amendments to the management plan shall be reviewed and approved by the Secretary in the same manner as provided in the original management plan. The Commission shall not use Federal funds authorized by this Act to implement any amendments until the Secretary has approved the amendments.

SEC. 8. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Upon a request of the Commission, the Secretary may provide technical and financial assistance for the development and implementation of the management plan.

(b) **PRIORITY FOR ASSISTANCE.**—In providing assistance under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give priority to actions that assist in—

(1) conserving the significant cultural, historical, and natural resources of the Heritage Corridor; and

(2) providing educational and interpretive opportunities consistent with the purposes of the Heritage Corridor.

(c) **SPENDING FOR NON-FEDERAL PROPERTY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission may expend Federal funds made available under this Act on nonfederally owned property that is—

(A) identified in the management plan; or

(B) listed or eligible for listing on the National Register for Historic Places.

(2) **AGREEMENTS.**—Any payment of Federal funds made pursuant to this Act shall be subject to an agreement that conversion, use, or disposal of a project so assisted for purposes contrary to the purposes of this Act, as determined by the Secretary, shall result in a right of the United States to compensation of all funds made available to that project or the proportion of the increased value of the project attributable to such funds as determined at the time of such conversion, use, or disposal, whichever is greater.

SEC. 9. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.

Any Federal agency conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the Heritage Corridor shall—

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

(2) cooperate with the Secretary and the Commission in carrying out their duties under this Act and, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activities with the carrying out of such duties; and

(3) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct or support such activities in a manner in which the Commission determines will not have an adverse effect on the Heritage Corridor.

SEC. 10. COASTAL HERITAGE CENTERS.

In furtherance of the purposes of this Act and using the authorities made available under this Act, the Commission shall establish one or more Coastal Heritage Centers at appropriate locations within the Heritage Corridor in accordance with the preferred alternative identified in the Record of Decision for the Low Country Gullah Culture Special Resource Study and Environmental Impact Study, December 2003, and additional appropriate sites.

SEC. 11. PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION.

(a) **ACCESS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require any private property owner to permit public access (including Federal, State, or local government access) to such private property. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to modify any provision of Federal, State, or local law with regard to public access to or use of private lands.

(b) **LIABILITY.**—Designation of the Heritage 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 Act shall be construed to modify any authority of Federal, State, or local governments to regulate land use.

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

(e) **EFFECT OF ESTABLISHMENT.**—The boundaries designated for the Heritage Corridor represent the area within which Federal funds appropriated for the purpose of this Act shall be expended. The establishment of the Heritage Corridor and its boundaries shall not be construed to provide any non-existing regulatory authority on land use within the Heritage Corridor or its viewshed by the Secretary or the management entity.

(f) NOTIFICATION AND CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNERS REQUIRED.—No privately owned property shall be preserved, conserved, or promoted by the management plan for the Heritage Corridor 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.

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

SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of this Act not more than \$1,000,000 for any fiscal year. Not more than a total of \$10,000,000 may be appropriated for the Heritage Corridor under this Act.

(b) COST SHARE.—Federal funding provided under this Act may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of any activity for which assistance is provided under this Act.

(c) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary may accept in-kind contributions as part of the non-Federal cost share of any activity for which assistance is provided under this Act.

SEC. 13. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.

The authority of the Secretary to provide assistance under this Act shall terminate on the day occurring 15 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. 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. 694.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 694, introduced by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) and amended by the Committee on Resources, would establish the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, comprised of lands and waters important to preserving this unique culture in parts of South Carolina and Georgia.

By way of background, throughout the early 1800s the Gullah/Geechee settled in the coastal counties of South Carolina, Georgia, and Northern Florida, and due largely to their isolated locations have remarkably maintained a great deal of their West African heritage. This bill would assist State and local governments with preserving and interpreting the story of Gullah/Geechee culture and its wonderful folklore, arts, crafts, and music.

H.R. 694, as amended, supports legislation that was supported by the ma-

majority and minority as passed the House of Representatives by voice vote during the 108th Congress. The committee amendment simply adds the correct map number and date to the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the majority has explained the purpose of H.R. 694, but it is truly fitting that we are proceeding with this legislation.

The Gullah/Geechee culture is unique. These proud people trace their ancestry to enslaved Africans who were forced to live and work along the coastal areas covered by the legislation. Because of the isolation of these coastal lands and islands, African Americans in these areas developed a distinct language as well as unique arts, crafts, music, and religious customs. It is a living culture that continues to evolve today and is definitely one that should be preserved and celebrated. I have had the opportunity in traveling to Charleston, South Carolina, with the distinguished gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), to whom I will yield shortly, to sample some of that culture and the food as well.

□ 1445

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague and friend, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), for his work on developing this important legislative initiative. The gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), our ranking member on the Committee on Resources, joins me in congratulating the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) for his effort, and we strongly support H.R. 694 and urge its passage before the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the distinguished vice-chair of the Democratic Caucus.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman very much for yielding me the time. I want to thank her for her good work on the subcommittee on this legislation. I want to thank the majority side for their unique understanding of a unique slice of the American culture.

My colleagues may recall, Mr. Speaker, that we passed this legislation last year unanimously. It also passed in the other body, but time ran out before we could reconcile the differences that were in the two bills.

I want to point out today, for those people who may be listening, that this time around we did move to incorporate all of the aspects of the study conducted by the National Park Service. Last year, we only recognized South Carolina and Georgia in the legislation. In this legislation, however,

we have moved to bring Florida and North Carolina into the corridor, and that gives it the credibility that a lot of mail I got indicated was lacking the last time around.

I want to just point out that I do not believe there is anyone who has ever traveled to Charleston, South Carolina, or to Beaufort County, South Carolina, or to the Jacksonville area of North Carolina or the Jacksonville area of Florida who have not encountered some unique aspects of this culture. One need only walk the streets of Charleston and see the art of basket weaving, the sweet grass baskets that are made there, all coming out of this culture.

One of the reasons we thought it necessary to move quickly, as the National Park Service urged us to do, was because just that unique craft itself is beginning to dissipate, if not disappear, simply because of the sweet grass that is needed in order to make those baskets is fast disappearing, and we want to do what is necessary to preserve and protect that art and the culture that goes along with it.

I just want to point out, Mr. Speaker, that the communities that are identified along this corridor, many of them in years past were dependent upon textiles and tobacco as a large part of their economy. We all know going forward that that is not going to be a significant part of their future, but we also know that tourism is growing at 6 percent a year. Heritage tourism is growing around 30 percent a year, and we do believe that these communities, with the culture that is indigenous to the area, will benefit greatly from this legislation and bring them into the mainstream of activity of South Carolina's coast, Georgia's coast, Florida and North Carolina going forward.

So I want to thank the Members of this body for the work last year, thank the committee for bringing this bill to the floor so quickly this year, and I am hopeful that my colleagues will give us a favorable vote on it today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a strong supporter of H.R. 694, a bill that acknowledges the significant contributions made to American culture and history by outstanding African Americans known as the Gullah/Geechee. The legislation will assist State and local governments and public and private entities in South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina and Florida to institute programs that facilitate the interpretation of the story of the Gullah/Geechee and preserving their legends, arts, crafts, and music. It will aid in identifying and preserving sites, historical data, artifacts, and objects associated with the Gullah/Geechee for the benefit and education of the public.

Mr. Speaker, I understand the history of these people. These individuals have a tremendously rich history and culture that has roots in the transportation of African slaves to the Sea Islands of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. The Sea Islands served as an excellent location for the Gullah culture because of its separation from the mainland. The slaves who came from various regions in Africa brought many gifts such as a distinctive

language, culture and traditions. Collectively these traditions and languages have merged into one to from Gullah. The Gullah culture has survived over the years by Gullah elders passing down the language and traditions to their children. However, over the past 50 years the Gullah culture has started to die. Three significant factors are the development of resorts along the Sea Islands, the movement of Gullah descendants to larger cities, in search of employment and the education of Gullah descendants. The later of the factors has severely damaged the Gullah culture. As the Gullah people are becoming educated, they are taught that it is no longer acceptable to speak "broken-English." However, the Gullah language is more than just "broken-English." It is an art form that serves as the link between Africans and African-Americans today.

This magnificent bill will pay tribute to these great African Americans who settled in our coastal counties. The act will establish the Heritage Corridor that consists of lands and waters normally illustrated on a map as the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor; the map will be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service and in the correct State office of each State listed in the Heritage Corridor.

This marvelous legislation will create the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission. The commission will help Federal, State, and local authorities in the development and implementation of a management plan for those areas listed as part of the Heritage Corridor.

Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me and support these honorable African Americans for their contributions to this great country.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, having no further speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, 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 North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 694, 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.

LAND EXCHANGE IN VICINITY OF HOLLOWMAN AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 486) to provide for a land exchange involving private land and Bureau of Land Management land in the vicinity of Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, for the purpose of removing private land from the required safety zone surrounding munitions storage bunkers at Holloman Air Force Base.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 486

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

SECTION 1. LAND EXCHANGE, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LAND IN VICINITY OF HOLLOWMAN AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO.

(a) CONVEYANCE OF PUBLIC LAND.—In exchange for the land described in subsection (b), the Secretary of the Interior shall convey to Randal, Jeffrey, and Timothy Rabon of Otero County, New Mexico (in this section referred to as the "Rabons"), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to certain public land administered by the Secretary through the Bureau of Land Management consisting of a total of approximately 320 acres, as depicted on the map entitled "Alamogordo Rabon Land Exchange" and dated September 24, 2004, and more specifically described as follows:

(1) SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 6, township 17 south, range 10 east, New Mexico principal meridian.

(2) N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 7, township 17 south, range 10 east, New Mexico principal meridian.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the conveyance of the real property under subsection (a), the Rabons shall convey to the United States all right, title, and interest held by the Rabons in and to three parcels of land depicted on the map referred to in subsection (a), which consists of approximately 241 acres, is contiguous to Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, and is located within the required safety zone surrounding munitions storage bunkers at the installation. The Secretary shall assume jurisdiction over the land acquired under this subsection. The three parcels are more specifically described as follows:

(1) Lot 4 in the S1/2 of section 30, township 16 south, range 9 east, New Mexico principal meridian, consisting of approximately 17.6 acres.

(2) E1/2SW1/4 of section 31, township 16 south, range 9 east, New Mexico principal meridian, consisting of approximately 80 acres.

(3) Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 of section 31, township 16 south, range 9 east, New Mexico principal meridian, consisting of approximately 143 acres.

(c) INTERESTS INCLUDED IN EXCHANGE.—Subject to valid existing rights, the land exchange under this section shall include conveyance of all surface, subsurface, mineral, and water rights in the lands.

(d) COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING LAW.—(1) The Secretary shall carry out the land exchange under this section in the manner provided in section 206 of the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716). Notwithstanding subsection (b) of such section, if necessary, a cash equalization payment may be made in excess of 25 percent of the appraised value of the public land to be conveyed under subsection (a).

(2) The cost of the appraisals performed as part of the land exchange shall be borne by the Secretary.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the land exchange under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. 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. 486, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 486, introduced by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE), would provide for a land exchange involving private land and land managed by the Bureau of Land Management in the vicinity of Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico for the purpose of removing that land from a required safety zone surrounding munitions storage bunkers at the Air Force base.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE), the author of this bill.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 486 and would like to thank the gentleman from California (Chairman POMBO) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Ranking Member RAHALL) for working with me on this important legislation. I appreciate the bipartisan support from the Committee on Resources members and the ranking member of the subcommittee, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), in reaching a compromise that is reflected in this legislation.

The need for Congress to pass H.R. 486 arose when a munitions storage bunker was built at Holloman Air Force Base in 1997 and 1998. Holloman Air Force Base serves both the United States' and German Air Force's training and readiness functions. The Holloman air to ground training ranges consist of 1,385,262 acres, almost exclusively Federal land, and air to air training ranges providing 8,352,878 acres of air space for national security and training. The total military training routes at Holloman Air Force Base is 8,657,964. That is DOD, DOI, USDA and private lands.

Without an explosive clear zone, Holloman Air Force Base is unable to fully utilize the designed capacity of the bunker, and it adversely impacts the storage capacity of munitions required for training and operations. This directly impacts the ability of Holloman Air Force Base to fully meet its mission of training, readiness and national security as well as training our NATO partner, Germany. The cost to replace the munitions storage area is estimated by the Air Force to be a minimum of \$40 million today, and more if this bill is delayed.

The proposed explosive clear zone encroaches on private property. The Federal Government originally sought to