

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 38, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS SPECIAL RESOURCES STUDY ACT

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1512) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating certain historic buildings and areas in Taunton, Massachusetts, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1512

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Taunton, Massachusetts Special Resources Study Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

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

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

(3) Taunton Green is the site where the Sons of Liberty first raised the Liberty and Union Flag in 1774, an event that helped to spark a popular movement, culminating in the American Revolution, and Taunton citizens have been among the first to volunteer for America's subsequent wars.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 3. STUDY.

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

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

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

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

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

(5) provide outstanding recreational and educational opportunities; and

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

SEC. 4. REPORT.

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

SEC. 5. PRIVATE PROPERTY.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PEARCE. 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. 1512.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1512, introduced by the gentleman from Massachusetts

(Mr. FRANK), would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating certain historic buildings and areas of the City of Taunton, Massachusetts, as a unit of the National Park System. It was in the City of Taunton where the Sons of Liberty first raised the Liberty and Union Flag in 1774, an event that helped to spark the American Revolution.

I urge the adoption of the bill.

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. UDALL of New Mexico asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the Taunton area to be included in the study authorized by H.R. 1512 is rich in cultural and historic resources. A comprehensive study of these resources will help determine if inclusion within the National Park System is appropriate.

The sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), is to be commended for his tenacity and resolve in pursuing this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK).

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I thank the members of the committee who have brought this bill forward.

This is a bill that has particular meaning to me. The City of Taunton has been in the district I have been privileged to represent for just a couple of years. Prior to that, it was represented by one of our late colleagues; and when you talk about history, which this bill does, building as it does on the history of the City of Taunton, you could not talk about the history of this institution without some reference to the man who represented Taunton before me and that is our late colleague, Joe Moakley.

Joe Moakley represented Taunton for years. He was the one under whose representation the discussion of a national park began. I was privileged to take this over actually from his immediate successor, my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH). It is on behalf of both of us that we present this, and we do want to invoke the memory of Joe Moakley when we go forward with this bill.

The City of Taunton, Massachusetts, is a wonderful place. I am lucky enough to have one of my congressional district offices right in the heart of this area. I have checked and I do not believe I will derive any particular benefit from it, so I do not have to vote "present" on the bill. What I do have is a chance right now to really be a part of this great history.

The Sons of Liberty Flag was first raised here. The Sons of Liberty raised

the flag Liberty Union in 1774. There were buildings that played an important role in the Revolution. They were there in Taunton. Taunton Green is a major place in our history. We would include here the Church Green Historic District. It has the Church Green National Register district.

One of the original settlers, and I think this is particularly relevant to talk about, the modern impact of this, Elizabeth Pole was the first woman we believe to found a community in America, and on the seal of the city of Taunton the phrase "Dux Femina Facti" is included. That translates, I am reliably informed by better Latin scholars than myself, into "the person responsible for this was a woman."

It was in early recognition of what we are still dealing with, namely, that we make a great mistake when we refuse to give individuals the full opportunity to engage their talents, no matter what their gender or whatever other characteristics that they have.

I realize that this does not mean that we get a park immediately. It begins the process of study. I am confident, Mr. Speaker, that an objective study of the sort we get from the excellent staff that we have at the National Park Service will document the importance to the history of this country of this area of Taunton and the importance of making it a part of our National Park System. I thank the two gentlemen from New Mexico for their energy and work in this.

Mr. Speaker, the following is a list of some of the salient points of the City of Taunton.

The city of Taunton has a history of equality, patriotism, commerce and innovation that make the areas ideal candidates for inclusion within the National Park System. The area to be included within the study includes the Church Green Historic District, which includes the Church Green National Register District, Main Street, and the Taunton Green National Register District.

Among the original settlers of Taunton, Elizabeth Pole is credited as being the first female to found a community in America. Her legacy is preserved at the Old Colony Historical Society Museum on Church Green. The role that Elizabeth Pole, a woman, played in founding Taunton is an important aspect of our colonial history that should be emphasized as part of the study. The National Park System has devoted many resources to the role of women in our nation and history. However, no other site presently in the National Park System matches the unique circumstances surrounding Ms. Pole and her role as a pioneering colonial female. The phrase "Dux femina facti" which translates into "the person responsible for the deed or accomplishment was a woman" adorns the Seal of the City of Taunton.

A statue of Robert Treat Paine symbolically faces away from the Church Green National Registered District down Main Street towards the Taunton Green National Registered District. With the transformation from English colony towards independent nation, the center of the city moved towards the Taunton Green. Robert Treat Paine, a Taunton resident, was as a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He along with John Adams served as members of the First Continental Congress in 1774. Paine and

Adams' careers were linked again as Paine served as an Associate Prosecutor at the trial of the Boston Massacre. Paine went on to become the first Attorney General of Massachusetts and was a member of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. While serving in the Continental Congress in October of 1774, Paine was not a party to the historic event that occurred near his home when the Sons of Liberty raised the "Liberty & Union" or "Taunton Flag" on October 21, 1774 over Taunton Green on a 112-foot Liberty Pole. The Liberty and Union flag that still flies over the Taunton Green is recognized as the first flag of open defiance to the crown.

In addition to Robert Treat Paine, Taunton's General David Cobb left his mark on the Revolutionary War. General Cobb served as aide-de-camp to General Washington and was entrusted with the duty of negotiating the evacuation of New York. After the war, General Cobb served as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Bristol County and was instrumental in preventing bloodshed in Bristol County during Shay's Rebellion.

As such, the history of the revolutionary war as symbolized by Robert Treat Paine, General Cobb, the Sons of Liberty and the Taunton Green are an important component of the study. The distance down Main Street from Church Green to Taunton Green past the homes of Paine and Cobb and Elizabeth Pole to the Liberty & Union Flag are symbolic of our transformation from colony to independent nation.

The anchor for the U.S.S. *Constitution* was forged in Taunton, as was the anchor for the Civil War's *Monitor*. The Taunton River served as a catalyst for industry and trade. At one point, Taunton was one of the busiest inland ports on the Atlantic coast.

The prime industry throughout Taunton history has been silver. To this day Taunton is known by many as the "Silver City." As with Taunton's political, cultural and religious legacy, the silver industry was born on Main Street, between Church Green and Taunton Green. In 1824, Isaac Babbitt invented and manufactured a new alloy that resulted in pewter ware of a greater quality than ever before manufactured. Two employees, Henry G. Reed and Charles E. Barton went on to found Reed and Barton, one of the oldest privately held companies in the nation and set a standard of excellence known throughout the world. The standards established by Reed & Barton are evident to this day; in 1994 Reed & Barton was selected to produce all of the victory medals for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the entire staff of the Committee on Resources, especially Dave Watkins, for their work on this bill.

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

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the staff, both majority and minority; and I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) for submitting this valuable legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1512, 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.

HONORING UNITED STATES AIR FORCE MEMBERS KILLED IN KHOBAR TOWERS BOMBING

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 188) honoring the members of the United States Air Force who were killed in the June 25, 1996, terrorist bombing of the Khobar Towers United States military housing compound near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 188

Whereas June 25, 2005, marks the ninth anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the Khobar Towers United States military housing compound in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, on June 25, 1996;

Whereas 19 members of the United States Air Force were killed in the bombing and 300 other Americans were injured;

Whereas the 19 airmen killed while serving their country were Captain Christopher Adams, Staff Sergeant Daniel Cafourek, Sergeant Millard Campbell, Senior Airman Earl Cartrette, Jr., Technical Sergeant Patrick Fennig, Captain Leland Haun, Master Sergeant Michael Heiser, Staff Sergeant Kevin Johnson, Staff Sergeant Ronald King, Master Sergeant Kendall Kitson, Jr., Airman First Class Christopher B. Lester, Airman First Class Brent Marthaler, Airman First Class Brian McVeigh, Airman First Class Peter Morgera, Technical Sergeant Thanh Nguyen, Airman First Class Joseph Rimkus, Senior Airman Jeremy Taylor, Airman First Class Justin Wood, and Airman First Class Joshua Woody;

Whereas the families of these brave airmen still mourn their loss;

Whereas three months after that terrorist bombing, on September 24, 1996, the House of Representatives agreed to House Concurrent Resolution 200 of the 104th Congress, honoring the victims of that terrorist bombing, and on the fifth anniversary of that bombing, on June 25, 2001, the House of Representatives agreed to House Concurrent Resolution 161 of the 107th Congress, concurred in by the Senate on July 12, 2002, further honoring the victims of that bombing;

Whereas those guilty of the attack have yet to be brought to justice; and

Whereas terrorism remains a constant and ever-present threat around the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That on the occasion of the ninth anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the Khobar Towers United States military housing compound near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, the Congress—

(1) recognizes the service and sacrifice of the 19 members of the United States Air Force who died in that attack;

(2) calls upon every American to pause and pay tribute to those brave airmen;

(3) extends its continued sympathies to the families of those who died; and

(4) assures the members of the Armed Forces serving anywhere in the world that their well-being and interests will at all times be given the highest priority.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER).