

one of the largest economies in the world, India possesses a rare combination of freedom and innovation which is paving the way for the country's bright future.

The United States already shares a strong strategic partnership with India, enhanced by the extraordinary success of 2.2 million Indian-Americans. Our nations are working together to defeat the global threat of terrorism, support democracy around the world, and encourage fair trade. Last year, exports from America to India increased by 30 percent, clearly indicating a bright future for U.S.-India trade with mutual benefit.

By traveling to India this week, President Bush is taking another step to cement the bonds of this strong relationship. I appreciate his leadership, and I am confident that he will witness the same positive developments I saw during my recent trip to India.

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

SECURING OUR HOMELAND

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, we are hearing a good bit about national security today; and whether it is ports or the PATRIOT Act, we know that there are things that we in this body can do and steps we can take to be certain that America is a safer place for our children, for our families to live, to work, to enjoy our lives.

Mr. Speaker, the PATRIOT Act as it comes back around and as we hear more about this and hear more about the reauthorization of this, I would encourage our colleagues to remember this is a tool that has proven to be successful and useful in our national security. It has proven to be a useful tool in keeping America safe. It has proven to be useful to law enforcement. It deserves reauthorization. It deserves reconsideration, and I encourage all Members of this body to support reauthorization of the PATRIOT Act.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 16, 2006.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER, Effective today, February 16th, I resign my seat on the Committee on Education pending my appointment to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Sincerely,

JOHN BARROW.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 17, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 17, 2006, at 1:25 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4745.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, Speaker pro tempore TOM DAVIS signed the following enrolled bill on Friday, February 17, 2006:

H.R. 4745, making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for the Small Business Administration's disaster loans program, and for other purposes.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, and the order of the House of December 18, 2005, the Chair announces on February 16, 2006, the Speaker appointed the following Members of the House to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. KOLBE, Arizona, Chairman
Mr. McCaul, Texas, Vice Chairman

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. CURT WELDON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable CURT WELDON, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 17, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony and documents issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compli-

ance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

CURT WELDON,
Member of Congress.

PORT SECURITY

(Ms. DeLAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, the idea that any foreign government could control our ports sets off alarm bells for many Americans. And it ought to. Our Nation's ports are among our most critical infrastructure.

And that is why I cannot fathom why the Bush administration would willingly transfer the operation of 20 U.S. ports to a company owned by the United Arab Emirates, a country who may be an ally today but has had a checkered past when it comes to supporting terrorism. In approving the transaction, we see once again how the administration conducts business behind a veil of secrecy, cutting corners, failing to follow the law and acting at the behest of not the American citizens but industry. Indeed, they only agreed to the 45-day review the law requires after the company suggested it. And while mid-level officials were signing off on this deal, the President was nominating a top DP World executive to serve in his administration, a blatant conflict of interest.

Mr. Speaker, despite the fact that Dubai Ports World says there will be a firewall between the company and its U.S. ports, make no mistake, their employees will be operating these ports as of Thursday.

And whether the issue is ports, the Iraq War, the wiretapping of American citizens, what concerns me is this Republican Congress has never once asked this administration the tough questions. It has to. Congress must not once again give in to a policy that is clearly not in the public interest.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

FACILITATING SHAREHOLDER CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS TO MAKE SETTLEMENT COMMON STOCK AVAILABLE UNDER THE ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 449) to facilitate shareholder consideration of proposals to make

Settlement Common Stock under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act available to missed enrollees, eligible elders, and eligible persons born after December 18, 1971, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 449

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

SECTION 1. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT.

Section 36(d)(3) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1629b) is amended—

(1) by striking “(d)(3)” and inserting “(3)”;
(2) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “of this section” and inserting “or an amendment to articles of incorporation under section 7(g)(1)(B)”;
(3) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “, or” and inserting “; or”; and

(B) by striking “such resolution” and inserting “the resolution or amendment to articles of incorporation”; and

(4) in subparagraph (B), by striking “such resolution” and inserting “the resolution or amendment to articles of incorporation”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 449, which is sponsored by Alaska Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, corrects a problem related to the issuance of stock by Native corporations pursuant to the Native Alaska Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

The bill eases certain restrictions placed on Native corporations that have made it practically impossible for many of them to issue new stock to young Alaska Natives. The same legislation has already been passed by the House as part of H.R. 3351, the Native American Technical Corrections Act.

In passing this bill today, we should recognize and applaud the efforts of the congressman for all of Alaska, Mr. YOUNG, who has labored for years to bring this bill before the House today.

I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

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

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, S. 449 is noncontroversial legislation to make it easier for Alaska Native corporations to issue new stock.

Although S. 449 has neither been the subject of a hearing nor a markup in the Committee on Resources, it is sensible legislation which seeks to allow for expanded partition by Alaska Natives in the Native corporations established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. I am not aware of any opposition to S. 449 and urge support for its passage.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 449, a bill to facilitate shareholder consideration of proposals to make settlement common stock under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) available to missed enrollees, eligible elders, and eligible persons born after December 18, 1971.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), as originally enacted, limited Alaska Native Regional Corporations from enrolling Natives born after December 18, 1971, as shareholders in their respective corporations. Subsequent amendments to ANCSA have allowed Regional Corporations to include Natives born after December 18, 1971 (often referred to as “New Natives” or “Shareholder Descendants”), if existing shareholders of the Corporation adopt a resolution at an annual meeting. Thus far, very few Native Corporations have adopted resolutions to include Shareholder Descendants, in part because the standard of adopting a resolution is too high.

As the law now exists, Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs) may issue new stock to children of their original shareholders born after 1971 and missed enrollees and additional stock to Native Elders, but they may not do so unless a majority of the corporation's shares approve such a change at a meeting of the corporation's shareholders. However, because not all shareholders attend corporation meetings, it is difficult at any meeting to achieve a vote in which a majority of all shareholders, whether or not represented at the meeting, agree to have new stock issued.

S. 449 amends the law to require that only a majority of shares represented at the meeting itself assent to the issuance of new stock, so long as a quorum is present, in order for new stock to be issued.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this important legislation.

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

Mr. RENZI. 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 Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 449.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ACT COMMEMORATING THE LITE, OR LIFETIME INNOVATIONS OF THOMAS EDISON

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1096) to establish the Thomas Edison National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey as the successor to the Edison National Historic Site, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1096

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 “Act Commemorating the LITE, or Lifetime Innovations of Thomas Edison”.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to recognize and pay tribute to Thomas Alva Edison and his innovations; and

(2) to preserve, protect, restore, and enhance the Edison National Historic Site to ensure public use and enjoyment of the Site as an educational, scientific, and cultural center.

SEC. 3. THOMAS EDISON NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the Thomas Edison National Historical Park as a unit of the National Park System (hereafter the “Historical Park”).

(b) **BOUNDARIES.**—The Historical Park shall be comprised of—

(1) all property owned by the United States in the Edison National Historic Site as well as all property authorized to be acquired by the Secretary of the Interior for inclusion in the Edison National Historic Site before the date of the enactment of this Act, as generally depicted on the map entitled the “Edison National Historic Site”, numbered 20003B, and dated April 1977; and

(2) all property authorized to be acquired for inclusion in the Historical Park by this Act or other law enacted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall administer the Historical Park in accordance with this Act and with the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Acts entitled “An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes,” approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.) and “An Act to provide for the preservation of historic American sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities of national significance, and for other purposes,” approved August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

(b) **ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.**—

(1) **REAL PROPERTY.**—The Secretary may acquire land or interests in land within the boundaries of the Historical Park, from willing sellers only, by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(2) **PERSONAL PROPERTY.**—The Secretary may acquire personal property associated with, and appropriate for, interpretation of the Historical Park.

(c) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—The Secretary may consult and enter into cooperative agreements with interested entities and individuals to provide for the preservation, development, interpretation, and use of the Historical Park.

(d) **REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED LAW.**—Public Law 87–628 (76 Stat. 428), regarding the establishment and administration of the Edison National Historic Site, is repealed.

(e) **REFERENCES.**—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the “Edison National Historic Site” shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Thomas Edison National Historical Park”.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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