

Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation \$900,000 to conduct the study under subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days 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 gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

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

The purpose of H.R. 1337, introduced by our colleague, Congressman TOM COLE of Oklahoma, is to direct the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation to conduct a feasibility study on alternatives to augment the water supplies of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and cities served by that district.

This legislation was previously considered by the House, and we have no objection to this noncontroversial bill.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1337.

H.R. 1337, authored by Congressman TOM COLE, authorizes a feasibility study to assist Norman, Oklahoma, and the surrounding area to meet long-term water supplies through the expansion of a Federal water project.

Like many areas throughout the West, these Oklahoma communities are faced with growing water supply challenges. This thoughtful bill provides limited Federal assistance to expand a Federal reservoir, but preserves local rights and jurisdiction.

Although some of us have concerns that there are people who play football in the Norman, Oklahoma, area and they have been overly aggressive as of late with some of our Texas teams, we are hopeful that by providing this help that it will cool down some of that overaggressiveness.

I would urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for his support on this noncontroversial bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1337, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SANTA ANA RIVER WATER SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 813) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Prado Basin Natural Treatment System Project, to authorize the Secretary to carry out a program to assist agencies in projects to construct regional brine lines in California, to authorize the Secretary to participate in the Lower Chino Dairy Area desalination demonstration and reclamation project, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 813

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 "Santa Ana River Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. PRADO BASIN NATURAL TREATMENT SYSTEM PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 16 . PRADO BASIN NATURAL TREATMENT SYSTEM PROJECT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Orange County Water District, shall participate in the planning, design, and construction of natural treatment systems and wetlands for the flows of the Santa Ana River, California, and its tributaries into the Prado Basin.

"(b) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost of the project.

"(c) LIMITATION.—Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for the operation and maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).

"(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000.

"(e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—This section shall have no effect after the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this section."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102-575 is further amended by inserting after the last item the following:

"16 . Prado Basin Natural Treatment System Project."

SEC. 3. REGIONAL BRINE LINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 16 . REGIONAL BRINE LINES.

"(a) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.—The Secretary, under Federal reclamation laws and in cooperation with units of local government, may assist agencies in projects to con-

struct regional brine lines to export the salinity imported from the Colorado River to the Pacific Ocean as identified in—

"(1) the Salinity Management Study prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; and

"(2) the Southern California Comprehensive Water Reclamation and Reuse Study prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation.

"(b) AGREEMENTS AND REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may enter into such agreements and promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section.

"(c) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of a project to construct regional brine lines described in subsection (a) shall not exceed—

"(1) 25 percent of the total cost of the project; or

"(2) \$40,000,000.

"(d) LIMITATION.—Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for operation or maintenance of any project described in subsection (a).

"(e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—This section shall have no effect after the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this section."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102-575 is further amended by inserting after the last item the following:

"16 . Regional brine lines."

SEC. 4. LOWER CHINO DAIRY AREA DESALINATION DEMONSTRATION AND RECLAMATION PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 16 . LOWER CHINO DAIRY AREA DESALINATION DEMONSTRATION AND RECLAMATION PROJECT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Chino Basin Watermaster, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, and the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and acting under the Federal reclamation laws, shall participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Lower Chino Dairy Area desalination demonstration and reclamation project.

"(b) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed—

"(1) 25 percent of the total cost of the project; or

"(2) \$50,000,000.

"(c) LIMITATION.—Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for operation or maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).

"(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

"(e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—This section shall have no effect after the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this section."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102-575 is further amended by inserting after the last item the following:

"16 . Lower Chino dairy area desalination demonstration and reclamation project."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days 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 Guam?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of H.R. 813, as amended, is to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in several important projects to improve water supplies in Southern California. In consultation with the minority, the legislation has been amended to eliminate the authorization and funding for a technology center. Similar legislation passed the House in the 109th Congress.

So, Mr. Speaker, we support this non-controversial bill.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 813.

H.R. 813 does enjoy bipartisan support from the Orange County, California delegation. This legislation seeks to reduce Southern California's dependence on imported water by helping localities build needed desalination infrastructure in the region.

Congressman GARY MILLER's bill could not be considered at a better time since millions of water consumers in Southern California may soon feel the brunt of water rationing due to a lawsuit and subsequent judicial decision reducing water deliveries to the region.

A number of our colleagues, on a bipartisan basis, sent a letter over a month ago requesting that the Democratic majority hold a hearing on the impacts of this decision. This Congress needs to recognize that people are a part of the water equation as well in this endangered species debate. We hope the majority will work with us on this important hearing and ways to avoid future water shut-offs.

This legislation may be too late to mitigate harmful lawsuits and judicial decisions, but it will help in the long term; and that is why we support the bill.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 813, the Santa Ana River Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2007, which will significantly increase Southern California's water supply.

The Santa Ana River Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2007 authorizes federal funding for a number of important local water projects. When complete, these projects will increase Southern California's water supply by over 37 billion gallons per year.

Because of dwindling supplies, increasing demands, and looming drought, Southern California communities continue to seek non-traditional methods to produce dependable water sources. I am pleased that the House has rec-

ognized the importance of addressing the chronic water shortages in Southern California by providing the funding resources necessary to help local water agencies improve water reliability and diversity.

H.R. 813, the Santa Ana River Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2007, will improve Southern California's water supply by developing wetlands in the Prado Basin, and expanding groundwater desalination in the Chino Basin, and constructing regional brine lines.

Specifically, H.R. 813 authorizes the federal government to spend \$20 million to develop large-scale wetlands along the Santa Ana River in the Prado Basin, to purify the River before it replenishes Orange County's groundwater supplies. This expanded natural treatment system will provide an additional 24.5 billion gallons of water per year.

In addition, H.R. 813 authorizes \$50 million in federal funding to expand groundwater desalination in the Chino Basin from the current 2.9 billion gallons per year to 13 billion gallons per year. This will provide a new fresh drinking water supply for Jurupa Community Services District, Santa Ana Mutual Water Company in Riverside County, and the cities of Norco, Chino, Chino Hills, and Ontario in San Bernardino County.

Also, the bill authorizes \$40 million in federal funding to provide methods to safely and efficiently discard excess brine from nearby desalination plants by constructing a line that transports residual brine to the Pacific Ocean. This will ensure salt water does not contaminate fresh groundwater supplies.

If we want to sustain America's economic growth and provide for a rapidly increasing population, we must ensure our communities have efficient and reliable access to water resources. By encouraging the use of innovative technologies through water recycling and desalination, this bill ensures that more drinking water will be available across Southern California.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important bill. As it moves forward through the legislative process, I will continue to urge for its expeditious enactment.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. 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 Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 813, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1545

SAN DIEGO WATER STORAGE AND EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1803) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study to design and construct a four reservoir intertie system for the pur-

poses of improving the water storage opportunities, water supply reliability, and water yield of San Vicente, El Capitan, Murray, and Loveland Reservoirs in San Diego County, California in consultation and cooperation with the City of San Diego and the Sweetwater Authority, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1803

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 "San Diego Water Storage and Efficiency Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. FEASIBILITY STUDY, PROJECT DEVELOPMENT, COST SHARE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as "Secretary"), in consultation and cooperation with the City of San Diego and the Sweetwater Authority, is authorized to undertake a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a four reservoir intertie system to improve water storage opportunities, water supply reliability, and water yield of the existing non-Federal water storage system. The feasibility study shall document the Secretary's engineering, environmental, and economic investigation of the proposed reservoir and intertie project taking into consideration the range of potential solutions and the circumstances and needs of the area to be served by the proposed reservoir and intertie project, the potential benefits to the people of that service area, and improved operations of the proposed reservoir and intertie system. The Secretary shall indicate in the feasibility report required under subsection (d) whether the proposed reservoir and intertie project is recommended for construction.

(b) FEDERAL COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of the feasibility study shall not exceed 50 percent of the total study costs. The Secretary may accept as part of the non-Federal cost share, any contribution of such in-kind services by the City of San Diego and the Sweetwater Authority that the Secretary determines will contribute toward the conduct and completion of the study.

(c) COOPERATION.—The Secretary shall consult and cooperate with appropriate State, regional, and local authorities in implementing this section.

(d) FEASIBILITY REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress a feasibility report for the project the Secretary recommends, and to seek, as the Secretary deems appropriate, specific authority to develop and construct any recommended project. This report shall include—

(1) good faith letters of intent by the City of San Diego and the Sweetwater Authority and its non-Federal partners to indicate that they have committed to share the allocated costs as determined by the Secretary; and

(2) a schedule identifying the annual operation, maintenance, and replacement costs that should be allocated to the City of San Diego and the Sweetwater Authority, as well as the current and expected financial capability to pay operation, maintenance, and replacement costs.

SEC. 3. FEDERAL RECLAMATION PROJECTS.

Nothing in this Act shall supersede or amend the provisions of Federal Reclamation laws or laws associated with any project or any portion of any project constructed under any authority of Federal Reclamation laws.