

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$3,000,000 for the Federal cost share of the study authorized in section 2.

SEC. 5. SUNSET.

The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions of this Act shall terminate 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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.

H.R. 1803, introduced by Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER, would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study to design and construct a four-reservoir intertie system. This intertie system will improve the water storage opportunities and water supply reliability for the City of San Diego and the Sweetwater Authority, the third largest water retailer in San Diego County. Similar legislation was passed by the House in the 109th Congress.

We have no objection to this non-controversial bill.

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1803 and yield myself such time as I may consume.

This important legislation was introduced by our colleagues from California, President—not President yet—DUNCAN HUNTER and SUSAN DAVIS, both colleagues here in Congress. It represents the first step in expanding increasingly scarce water supplies for the citizens of the San Diego area.

This bill authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to assess the feasibility of constructing an intertie system between four reservoirs. Several of these reservoirs are significantly below capacity in most years. Once interconnected, water could then be transported to the unused space.

Growing populations and reduced water storage opportunities require us to make efficient use of the supplies that we have, and this bill does just that.

I urge my colleagues to support this noncontroversial bill, which also passed the House in the last Congress. It also follows the adage that an east Texan once told me, "Use what you got." This will allow us to do that. I urge support of this bill.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, 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. 1803.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MADERA WATER SUPPLY
ENHANCEMENT ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1855) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Madera Irrigation District for purposes of supporting the Madera Water Supply Enhancement Project, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1855

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 "Madera Water Supply Enhancement Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) DISTRICT.—The term "District" means the Madera Irrigation District, Madera, California.

(2) PROJECT.—The term "Project" means the Madera Water Supply Enhancement Project, a groundwater bank on the 13,646-acre Madera Ranch in Madera, California, owned, operated, maintained, and managed by the District that will plan, design, and construct recharge, recovery, and delivery systems able to store up to 250,000 acre-feet of water and recover up to 55,000 acre-feet of water per year, as substantially described in the California Environmental Quality Act, Final Environmental Impact Report for the Madera Irrigation District Water Supply Enhancement Project, September 2005.

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

(4) TOTAL COST.—The term "total cost" means all reasonable costs, such as the planning, design, permitting, and construction of the Project and the acquisition costs of lands used or acquired by the District for the Project.

SEC. 3. PROJECT FEASIBILITY.

(a) PROJECT FEASIBLE.—Pursuant to the Reclamation Act of 1902 (32 Stat. 388) and Acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto, the Project is feasible and no further studies or actions regarding feasibility are necessary.

(b) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.—The Secretary shall implement the authority provided in this Act in accordance with all applicable Federal laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 136; 16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

SEC. 4. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.

All final planning and design and the construction of the Project authorized by this Act shall be undertaken in accordance with

a cooperative agreement between the Secretary and the District for the Project. Such cooperative agreement shall set forth in a manner acceptable to the Secretary and the District the responsibilities of the District for participating, which shall include—

(1) engineering and design;

(2) construction; and

(3) the administration of contracts pertaining to any of the foregoing.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE MADERA WATER SUPPLY AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary, acting pursuant to the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902; 32 Stat. 388), and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement through the Bureau of Reclamation with the District for the support of the final design and construction of the Project.

(b) TOTAL COST.—The total cost of the Project for the purposes of determining the Federal cost share shall not exceed \$90,000,000.

(c) COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the capital costs of the Project shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost. Capital, planning, design, permitting, construction, and land acquisition costs incurred by the District prior to the date of the enactment of this Act shall be considered a portion of the non-Federal cost share.

(d) CREDIT FOR NON-FEDERAL WORK.—The District shall receive credit toward the non-Federal share of the cost of the Project for—

(1) in-kind services that the Secretary determines would contribute substantially toward the completion of the project;

(2) reasonable costs incurred by the District as a result of participation in the planning, design, permitting, and construction of the Project; and

(3) the acquisition costs of lands used or acquired by the District for the Project.

(e) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not provide funds for the operation or maintenance of the Project authorized by this section. The operation, ownership, and maintenance of the Project shall be the sole responsibility of the District.

(f) PLANS AND ANALYSES CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL LAW.—Before obligating funds for design or construction under this section, the Secretary shall work cooperatively with the District to use, to the extent possible, plans, designs, and engineering and environmental analyses that have already been prepared by the District for the Project. The Secretary shall ensure that such information as is used is consistent with applicable Federal laws and regulations.

(g) TITLE; RESPONSIBILITY; LIABILITY.—Nothing in this section or the assistance provided under this section shall be construed to transfer title, responsibility, or liability related to the Project to the United States.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this Act \$22,500,000 or 25 percent of the total cost of the Project, whichever is less.

SEC. 6. SUNSET.

The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions of this Act shall terminate 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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. 1855, as amended, is to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide support for the design and the construction of the Madera Water Supply and Enhancement Project in California's Central Valley.

Similar legislation was introduced by Congressman RADANOVICH in the 109th Congress and passed by the House. With the concurrence of the minority, H.R. 1855 has been amended to simplify the legislation and to ensure there is no doubt that this project should be promptly funded and constructed without further studies of its feasibility.

We have no objection to this non-controversial bill.

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1855 and yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation, sponsored by our California colleague and former Water and Power Subcommittee Chair GEORGE RADANOVICH, authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the design and construction of the Madera Water Supply and Enhancement Project.

Due to a rapidly growing population and lawsuits filed, once again we hear about those lawsuits filed by San Francisco-based environmental organizations, the San Joaquin Valley of California faces increasing demands on its limited water supply. If excess water in the San Joaquin River exists, this project would store those flows in a nearby aquifer underneath the 13,000-acre Madera Ranch. This stored water bank could prove critical to meeting demands in dry years.

This legislation also unilaterally declares the project feasible, which is something the bureaucracy would normally take years and much paperwork to decide. We commend the majority for agreeing to this rarely-used congressional declaration for a water storage project.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend my colleague across the aisle again, a Member of Congress with true grace and class. I appreciate her work on these bills, and I urge my colleagues to support this particular legislation.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with my friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), in managing these non-controversial bills this afternoon, and I want to thank him very much. I hope we have the opportunity again.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3897, the Madera Water Sup-

ply Enhancement Act. This legislation authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the design and construction of the Madera Water Supply Enhancement Project. This important water bank project will help improve water supply in California's San Joaquin Valley, which includes my congressional district.

The Project will be located on the over 13,000-acre Madera Ranch, where the soils are ideal for percolating water from the surface to the aquifer for storage. The land is also a valuable habitat for numerous species and contains large sections of the region's native grasslands.

Since I first introduced this legislation in early 2006 the water supply needs of the area have only increased. Court decisions and drought have led to an increasing demand on water supply in California. Groundwater pumping is exceeding groundwater recharge by approximately 100,000 acre-feet per year, causing severe groundwater level declines. This water bank, by storing excess water in wet years, will provide a much needed source of water in dry years and facilitate the restoration of groundwater levels over time.

The Madera Irrigation District has worked tirelessly to develop this exciting and innovative project that will increase water supply, provide groundwater resource protection, contribute to habitat conservation and have other positive impacts on the severe water supply and reliability problem in the area.

The looming water crisis in California demands more feasible water supply projects, such as this water bank. I am encouraged by the authorization of this project and look forward to many more projects to ensure the water supply and quality in California. Companion legislation has been introduced by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN. Hopefully, with the support of the Senate we will see this project come to fruition.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to expand water supply opportunities in Madera and California's San Joaquin Valley.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, 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. 1855, 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.

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, October 22, 2007.

HON. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM 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 October 22, 2007, at 9:51 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3233.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 762) supporting the goals of National Bullying Prevention Awareness Week.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 762

Whereas bullying among school-aged children is aggressive behavior that is intentional, often involves an imbalance of power or strength, and is typically repeated over time;

Whereas by some estimates, millions of students are bullied each year;

Whereas bullying can take many forms, including hitting or punching; teasing or name-calling; intimidating through gestures or social exclusion, and sending insulting, threatening, or offensive messages or images via e-mail, text, telephone, or other electronic means;

Whereas there is no single cause of bullying among school-aged children; rather, individual, familial, peer, school, and community factors may place a child or youth at risk of bullying his or her peers;

Whereas a majority of parents, students, and educators report that bullying and harassment are issues of major concern;

Whereas school-aged children who are bullied are more likely than other children to be depressed, lonely, or anxious; have low self-esteem; be absent from school; have more physical complaints, such as headaches and stomach aches; and think about suicide;

Whereas bullying others may be an early sign of other serious antisocial or violent behavior or both;

Whereas school-aged children who frequently bully their peers are more likely than their peers to get into frequent fights, be injured in a fight, vandalize or steal property, drink alcohol, smoke, be truant from school, drop out of school, or carry a weapon;

Whereas harassment and bullying have been linked to 75 percent of school shooting incidents, including the fatal shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado, Santana High School in California, and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech);

Whereas the stresses of being bullied or harassed can interfere with student's engagement and learning in school and may have a negative impact on student learning;

Whereas research indicates that bullying at school can be significantly reduced through comprehensive, school-wide programs designed to change norms for behavior; and

Whereas National Bullying Prevention Awareness Week is October 21 through October 27; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes that bullying of school-aged children is a national concern;

(2) recognizes that bullying is unhealthy for our families and communities;

(3) commends the efforts of national and community organizations, schools, parents,