CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

Westmoreland

Burton (IN)

Gonzalez

Walsh (NY)

September	10,	2008
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NOT VOTING-16

Baird Hulshof Pitts Scott (VA) Blackburn Hunter Cannon Lee Sensenbrenner Cazayoux Levin Thornberry Emerson McNulty Hodes Peterson (MN)

$\sqcap 1343$

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend title 38. United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a pilot program to permit certain highly rural veterans enrolled in the health system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive covered health services through providers other than those of the Department.".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 578, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2617, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2617.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 0, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 579]

YEAS-418

Abercrombie Boozman Bean Ackerman Becerra Boren Boswell Aderholt Berkley Akin Berman Boucher Alexander Berry Boustany Biggert Allen Boyd (FL) Altmire Bilbray Boyda (KS) Bilirakis Brady (PA) Andrews Arcuri Bishop (GA) Brady (TX) Baca Bishop (NY) Braley (IA) Bachmann Bishop (UT) Broun (GA) Bachus Blackburn Brown (SC) Baldwin Blumenauer Brown, Corrine Brown-Waite, Barrett (SC) Blunt Barrow Boehner Ginny Bartlett (MD) Bonner Buchanan Bono Mack Barton (TX) Burgess

Butterfield Buyer Calvert Camp (MI) Campbell (CA) Cantor Capito Capps Capuano Cardoza Carnahan Carney Carson Carter Castle Castor Chabot Chandler Childers Clarke Clay Cleaver Clyburn Coble Cohen Cole (OK) Conaway Convers Cooper Costa Costello Courtney Cramer Crenshaw Crowley Cubin Cuellar Culberson Cummings Davis (AL Davis (CA) Davis (IL) Davis (KY) Davis, David Davis, Lincoln Davis, Tom Deal (GA) DeFazio DeGette Delahunt DeLauro Dent Diaz-Balart, L. Diaz-Balart, M. Dicks Dingell Doggett Donnelly Doolittle Dovle Drake Dreier Duncan Edwards (MD) Edwards (TX) Ehlers Ellison Ellsworth Emanuel Emerson Engel English (PA) Eshoo Etheridge Everett Fallin Farr Fattah Feeney Ferguson Filner Flake Forbes Fortenberry Fossella Foster Foxx Frank (MA) Franks (AZ) Frelinghuysen Gallegly Garrett (NJ) Gerlach Giffords

Gilchrest

Gingrey

Gohmert

Gillibrand

Goode Goodlatte McCrery Gordon Granger Graves Green, Al McHugh Green, Gene Grijalva McKeon Gutierrez Hall (NY) Hall (TX) Hare Harman Hastings (FL) Mica Hastings (WA) Michaud Haves Heller Hensarling Herger Herseth Sandlin Higgins Mitchell Hill Hinchev Hinojosa Hirono Hobson Hoekstra Holden Holt. Honda Murtha Hooley Hover Myrick Nadler Hunter Inglis (SC) Inslee Israel Issa Nunes Jackson (IL) Oberstar Obev Jackson-Lee (TX) Olver Jefferson Ortiz Johnson (GA) Pallone Johnson (IL) Pascrell Johnson, E. B. Pastor Johnson, Sam Paul Jones (NC) Payne Jordan Pearce Kagen Pence Kanjorski Kaptur Keller Petri Kennedy Kildee Platts Kilpatrick Poe Pomeroy Kind King (IA) King (NY) Kingston Kirk Klein (FL) Putnam Kline (MN) Knollenberg Rahall Kucinich Kuhl (NY) Rangel LaHood Regula Lamborn Rehberg Lampson Reichert Langevin Renzi Larsen (WA) Reves Larson (CT) Latham LaTourette Latta Lewis (CA) Lewis (GA) Lewis (KY) Linder Lipinski Roskam LoBiondo Ross Loebsack Lofgren, Zoe Lowey Royce Lucas Lungren, Daniel Rush E. Lynch Mack Salazar Sali Mahoney (FL) Maloney (NY) Manzullo Marchant Markey Marshall Saxton Matheson Scalise Matsui McCarthy (CA) Schiff McCarthy (NY) McCaul (TX) Schmidt

McCollum (MN) McCotter McDermott McGovern McHenry McIntyre McMorris Rodgers McNerney Meek (FL) Meeks (NY) Miller (FL) Miller (MI) Miller (NC) Miller, Garv Miller, George Mollohan Moore (KS) Moore (WI) Moran (KS) Moran (VA) Murphy (CT) Murphy, Patrick Murphy, Tim Musgrave Napolitano Neal (MA) Neugebauer Perlmutter Peterson (PA) Pickering Porter Price (GA) Price (NC) Pryce (OH) Radanovich Ramstad Reynolds Richardson Rodriguez Rogers (AL) Rogers (KY) Rogers (MI) Rohrabacher Ros-Lehtinen Rothman Roybal-Allard Ruppersberger Ryan (OH) Ryan (WI) Sánchez, Linda Sanchez, Loretta Sarbanes Schakowsky

Schwartz

Scott (GA) Walz (MN) Stearns Serrano Stupak Wamp Sessions Sullivan Wasserman Sestak Sutton Schultz Tancredo Shadegg Waters Shays Shea-Porter Tanner Watson Tauscher Watt Sherman Taylor Waxman Shimkus Terry Weiner Welch (VT) Thompson (CA) Shuler Shuster Thompson (MS) Weldon (FL) Simpson Tia.hrt. Westmoreland Tiberi Sires Wexler Skelton Tierney Whitfield (KY) Slaughter Towns Smith (NE) Wilson (NM) Tsongas Smith (NJ) Turner Udall (CO) Wilson (OH) Smith (TX) Wilson (SC) Udall (NM) Wittman (VA) Smith (WA) Snyder Upton Van Hollen Wolf Solis Woolsey Velázquez Souder Wu Visclosky Space Yarmuth Speier Walberg Young (AK) Walden (OR) Spratt Young (FL) Stark Walsh (NY)

NOT VOTING-15

 Baird
 Lee
 Pitts

 Cannon
 Levin
 Scott (VA)

 Cazayoux
 McNulty
 Sensenbrenner

 Hodes
 Melancon
 Thornberry

 Hulshof
 Peterson (MN)
 Weller

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in the vote.

\sqcap 1352

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 5977

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, DUNCAN HUNTER was mistakenly added to the list of cosponsors on H.R. 5977. I ask unanimous consent to have his name removed

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

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material regarding H.R. 3667.

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

There was no objection.

MISSISQUOI AND TROUT RIVERS WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY ACT OF 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1419 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 3667.

□ 1354

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3667) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in the State of Vermont for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, with Mr. SALAZAR in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

H.R. 3667, the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic River Study Act, was introduced by our colleague from Vermont, Representative Welch. This bill would amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to authorize the National Park Service to study specific sections of the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in Vermont for their potential inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

I want to thank our colleague from Vermont, Congressman Welch, for his hard work on this measure. This is a good piece of legislation, which will help showcase the natural heritage of Vermont.

We are coming upon the 40th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in October. It's important to celebrate the legacy of this act, the preservation of some of our wildest rivers and the safeguarding of our scenic waterways for generations to come, and to acknowledge the essential role that stewardship and a conservation ethic play in the management of our Nation's rivers and streams.

The Missisquoi is a tributary of Lake Champlain, located in northern Vermont. The Trout is a tributary of the Missisquoi. With its headwaters in Lowell, Vermont, the Missisquoi extends almost 100 miles, flowing north into Quebec, then returning to Vermont to flow west before finally ending its journey at Lake Champlain.

As it runs its course through open pastoral fields, scenic gorges and native hardwood forests, the river is a remarkable example of a northeastern ecosystem. It is bordered by the largest and perhaps highest quality silver maple floodplain forest remaining in the State of Vermont. American elm, white ash, white oak, and red maple are found along its banks.

The river is home to diverse fish and wildlife, including native rainbow and brown trout, rare freshwater mussels, spiny soft-shell turtles and river otter. While on the river's banks, bobcat,

white-tailed deer, and moose can sometimes be spotted, and the surrounding marshes host large flocks of migratory birds.

In addition to these natural qualities, there are numerous Abenaki Indian archeological sites along the floodplain.

And the river is well-known for its outstanding recreational opportunities as well. It is part of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail—a historic 740-mile water trail through New York, Vermont, Quebec, New Hampshire, and Maine—and outfitters consider the northern part of the river to be the preeminent flat-water paddling spot in Vermont.

It is also renowned for its waterfalls, and the Great Falls on the upper river is recognized as Vermont's largest undammed waterfall.

Simply put, this river is a superb illustration of Vermont's postcard perfect national scenery.

During a hearing on this bill, the administration testified in support of the bill, but recommended that changes be made to clearly specify which segments should be included in the study, as not all of the sections of the river in the original bill were appropriate for consideration. They recommended other technical changes as well.

The Natural Resources Committee amended the bill to respond to those recommendations and clarified which sections of the river would be studied for the wild and scenic attributes.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 3667 simply authorizes a study of this river. It is a preliminary step, not a final designation.

Its enactment would simply trigger a process which will allow the National Park Service the opportunity to gather information from, listen to, and coordinate with State officials and local communities; with farmers, business owners, and river outfitters; and with hunters, anglers, birders, paddlers, and hikers—all those who value this river. Only then, after careful consideration and with input from all the stakeholders, will the National Park Service provide recommendations to Congress about the potential of this river.

That is all the legislation does. It is that simple. Let's not lose sight of what this bill is about.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3667.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1400

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and it will be quite awhile.

Well, Mr. Chairman, here we are in a 15-day session. We're now one-fifth of the way through our final session before we end. The Democrat leaders, who have set the agenda and run this floor for almost 2 years now, have had 5 weeks in preparation for this day. So the first issue of significance, the only issue we may have this week that has a rule, the most significant piece of