

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. 2933, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PALO ALTO BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK BOUNDARY EXPANSION AND REDESIGNATION ACT OF 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4828) to amend the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site Act of 1991 to expand the boundaries of the historic site, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4828

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 "Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park Boundary Expansion and Redesignation Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF PALO ALTO BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site is hereby designated the "Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park".

(b) *REFERENCES.*—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper or other record of the United States to Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site is deemed to be a reference to the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park.

(c) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—The Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-304; 106 Stat. 256; 16 U.S.C. 461) is amended—

(1) by striking "National Historic Site" each place it appears and inserting "National Historical Park";

(2) in the heading for section 3, by striking "NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE" and inserting "NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK"; and

(3) by striking "historic site" each place it appears and inserting "historical park".

SEC. 3. BOUNDARY EXPANSION.

Section 3(b) of the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-304; 106 Stat. 256; 16 U.S.C. 461) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

"(2) The historical park also shall consist of approximately 34 acres as generally depicted on the map entitled 'Palo Alto Battlefield NHS Proposed Boundary Expansion', numbered 469/80,012, and dated May 21, 2008. The map shall

be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service."; and

(3) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by striking "map referred to in paragraph (1)" and inserting "maps referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2)".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam 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 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. Madam Speaker, Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site, located in Brownsville, Texas, is the only National Park Service unit dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the Mexican-American War. The park preserves the site of the Battle of Palo Alto, the first battle of the war, but fighting was not limited to the parcel of land currently preserved by the park. Fighting at a site called Resaca de la Palma proved pivotal in permanently repulsing the Mexican army from Texas.

H.R. 4828 would amend the act creating Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site to designate the 34 acres of the Resaca de la Palma as a unit of the park. In recognition of the expansion of the park to include the non-contiguous Resaca de la Palma unit, the bill will also redesignate Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site as Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park.

This is a good piece of legislation, and I commend my colleague and my good friend, Representative SOLOMON ORTIZ from Texas, for his hard work on adding this unit to the park. I enthusiastically support passage of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of this legislation. The Palo Alto battlefield in Brownsville, Texas is the site of the second battle of the U.S. War with Mexico. During the battle, American forces drove Mexican troops back across the Rio Grande River. This bill adds 34 acres to the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site and provides for a cooperative agreement under which the Brownsville Community Foundation and the National Park Service would co-manage this land that is owned by the foundation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I want to say thank you to both Chairman Bordallo and my good friend from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) who have had an opportunity to spend time in my district.

Today I rise in support of H.R. 4828, the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park Boundary Expansion and Redesignation Act of 2008. The battle of Resaca de la Palma—fought in 1846 in what is now the city of Brownsville, Texas—marked one of the early victories in the United States-Mexican War for the American forces.

General Zachary Taylor, who would later become the 12th President of the United States, was a very notable participant in this battle.

□ 1315

The United States troops suffered 45 men dead and 228 wounded; Mexican forces counted 169 dead and 228 wounded.

H.R. 4828 will expand the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site, currently under the National Park Service, to include the Resaca de la Palma Battlefield site.

The bill will preserve the battlefield site, support education and special events there, and develop an interpretive trail with exhibits, living history programs, and other community gatherings.

The site will also conserve the increasingly rare Rio Grande delta landscape and protect native chaparral, prairie and brush, and native species. It used to be more than 100 acres, but now it has been reduced to 34 acres of land, so we need to preserve this site.

Though the battle at Resaca de la Palma was fought by two warring nations, it is historically significant because it is unique to the south Texas border culture. More than just a relic of the past, the Resaca de la Palma Battlefield is a vast, outdoor classroom that preserves a vital piece of our Nation's history.

My hope is that scholars, historians, and everyday citizens will learn and appreciate the sacrifice of all those who perished here on this battlefield.

A coalition of local groups, community leaders, and private citizens has done a tremendous job in maintaining the Resaca de la Palma. I wish to thank them for their hard work and dedication in preserving an important piece of our Nation's history.

But it is now vital for the site to have full support and resources that only the National Park Service can provide. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

And I thank you and Chairman YOUNG and Chairman BORDALLO for supporting this bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I have no other requests for speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I again urge Members to support this very important piece of legislation, 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. 4828, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5853) to expand the boundary of the Minute Man National Historical Park in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to include Barrett's Farm, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5853

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 "Minute Man National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act".

SEC. 2. MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The boundary of the Minute Man National Historical Park is modified to include the area as generally depicted on the map titled "Minute Man National Historical Park Proposed Boundary", numbered 406/81001, and dated July 2007. The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

(b) ACQUISITION OF LANDS.—The Secretary of the Interior may acquire land or interest in land with the area described in subsection (a), by purchase from willing sellers with donated or appropriated funds, by donation, or by exchange.

(c) ADMINISTRATION OF LANDS.—Lands added to the park under this section shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their re-

marks 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. Madam Speaker, H.R. 5853, the Minute Man National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act, was introduced by our colleague from Massachusetts, the honorable Congresswoman TSONGAS. This bill would modify the boundary of the Minute Man National Historical Park in Massachusetts to include the historic site of Barrett's Farm.

Colonel James Barrett was a leading Revolutionary War patriot and military figure, and his farm in Concord played a significant role in the events leading up to the opening battles of the Revolutionary War at Lexington and Concord in April 1775.

A 2007 study from the National Park Service concluded that the boundary adjustment was important to ensure the protection of these nationally significant resources and values. And this bill enjoys extensive public support, as well as the support of the entire Massachusetts congressional delegation.

I thank Representative TSONGAS for her leadership on this legislation, and I ask my colleagues to support passage of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 5853 has been adequately explained by the Democrat bill manager, and we have no objections to the legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts, Congresswoman TSONGAS, the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to be speaking on behalf of H.R. 5853, the Minute Man National Historical Park Act, which extends the boundary of the Minute Man National Park located in Concord, Massachusetts, to include historic Barrett's Farm.

This bill is a simple, noncontroversial boundary adjustment of 67 acres to the current national park and enjoys the support of the National Park Service and Save Our Heritage, the nonprofit organization which currently owns Barrett's Farm.

It may seem like small change, but the preservation of such a significant site is monumentally important to the history of this country.

Barrett's Farm is the former home of Colonel James Barrett, the commander of the Middlesex militia during the Revolutionary War. It was also used to store the militia's munitions in the weeks preceding the Battle of Concord and Lexington.

On April 19, 1775, General Thomas Gage, the commander of all British forces in North America, ordered 700 of

his troops to march to Barrett's Farm and destroy these supplies. Our colonial militia learned of the British plot in advance, and Paul Revere made his famous ride, calling his fellow countrymen to arms.

By the time the British reached Barrett's Farm, the colonial militia's guns were safely hidden, and Colonel Barrett had strategically positioned the militia to strike the British Army. Barrett's militia confronted British soldiers at the North Bridge in Concord, where the infamous "shot heard 'round the world" was fired, launching our war for independence.

Through the hard work and ongoing efforts of the nonprofit group, Save Our Heritage, Barrett's Farm has been kept in excellent condition. Private donations throughout the years have been used for its upkeep and restoration. Our country is indebted to these committed people for preserving this national historical treasure.

But it is time for this important location to be part of the larger Minute Man National Park so that the considerable resources and expertise of the National Park Service can be put towards the restoration and permanent preservation of this remarkable piece of Massachusetts' rich revolutionary history.

It will also enable park visitors to have a more complete understanding of how and where our American Revolution began.

I urge the House to pass this bill to protect Colonel James Barrett's Farm so that current and future generations can learn about the role this site played in the birth of our Nation.

I want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Chairman GRIJALVA for their leadership on this bill, and I would also like to thank all the cosponsors of this bill for their support.

I urge my colleagues today to vote for this important piece of legislation.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, we have no other requests for speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I again urge Members to support the 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. 5853.

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.

FORT DAVIS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE EXPANSION

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6176) to authorize the expansion of the Fort Davis National Historic Site in Fort Davis, Texas, and for other purposes.