

“(d) NO PRIORITY REQUIRED.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed as requiring the Secretary to give this project precedence over the construction or repair of other similarly damaged roads in units of the National Park System.”

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. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to 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. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2806, sponsored by Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member DOC HASTINGS, would allow the National Park Service to adjust the boundary of the Stephen Mather Wilderness, inside North Cascades National Park, to provide for a new road corridor.

Flooding has repeatedly washed out significant portions of a road in the park. Today, the road is impassable for vehicles above what used to be the halfway point.

The pending measure would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to redraw the boundaries of the wilderness within prescribed parameters to provide a new corridor so that the road could be partially rerouted out of the floodplain and rebuilt to its original end. The bill would require that any boundary changes made to accommodate the road result in no overall loss of acreage to the wilderness area.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, to ensure that a wilderness designation would not block public access to historic recreation sites, the 1988 law that established the Stephen Mather Wilderness area in the North Cascades National Park provided for a 100-foot-wide, non-wilderness corridor to the upper Stehekin Valley.

Unfortunately, flooding in 1995 and again in 2003 washed away parts of the road, and it remains impassable today.

Representative DOC HASTINGS' bill, H.R. 2806, restores the intent of Congress by allowing the relocation of the road to a less flood-prone site. This bill does not reduce the amount of wilderness in the park.

It is strongly supported by local officials and by former Senator Dan Evans, who sponsored the 1988 law. When the National Park Service solicited public comments on alternatives for the management of the area, over 90 percent of those comments favored keeping the road open.

I urge my colleagues to join ranking Republican DOC HASTINGS and Chairman NICK RAHALL in supporting this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I now would like to recognize for 1 minute the author of the bill, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE).

Mr. INSLEE. I am not the author of the bill, but I have worked with Mr. HASTINGS. Thank you for that compliment.

Mr. Speaker, I want to speak in favor of this bill, and I thank Mr. HASTINGS for his working with us to perfect this bill in a couple of ways.

We have made the bill clear that we have constrained the Park Service's definition of where a potential road could be built. Mr. HASTINGS and I both felt that it was important for Congress to retain some authority over where the wilderness boundaries are so that we would not give unfettered control to the Executive branch. We also make clear in the bill that the passage of this bill is not intended, in any way shape or form, to instruct the Park Service to change their prioritization on what roads to build or not to build in the Park Service.

There are many needs in the Park Service. We know there is a constrained budget situation. We know there are many roads that have been washed out and that there are trails that have been washed out, and we do not intend in this bill to change any priority array as to what could be done to the Park Service.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, again, I urge all Members to support this piece of legislation. I commend the author, Mr. HASTINGS from the State of Washington, for authoring this, and I ask that all Members support this legislation.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2806 is a limited bill that allows for continued public access to the North Cascades National Park from the community of Stehekin, Washington.

Stehekin, located at the western end of Lake Chelan, is the gateway to the North Cascades National Park and is accessible only by boat, floatplane, or a multi-day hike. From the town of Stehekin, the Stehekin Valley Road has long allowed residents and visitors to access some of the most beautiful scenery in the North Cascades in what is now the Park's Stephen Mather Wilderness.

At the July 30, 2009 hearing before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, the Subcommittee heard testimony from local officials on how flood damage to the upper Stehekin Valley Road has limited public recreational access to the North Cascades National Park Complex. This reduced access has been particularly painful for the small, tourist-dependent community of Stehekin which serves as the gateway to the Park.

During legislative consideration of the Park's creation in 1988, Congress determined that Stehekin Road would remain outside of the wilderness boundary to ensure continued public access. Otherwise, no cars, mountain

bikes, or other mechanized vehicles would have been allowed to transport area residents or Park visitors into the wilderness areas in the center of the Park north of Stehekin.

As the Stehekin River has shifted and damaged the road, the Park Service has been unable to rebuild the road out of the path of the river because of the narrow road corridor in the original Park designation. H.R. 2806 would simply allow the Secretary limited authority to adjust the road corridor out of the path of the Stehekin River, with no net loss of land to either the Park or the Stephen Mather Wilderness. These changes and road rebuilding would still be subject to review and comment under the National Environmental Policy Act.

This is a limited bill that protects the public access into the Park Complex promised at the Park's creation, and I encourage my colleagues to give their support to H.R. 2806 and the Stehekin community.

Ms. BORDALLO. 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. 2806, 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.

CASCADIA MARINE TRAIL STUDY ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1641) to amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of the Cascadia Marine Trail, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1641

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF TRAIL FOR STUDY.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This section may be cited as the “Cascadia Marine Trail Study Act”.

(b) *DESIGNATION OF TRAIL FOR STUDY.*—Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“() Cascadia Marine Trail, a series of water trail routes encompassing approximately 2,300 miles of shoreline in the State of Washington, extending from Point Roberts near the Canadian border to the southern reach of Puget Sound near Olympia. In conducting the study, the Secretary shall coordinate with appropriate Federal, State, local, tribal, and private entities, and may evaluate sites of recreational, scenic, or historic significance near the Cascadia Marine Trail for potential inclusion in the Trail. The Secretary shall also consider what activities may be limited by the designation, including existing activities, hunting, boating, or proposed infrastructure improvements.”

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. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to 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. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Puget Sound region of Washington State combines tremendous scenic beauty with numerous historic sites. Boaters and kayakers traveling these waters are surrounded by spectacular mountains and abundant wildlife.

Through 15 years of diligent work by local advocates and volunteers, 54 campsites on a 150-mile route along the coast now constitute the Cascadia Marine Trail. The pending measure would authorize a study of this trail for its potential inclusion in the National Trails System. So, by all accounts, this trail is certainly worthy of this consideration.

Mr. Speaker, I commend our colleague, Representative JAY INSLEE, for his hard work and for his dedication to this legislation. I support the passage of H.R. 1641, and urge all Members to do so as well.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1641 has been adequately explained by the majority. As the current trail is being operated successfully at a local level, we are not aware of the need for this legislation.

Apparently, though, some believe there is a compelling need for Federal involvement where Americans paddle kayaks in the Puget Sound. As this bill provides for a study of the federalization of these water trails, possible objections will likely be held until the study is completed and until actual Federal control is to be proposed.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE).

Mr. INSLEE. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, this bill simply provides for a study of feasibility of adding the Cascadia Marine Trail to the National Trails System.

This trail is entirely a water-based trail, extending from the Canadian border through the San Juan Islands, Puget Sound and south to our State capital of Olympia. Significant portions of this trail run through the waters of my district. It includes 2,300 miles of shoreline and 55 safe pullouts right now for camping areas of non-motorized, beachable watercraft.

Thousands of people have the potential of enjoying this trail. It was added as a national recreation trail in '94, and the Canoe Association designated the trail as an ACA-recommended water trail in 2005.

We know it's a beautiful spot. I've been there. I encourage everyone to give it a go. It gives users unique opportunities to see eagles, orca, otters, porpoises, and whales. It's quite a place to be, but we do think it's an appropriate study to consider its inclusion in our National Trails System given the national notoriety and publicity that this will entail, and it will allow people to really know about the trail.

I want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Subcommittee Chairman GRIJALVA for their work to move this forward. I would like to also acknowledge the National Park Service office in Seattle for their technical assistance. I want to thank my constituents who have been working on this now for at least two decades, particularly the Washington Water Trails Association, especially Don Crook, Reed Waite and Julie Anderson for their efforts, and John Kuntz, with the Olympic Outdoor Centers, and the Kitsap Paddle Club for their leadership.

It is supported by the Washington Water Trails Association, the National Parks Conservation Association, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition, and the Washington State Parks.

I want to thank the Speaker, Mr. LARSEN, for cosponsoring this bill, and I can guarantee anyone who will enjoy this national water trail that it never rains in Puget Sound.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. 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 gentleman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1641, 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.

RECOGNIZING 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 854) recognizing Weber State University for the 120th anniversary of its founding as an institution of higher education.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 854

Whereas Weber State University (WSU) was founded in 1889 as Weber State Academy;

Whereas WSU celebrates its 120th anniversary this year;

Whereas WSU is a public university that offers associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees, as well as professional, liberal arts, and technical certificates;

Whereas WSU is located in Ogden, Utah, and has an additional campus in Layton, Utah;

Whereas WSU serves more than 23,000 full-time and part-time students;

Whereas the WSU Wildcats have 14 intercollegiate programs that participate in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I athletics;

Whereas Weber State University promotes community involvement and community-based learning experiences for its students; and

Whereas Weber State University prides itself in its excellent teaching, commitment to meeting the needs of students, and ongoing service to the community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates Weber State University on the 120th anniversary of its founding as an institution of higher education; and

(2) recognizes the contributions of Weber State University to its students and community.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. PIERLUISI) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Puerto Rico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Speaker, I ask for 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 854 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PIERLUISI. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 854, which celebrates the 120th anniversary of Weber State University.

Founded in 1889, Weber State Academy eventually became what is now known as Weber State University. From its humble beginnings, Weber State has grown into a 400-acre campus in Ogden, Utah and a 105-acre campus in Layton, Utah.

The university takes great pride in serving the needs of its students while preparing them for life-long service to their community. Offering more than 200 undergraduate majors, WSU is home to the largest and most comprehensive undergraduate program in the State of Utah.

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U.S. News & World Report cites WSU as one of the top 10 public master's institutions in the West. The campus features more than 100 student clubs and organizations, in addition to 14 athletic programs which compete in the NCAA Division I. While most of its students are drawn from Utah, the campus is enriched by students hailing from the 50 States and 35 foreign countries.

The student body of WSU is an accomplished one, with a variety of campus programs achieving national recognition. For example, Wildcat athletes have qualified for the Olympic