

MOVING TOWARDS ECONOMIC RECOVERY WITH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I simply want to report that I held two economic recovery workshops in Dallas yesterday with almost a thousand people attending. And it's because the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is an unprecedented effort to dig ourselves out of the recession and move toward economic recovery and then long-term sustained prosperity.

Communities in my district have already received tens of thousands of dollars in recovery money. The Los Barrios Unidos Community Clinic was able to open a satellite clinic. DFW Airport will be able to start the \$2 million runway rehabilitation project immediately. The Dallas Independent School District has received more than \$78 million to support low-income students.

We inherited quite a mess with the last administration. There is plenty of work left to do, and we want to be a part of it. I am proud to have voted for the Recovery Act.

SET A STANDARD FOR TECHNOLOGY NEUTRAL, LOW-CARBON FUELS

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday's Washington Post featured a column by Eli Hopson from the Union of Concerned Scientists calling for a technology neutral, low-carbon fuel standard.

The Congress and the administration should not be picking winners and losers when it comes to technology. We did that for ethanol and it led to dire unintended consequences as land once used for growing food was converted to fuel production and the price of corn has skyrocketed so those who need it for survival can no longer afford it.

Meanwhile, innovators across America are achieving remarkable results. On a recent visit to a company in my district called Solazyme in South San Francisco, I drove an unmodified American car that ran on 100 percent fuel from algae oil produced right here in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, exciting projects like this are going on all across our country, and the only thing that the government needs to do to encourage them is to set a standard for low-carbon fuels that is technology neutral and then let the scientists and the innovators race to the top.

TEA PARTY IN TEXAS

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, last week I was privileged to join my constituents at TEA parties all across my district, people who are frustrated with the spending here in Washington who wanted to say enough is enough. They are tired of runaway government spending dressed up as stimulus, and more importantly, they are tired of saddling our children with a debt they can never repay.

I came away from these events with hundreds upon hundreds of tea bags from my constituents protesting the spending spree that's going on here in Washington. But for me, one little girl summed it up. At a TEA party in Friendswood, Texas, I got to meet Brittany Hornick, a little 12-year-old girl who lives in Lake City, Texas. She had this sign that sums up what this battle is about. Her sign said, "Stop spending my future income." And that's what this is all about, Mr. Speaker.

The bills that the administration and the Democrats are running up in Congress today will be paid by Brittany and her generation. My Republican colleagues and I will continue to push for responsible spending measures that will ensure that Brittany and her generation are not the first generation of American children worse off than their parents.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1694) to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1694

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

SECTION 1. REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION.

Section 7301(c) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11) is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (1)(A), by inserting after "means" the following: "collectively, both

the document entitled 'Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States', prepared by the National Park Service, and dated September 2007, and".

(2) In paragraph (2), by inserting "eligible sites or" after "acquiring".

(3) In paragraph (3), by inserting "an eligible site or" after "acquire".

(4) In paragraph (4), by inserting "an eligible site or" after "acquiring".

(5) In paragraph (5), by striking "An" and inserting "An eligible site or an".

(6) By redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (8).

(7) By inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraphs:

"(6) WILLING SELLERS.—Acquisition of land or interests in land under this subsection shall be from willing sellers only.

"(7) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the activities carried out under this subsection, including a description of—

"(A) preservation activities carried out at the battlefields and associated sites identified in the battlefield report during the period between publication of the battlefield report and the report required under this paragraph;

"(B) changes in the condition of the battlefields and associated sites during that period; and

"(C) any other relevant developments relating to the battlefields and associated sites during that period."

(8) In paragraph (8) (as so redesignated), by striking "\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013" and inserting "\$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. 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 on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1694, the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act, was introduced by my colleague on the Natural Resources Committee, Congressman RUSH HOLT of New Jersey. This bill will provide Federal matching grants that will help in the acquisition and preservation of nationally significant battlefields and sites associated with the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

Rapid urbanization and suburban sprawl have increasingly encroached upon these battlefield sites, threatening the historic integrity and resulting in the loss of some sites altogether.

H.R. 1694 will enable State or local governments to obtain Federal grants to leverage matching private funds to acquire these endangered sites and work to restore, protect and preserve them for future generations.

I commend our colleague, Representative HOLT, for his leadership on this issue, his patience and his perseverance, as well as his commitment to the preservation of these historic places which influenced the course of our American history.

I ask my colleagues to support the passage of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

During hearings on this bill, the committee heard testimony from historian David Hackett Fischer whose writings on the Revolutionary War pointed out General Washington's support for property rights and the strong actions he took to ensure that his soldiers respected the property of civilians, even when that property belonged to Tory sympathizers.

Washington personally gave strict orders to forbid looting, even though plunder was the norm at the time and many of his men were hungry, they were dressed in rags, and they marched barefoot in the snow. It is remarkable in such a desperate situation and in such a noble cause, Washington imposed on the Patriot side such a high standard of conduct.

Washington's honorable policy stood in stark contrast to the routine seizures by British and Hessian troops. It is no accident over the course of the early years of the war, in the battleground State of New Jersey, home of the sponsor of this bill, a population that was once evenly divided in its loyalty threw its support to the American cause.

There are lessons that we can learn from Washington's example. In earlier battlefield protection efforts—not this one but earlier ones—the National Park Service misused its eminent domain powers to seize land from unwilling sellers. The justified resentment this caused hurt subsequent efforts. Our enthusiasm for battlefield protection notwithstanding, it is definitely our hope that as we set out to preserve historic sites, we will emulate George Washington and not George III.

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to yield such time as he might consume to the distinguished sponsor of H.R. 1694, Congressman RUSH HOLT of New Jersey.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady. I rise as the sponsor of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act, which I introduced with others.

If this looks familiar, it is because this House—you, my colleagues—passed this legislation by an overwhelming majority, this exact legislation, a little over a month ago. So here we are for take two.

I would like to thank Chairman RAHALL, Chairman GRIJALVA, and Major-

ity Leader HOYER for helping to bring this legislation back to the floor after a peculiarity, a quirk in parliamentary procedure, had left the previously passed legislation lying on the road-side.

Mr. Speaker, the preservation of tangible history of the United States, especially history of those formative years of our country, is essential for us to see our way forward. Mr. Speaker, history is something we need now more than ever. I urge the passage of this legislation.

I rise as the sponsor of H.R. 1694, the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act, which I introduced for myself and 12 of my colleagues. This bill may look familiar to many members, a carbon copy passed the House a little over a month ago. However, due to some procedural motions by the other body it is necessary to bring this legislation back to the floor today. I would like to thank Chairman RAHALL, Chairman GRIJALVA, and Majority Leader HOYER for their help in bringing this legislation back to the floor today.

This month marks the 234th anniversary of two defining and symbolic moments in our nation's early struggle for independence. On the night of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere began his legendary ride to Lexington, Massachusetts to warn Samuel Adams and John Hancock that British troops were marching to arrest them. Along the way, he and his fellow riders alerted countryside residents to the British troops' approach. The next day, dozens of Colonial troops gathered at Lexington to meet the British troops head on officially starting the Revolutionary War. Ralph Waldo Emerson in his poem "The Concord Hymn," commemorated this moment as the "shot heard 'round the world." Paul Revere's Ride and the shot heard round the world are just a few of the stories of the American Revolution that help bring to life the ideals of liberty and Democracy fostered by our Nation's founders.

One can read about the American Revolution and the values that were fought for and established at that time, or read about the War of 1812 when the fledgling country fought to maintain its independence. However, history is best experienced not by reading but by feeling, touching and living what was experienced in those trying times. There is no better way to experience the history of the founding of our great Nation than on the hallowed ground where the epic struggle for our independence took place.

Preserving these American historic treasures is essential to remembering the sacrifices that our forefathers made to secure our freedom and our independence, and it is vital for educating the current generations and future generations about our rich cultural heritage. Unfortunately, urbanization, suburban sprawl and unplanned development continually encroach on many of the significant battlefields of that period posing a severe and growing risk to the preservation of these sites.

Last spring, the National Park Service published its report to Congress on the status of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 sites. This report demonstrates that there is a great need to act and to act quickly to preserve many of these sites. Out of the 677 naturally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, 99 are lost forever already; 234 are

fragmented or in poor condition; an additional 170 are in danger of being destroyed within the next decade.

This bill would help State and local governments and non-profits protect and preserve these battlefields and historic sites by authorizing the use of money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to provide up to 50 percent of the costs of purchasing battlefield land threatened by sprawl and commercial development. This legislation is patterned after the successful Civil War Battlefield Protection Program that has been in effect for quite some time now.

I might add, it was an oversight, I would say, that decades ago, these battlefields and sites of the War of 1812 and the Revolutionary War were not included under the same umbrella. Now is the time to do it. Now is past the time to do it.

In 1861, Abraham Lincoln visited Trenton on his historic journey to his inauguration in Washington. There, he told the New Jersey State Assembly "In the early Revolutionary struggle, few of the States among the old Thirteen had more of the battle-fields of the country within their limits than old New-Jersey." A couple years ago, I was pleased when Congress took action to protect the battlefields in historic sites in New Jersey where this conflict took place. We passed legislation that created the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, linking hundreds of Revolutionary War sites across 14 counties in New Jersey. New Jersey was truly the crossroads of the American Revolution for a number of reasons, and I'm pleased we are taking steps to preserve the record of those engagements.

There's a fundamental misconception that the American Revolution and War of 1812 took place only in the Northeast. In truth, the story of the American Revolution and the War of 1812 crisscrosses 33 States, from New York to Louisiana, from Georgia to Oregon. Enacting this legislation would allow each of these States to preserve better their history and their role in the War of 1812 and the American Revolution.

Today, I will be introducing legislation that will provide additional funding for the battlefield protection program created by this bill. My legislation, the American Revolution and War of 1812 Commemorative Coin Act, is modeled after the Civil War Battlefield Commemorative Coin Act of 1992, which has raised over \$6 million for battlefield preservation.

Enacting that bill will allow many more historic battlefields to be preserved. Enacting this bill will make it possible for our children and their children and other generations to enjoy and learn. We want to give Americans the opportunity to learn history, to feel history, to experience history so that they understand the principles on which this country was founded. People who know history can be better citizens, more engaged in current civic affairs and more cognizant of their place in history.

I urge my colleagues to support and vote for this important legislation.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I want to be both partisan and very clear on this thing. This is the third time we have actually had this bill before us. I voted for it the first time; I am going to vote for it again; and I will urge my colleagues to

support this legislation at the same time. However, in fairness, I guess in fairness to the sponsor, we should do that again since his original bill did pass, and by machinations then over in the Senate, his bill was stripped and sent back to us in his title, with his number and name, but not with his bill.

Had the Democratic Party leadership not tried so hard with so many machinations to make sure that Republicans were not allowed to try and make amendments to the omnibus land bill, his bill would have passed the first time, legitimately, and it would be done and passed by now. So let us remember that, unfortunately, the good representative from New Jersey lost out because of games that were played on a bill totally separate to this particular one, and I find those games were unfortunate. This bill, however, I once again want to make very clear that I support this bill, and I will urge my colleagues to support it. We passed another bill dealing with Civil War battlefields with a Republican chief sponsor. It is only fair and appropriate that we now look at Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefield sites with the Democratic sponsor.

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. 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 the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1694, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CRANE CONSERVATION ACT OF 2009

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 388) to assist in the conservation of cranes by supporting and providing, through projects of persons and organizations with expertise in crane conservation, financial resources for the conservation programs of countries the activities of which directly or indirectly affect cranes and the ecosystems of cranes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 388

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 "Crane Conservation Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

- (1) to perpetuate healthy populations of cranes;
- (2) to assist in the conservation and protection of cranes by supporting—
 - (A) conservation programs in countries in which endangered and threatened cranes occur; and
 - (B) the efforts of private organizations committed to helping cranes; and
- (3) to provide financial resources for those programs and efforts.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CONSERVATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "conservation" means the use of any method or procedure to improve the viability of crane populations and the quality of the ecosystems and habitats on which the crane populations depend to help the species achieve sufficient populations in the wild to ensure the long-term viability of the species.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term "conservation" includes the carrying out of any activity associated with scientific resource management, such as—

- (i) protection, restoration, and management of habitat;
- (ii) research and monitoring of known populations;
- (iii) the provision of assistance in the development of management plans for managed crane ranges;
- (iv) enforcement of the Convention;
- (v) law enforcement and habitat protection through community participation;
- (vi) reintroduction of cranes to the wild;
- (vii) conflict resolution initiatives; and
- (viii) community outreach and education.

(2) CONVENTION.—The term "Convention" has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1532).

(3) FUND.—The term "Fund" means the Crane Conservation Fund established by section 5(a).

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. CRANE CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations and in consultation with other appropriate Federal officials, the Secretary shall use amounts in the Fund to provide financial assistance for projects relating to the conservation of cranes for which project proposals are approved by the Secretary in accordance with this section.

(b) PROJECT PROPOSALS.—

(1) APPLICANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An applicant described in subparagraph (B) that seeks to receive assistance under this section to carry out a project relating to the conservation of cranes shall submit to the Secretary a project proposal that meets the requirements of this section.

(B) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—An applicant described in this subparagraph is—

- (i) any relevant wildlife management authority of a country that—
 - (I) is located within the African, Asian, European, or North American range of a species of crane; and
 - (II) carries out 1 or more activities that directly or indirectly affect crane populations;
- (ii) the Secretariat of the Convention; and
- (iii) any person or organization with demonstrated expertise in the conservation of cranes.

(2) REQUIRED ELEMENTS.—A project proposal submitted under paragraph (1)(A) shall include—

- (A) a concise statement of the purpose of the project;
- (B)(i) the name of each individual responsible for conducting the project; and

(ii) a description of the qualifications of each of those individuals;

(C) a concise description of—

- (i) methods to be used to implement and assess the outcome of the project;
- (ii) staff and community management for the project; and
- (iii) the logistics of the project;
- (D) an estimate of the funds and the period of time required to complete the project;
- (E) evidence of support for the project by appropriate government entities of countries in which the project will be conducted, if the Secretary determines that such support is required to ensure the success of the project;
- (F) information regarding the source and amount of matching funding available for the project; and

(G) any other information that the Secretary considers to be necessary for evaluating the eligibility of the project to receive assistance under this Act.

(c) PROJECT REVIEW AND APPROVAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) not later than 30 days after receiving a final project proposal, provide a copy of the proposal to other appropriate Federal officials; and

(B) review each project proposal in a timely manner to determine whether the proposal meets the criteria described in subsection (d).

(2) CONSULTATION; APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL.—Not later than 180 days after receiving a project proposal, and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary, after consulting with other appropriate Federal officials, shall—

(A) consult on the proposal with the government of each country in which the project is to be carried out;

(B) after taking into consideration any comments resulting from the consultation, approve or disapprove the proposal; and

(C) provide written notification of the approval or disapproval to—

- (i) the applicant that submitted the proposal;
- (ii) other appropriate Federal officials; and
- (iii) each country described in subparagraph (A).

(d) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—The Secretary may approve a project proposal under this section if the Secretary determines that the proposed project will enhance programs for conservation of cranes by assisting efforts to—

- (1) implement conservation programs;
- (2) address the conflicts between humans and cranes that arise from competition for the same habitat or resources;
- (3) enhance compliance with the Convention and other applicable laws that—
 - (A) prohibit or regulate the taking or trade of cranes; or
 - (B) regulate the use and management of crane habitat;
- (4) develop sound scientific information on, or methods for monitoring—
 - (A) the condition of crane habitat;
 - (B) crane population numbers and trends;

or

(C) the current and projected threats to crane habitat and population numbers and trends;

(5) promote cooperative projects on the issues described in paragraph (4) among—

- (A) governmental entities;
 - (B) affected local communities;
 - (C) nongovernmental organizations; or
 - (D) other persons in the private sector;
- (6) carry out necessary scientific research on cranes;

(7) provide relevant training to, or support technical exchanges involving, staff responsible for managing cranes or habitats of cranes, to enhance capacity for effective conservation; or