

holding this up is this lack of funding, and there is something critical going on in the funding scheme. The Federal Government has promised to come up with 36 million. It's going to be matched by the State of Kansas.

But if we delay the construction, we delay the protections that would be put in place. And it's very shortsighted for us to question, after the fact, all the research, all the decisions, the fairness in the process and the decision that was made.

It was a good decision. It's the right location. We are going to move forward with this to protect our food supply and protect the people of America and make marketable agricultural products worldwide.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleague from Kansas in urging adoption of the resolution.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 317, a bill to recognize the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor.

In 1871, the first stockyard was opened in Kansas City and soon grew into one of the nation's premier livestock facilities. Kansas City's tradition of being a national leader in the agriculture sector continues today with the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor, an area stretching from Manhattan, Kansas through Missouri's Fifth District to Columbia, Missouri.

This region is home to more than 120 companies, including many of the nation's leading and largest animal health businesses. Sales of animal health products from companies located in the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor account for nearly a third of the global \$16.8 billion dollar animal health and nutrition industry.

Activities in the Animal Health Corridor are not limited to the commercial aspects of animal health. Four of our nation's top veterinarian schools are located within 350 miles of the Animal Health Corridor. In addition to these premier veterinarian programs, other schools in the Corridor offer programs focused on animal health training and specialized degrees such as a Masters in Business Administration in Animal Health. Animal health research is greatly advanced in the Corridor by the Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute which offers grants of up to \$50,000 for researchers to study diseases that have the ability to infect both humans and animals.

The businesses, schools, and organizations in and around the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor are the national, if not global, leaders in the animal health research and production sectors and I am proud to have these institutions in my district and to support the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the area of Manhattan, Kansas to Columbia, Missouri as the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor.

Mr. HOLDEN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOLDEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 317.

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. DINGELL. Mr. 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.

RECOGNIZING FOREST SERVICE EXPERIMENTAL FORESTS

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) recognizing the importance of the Department of Agriculture Forest Service Experimental Forests and Ranges.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 95

Whereas the general provisions of the Act of June 4, 1897 (commonly known as the Organic Administration Act of 1897; 16 U.S.C. 551) and section 4 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1643) authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to designate experimental forests and ranges;

Whereas, in 2008, the Department of Agriculture celebrated the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first experimental forest at Fort Valley, Arizona, which eventually led to the creation of 77 additional experimental forests and ranges within the National Forest System;

Whereas the network of experimental forests and ranges provides places for long-term science and management studies in major vegetation types of the 195 million acres of public land administered by the Forest Service;

Whereas research at these experimental forests and ranges has provided critical information to the public, such as recognition of acid rain based on long-term precipitation chemistry data at Hubbard Brook, New Hampshire, characterization of old-growth Douglas-fir forests and ecology of the northern spotted owl, which set the stage for conservation planning in the Pacific Northwest, improved understanding of the science of forest hydrology, which was derived from long-term studies in experimental forests, especially Coweeta, and the forest and rangeland management systems built from foundation studies at many experimental properties; and

Whereas experimental forests and ranges provide opportunities to study the resources of the United States, including knowledge of forest and stream ecosystems, long-term records of climate, forest dynamics, hydrology, and other ecosystem components, information about long-term field experiments and opportunities to participate in them, access to a cadre of knowledgeable scientists, and access to thousands of publications about natural resource management and ecosystem science: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress recognizes the important contributions that the 77 experimental forests and ranges within the National Forest System have made in understanding and conserving the environment and ensuring that natural resources in the United States remain a source of pride and enjoyment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOLDEN) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this resolution.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 95 recognizes the 100th anniversary of the first experimental forest established by the United States Department of Agriculture in Fort Valley, Arizona, and recognizes the importance of these living laboratories.

Today there are 77 experimental forests and ranges within the National Forest System. Experimental forests and ranges are valuable and dynamic resources that serve as long-term research sites.

As part of the U.S. Forest Services' research and development efforts, these experimental forests and ranges provide valuable data about various climates, forest types, vegetation, soils, ecosystems, glaciers and watersheds and other essential components of our Nation's vast natural terrain.

I want to congratulate the United States Forest Service for their outstanding work to establish and maintain this nationwide network of experimental forests and ranges over the past 100 years and encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution offered by the gentleman from Mississippi. This resolution recognizes the 100th anniversary of the first experimental forest, which was created in 1908, at Fort Valley, Arizona. Today, there are 78 of these forests in 30 States contributing valuable research and knowledge to help us better manage one of our most precious natural resources, our 750 million acres of forests across America.

Experimental forests allow the Forest Service to engage in important research on the threats that our forests face such as invasive species and diseases. These forests allow for Federal research to be conducted on plant and wildlife communities in controlled settings. We know about how best to ensure the health of our forests, rangelands and watersheds, and share their knowledge with States, localities and private landowners.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. CHILDERS).

Mr. CHILDERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first experimental forest at Fort Valley, Arizona, by the Department of Agriculture Forest Service. Experimental forests and ranges provide places for long-term science and management studies in many of the major vegetation types across the country.

Fort Valley, the first experimental forest research station, established in 1908, as was mentioned earlier, was used to study how the ponderosa pine regenerates as the entire forest was being decimated through extensive logging, yet was not regrowing. Recommendations derived from research at Fort Valley were the basis of many U.S. Forest Service management practices that now allow us to responsibly log our forests so that they continue to produce.

The 80 experimental forests and ranges in existence today play an integral role in our Nation's ability to maintain healthy forests and establish responsible forestry practices. Thirty-five States have one or more experimental forests, including three in my home State of Mississippi.

Experimental forests and ranges provide samples of many ecological and environmental conditions across the United States. They support many forms of multisite research, monitoring and data sharing that address questions at regional and national scales.

As a tree farmer, I understand the vital role that experimental forests and ranges play in keeping myself and other tree farmers at the forefront of forestry research. As we continue to face challenges such as new diseases and invasive species in the forestry industry, experimental forests and ranges will be the key to finding solutions to these challenges and ensuring America's tree farmers continue to be competitive and profitable.

So I ask my colleagues, Members on both sides of the aisle today, to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of the establishment of experimental forests and support the passage of this resolution.

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

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I join the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. LUCAS from Oklahoma, in urging adoption of this resolution and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOLDEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 95.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1415

TERMINATING CERTAIN EASEMENTS IN CASEYVILLE, ILLINOIS

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 511) to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to terminate certain easements held by the Secretary on land owned by the Village of Caseyville, Illinois, and to terminate associated contractual arrangements with the Village.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 511

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

SECTION 1. TERMINATION OF NRCS EASEMENTS AND ASSOCIATED CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS, VILLAGE OF CASEYVILLE, ILLINOIS.

(a) TERMINATION AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agriculture may terminate any easement held by the Secretary on land owned by the Village of Caseyville, Illinois, and terminate associated contractual arrangements with the Village.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the termination of an easement and associated contractual arrangements under subsection (a), the Village of Caseyville, Illinois, shall enter into such compensatory arrangements with the Secretary as determined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOLDEN) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 511 would provide a limited authorization regarding the administration of a flood plain easement in the village of Caseyville, Illinois. The village of Caseyville and the United States Department of Agriculture executed a warranty easement deed in 1999 under the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. However, differences in approach on how to best protect and restore the flood plain led Caseyville to seek termination of the easement, including paying back the entire easement purchase price of \$60,000 to the United States Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 511 would allow the National Resource Conservation Service the flexibility to release the terms of the easement so that the village can use the land for flood prevention. This bill passed the House Agriculture Committee by voice vote earlier this year, and I encourage my colleagues to support it today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 511. This bill will allow the Secretary of Agriculture to terminate certain flood easements in the village of Caseyville, Illinois, in return for compensation. Termination of easements is essential for flood protection projects in Caseyville. This bill has passed the House Agriculture Committee with no opposition. I ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 511, a bill I introduced to correct a problem in Caseyville, Illinois, which is part of the congressional district I represent. I appreciate the efforts of Chairman PETERSON and Ranking Member LUCAS to bring this bill to the floor today.

H.R. 511 simply gives the USDA the authority to terminate an easement it entered into with the Village of Caseyville on September 20, 1999, due to a disagreement over how the land could be used. The Village received \$60,000 and the easement covered 44 acres.

The Village believed that the Warranty Easement Deed under the "Emergency Watershed Protection Program" allowed the 44 acres to continue to be used for flood control. However, the National Resource Conservation Service began referring to the easement as a "Wetlands Reserve Program" property—that program is not concerned with flooding, but rather protecting and restoring wetlands.

The differences in approach led the Village to seek a termination of the easement, including paying back all of the \$60,000 to the Department of Agriculture. After a great deal of discussion, the Department of Agriculture stated that it did not have the authority to terminate the easement, and suggested this legislative approach.

I again, thank the Committee for its attention to this matter and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

I have no further speakers and will yield back the remainder of my time.

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I join the gentleman from Oklahoma in encouraging our colleagues to pass this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOLDEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 511.

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.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LAND CONVEYANCE

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3175) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to Miami-Dade County certain federally owned land in Florida, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3175

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