

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

□ 1445

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 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. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2741, introduced by our colleague, Representative GREG WALDEN, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to participate in the planning, the design, and the construction of the city of Hermiston water recycling and reuse project.

This legislation is a good example of how the Title 16 water recycling program can be used in a predominantly agriculture community to meet water quality standards, create a new water supply for irrigation, and help endangered species in the Umatilla River.

I ask my colleagues to support passage of this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise to support legislation offered by our colleague, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN). This bill authorizes limited Federal participation in a water recycling project for the city of Hermiston, Oregon. The goal of the bill is to help the city recycle wastewater, to provide extra water for endangered salmon, and deliver water for irrigated crops. It also helps the city meet unfunded Federal mandates.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

Mr. WALDEN. I want to thank my colleagues from Utah and Guam, as well as the chairwoman of the subcommittee, GRACE NAPOLITANO from California, and the ranking member, TOM MCCLINTOCK from California, and their staffs for working with me and the folks from the city of Hermiston, Oregon, to move this bill through the committee process in a rather expedited way where it was unanimously approved and now awaits floor action today.

As the author of the bill, I stand in strong support of H.R. 2741, which authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to work with the city in the planning, design, and construction of the city of Hermiston's new water recycling and reuse project.

In short, this is one of those bills that is good for farmers and it is good for fish. It helps meet the Endangered Species Act, a requirement for a listed salmon species in the Umatilla River, and addresses long-term community

growth in the process. It has strong local support from very diverse interests and is exactly the type of partnership and project that deserves investment from the Federal Government.

The existing wastewater facilities in Hermiston are 30 years old; and after 30 years, those facilities have served the community well and outlived their usefulness. With new environmental requirements and needs, the community has come together with many parties to come up with this proposal, and this legislation will help move that forward with a nice cost share between the Federal Government at 25 percent and the local community at 75 percent.

This project will achieve a list of objectives important to both the local community and Federal environmental obligations.

First, it will enable the city to reliably meet new pollution reduction requirements for the next 20-plus years.

Second, it will increase wastewater treatment capacity to match the growth in the region's economy and the human population.

Third, 3,400 acre feet of top quality, class A water will return to the Umatilla River and provide additional protections for threatened salmon species. This is one of the key reasons that the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation support the legislation. I thank them for that and would like to enter into the RECORD their letter of support for H.R. 2741.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE
UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION,
Pendleton, OR, July 15, 2009.

ED BROOKSHIER,
City Manager, City of Hermiston, Hermiston,
OR.

DEAR MR. BROOKSHIER: the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed improvements to the Hermiston waste water treatment plant. We understand that in addition to upgrades at the plant itself this project includes moving the location of effluent discharge to the Umatilla River and a new discharge to the West Extension Irrigation District. We appreciate the City's coordination with us on this important project that will improve the water quality of the Umatilla River over time.

As you know the CTUIR has treaty fishing rights in the Umatilla River. The Tribes value the health of Umatilla fisheries and the Umatilla River that is enjoyed by all residents of the Umatilla Basin. We are aware that Hermiston is working with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and other resource protection agencies to minimize negative impacts to the river and maximize the benefits of the project. We also understand that the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has requested a priority pollutant scan of the facility's effluent and that the new discharge locations be characterized for toxic contaminants. We ask that you share the results of those studies with the Confederated Tribes so that we can advance our mutual interest in better understanding the conditions of the Umatilla River.

We understand that the City of Hermiston is also seeking to obtain federal funding that might offset the costs of this substantial project. We support the City's efforts and hope your request will be successful.

While the new summer discharge to the West Extension Irrigation District will result in a decrease in summer Umatilla River flows, the Tribes are working with Umatilla basin partners including the City of Hermiston to restore Umatilla River stream flows to natural levels. The CTUIR appreciates your consultation with us and looks forward to the successful completion of the improvements to Hermiston's waste water treatment plant.

Sincerely,

ANTONE C. MINTHORN,
Chairman, Board of Trustees.

The final component of the project is the drought-resistant water delivery of recycled water to the diverse agriculture community in the west extension irrigation district. This water will supplement current allocations. We all know a little extra water in a dry climate can help our farmers and their crops in a big way.

The proposed project will comply with all applicable laws and regulations, and the city has already completed the required supporting environmental and biological assessments.

The Federal partnership in the local investment will be of enormous assistance as the project moves forward from drawing board to construction.

I thank you for your support and the opportunity to speak in favor of H.R. 2741, and I look forward to continuing to work with you and the city of Hermiston to ensure that this project of great importance becomes a reality.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional requests for time and would inquire of the minority whether they have any additional speakers.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, we have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this 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. 2741.

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.

HONORING MINUTE MAN HISTORICAL PARK ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 599) honoring the Minute Man National Historical Park on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 599

Whereas, since September 21, 1959, Minute Man National Historical Park has preserved key sites where the first battles of the American Revolutionary War occurred, and educated millions of Americans about the extraordinary events that led to the birth of

the Nation and the ideals embodied in those courageous actions;

Whereas Minute Man National Historical Park encompasses more than 1,000 acres in the historic communities of Lexington, Lincoln, and Concord that were at the center of the American Revolution;

Whereas the events, places, and people recognized by the Minute Man National Historical Park have become enduring testaments to American values and are among the most celebrated and cherished symbols in the history of the Nation;

Whereas the Minute Man National Historical Park includes multiple sites and landscapes along the route from Boston to Concord, known as the Battle Road, where American Militia and British soldiers fought numerous times on April 19, 1775;

Whereas American militia were first ordered to return British fire at Concord's North Bridge, a heroic action commemorated by American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson in his poem "The Concord Hymn" as the "shot heard 'round the world";

Whereas the park celebrates Paul Revere's legendary "midnight ride" of April 18, 1775, to warn American colonists that British soldiers were marching to Concord to destroy key military stores; and

Whereas more than one million Americans from States across the Nation and people from around the globe visit Minute Man National Historical Park every year to learn about the role that these New England communities played in the American Revolution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) Minute Man National Historical Park serves an essential role in preserving the sites and landscapes in New England where the American Revolution began, and in educating the public about these historic events;

(2) Minute Man National Historical Park honors and commemorates the ideals of democracy, liberty, and freedom that are the foundation of the Nation and sources of inspiration for people everywhere; and

(3) the creation of Minute Man National Historical Park 50 years ago represents a remarkable achievement that continues to benefit Americans around the Nation, to preserve the proud legacy of the American Revolution, and to serve as an enduring resource for future generations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) 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 include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 599 was introduced by our colleague from Massachusetts, Representative ED MARKEY, and would recognize the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Minute Man National Historical Park in Concord, Massachusetts.

Minute Man National Historical Park was established 50 years ago yesterday.

It preserves for Americans and the world the places and the landscapes along the route from Boston to Concord, known as the Battle Road, where the first battles of our War of Independence were fought. The park also memorializes the renowned American soldiers, the Minutemen, trained volunteers who were always ready to march at a minute's notice.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 599 commemorates the enduring legacy of this Nation's fight for freedom, liberty and democracy and pays tribute to a park that celebrates the birthplace of American independence.

I commend Representative MARKEY and his cosponsor, Representative NIKI TSONGAS, for their timely and diligent work on this resolution. I ask my colleagues to support passage of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

On April 19, 234 years ago, the British commander in Boston sent a detachment of troops to nearby Lexington and Concord to impose what I am sure he thought was a perfectly reasonable gun control measure. After all, there wasn't any reason to allow people to possess guns in the park-like green commons of those pleasant little towns.

Unfortunately for General Howe, the patriots disagreed. Fortunately for us, the men who stood their ground at Lexington, at Concord, and later at Trenton, at Saratoga and at Yorktown are the men who wrote our Constitution.

And when they met in Philadelphia a decade later to form a more perfect Union, they still believed that we are endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights. They therefore set out to devise a government with only limited, enumerated powers so that they and their descendants would, they hoped, be citizens of a free Republic, not submissive subjects of an ever-expanding government.

Our Constitution was written and ratified by the very Minutemen and patriots who fought for freedom in New England, the Middle Atlantic States and the South. That is why we have the Bill of Rights. They knew that private property rights, free exercise of religion, the individual right to keep and bear arms, and State's rights will always have opponents. That's why they are in the Constitution.

So it is appropriate that we take time to honor the Minutemen who left us a legacy of freedom on this, the 50th anniversary of the Minute Man National Historical Park.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional requests for time and would inquire of the minority whether they have any additional speakers.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, with no additional speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution,

which I have introduced with the gentlewoman from Massachusetts, Ms. TSONGAS, to honor the Minute Man National Historical Park on its 50th anniversary. Since its inception on September 21, 1959, the park has played a vital role in protecting and preserving the sites in the towns of Lexington, Lincoln, and Concord where the American Revolution began. For 50 years, the park has educated millions of Americans about the extraordinary events that led to the birth of our Nation.

On April 19, 1775, American colonists in "every Middlesex village and farm" rose up to throw off the yoke of the English king and claim their inherent right to govern themselves. The Minute Man National Park preserves not just the sites, buildings, and landscapes where these momentous events took place but also the ideals of liberty, democracy, and self-determination that they embodied. The beliefs held in the actions of those spring days in April 1775 remain the cornerstone of our Nation and an inspiration to people everywhere.

The Minute Man National Historical Park is comprised of 1,038 acres, which include 8 miles of trails and 136 historic structures. The park preserves multiple sites along the "Battle Road," the 22-mile route from Boston to Concord where British soldiers and American militia first clashed on April 19, 1775.

The park includes the famed North Bridge, in Concord, where American militia were first ordered to return the fire of the British regulars. Down the road, in Lexington, is the Lexington green, where the first shot was fired that morning and where eight American patriots lost their lives in the opening battle of the Revolutionary War.

The park commemorates Paul Revere's "midnight ride" of April 18, 1775, to raise the alarm that the British were marching to destroy military stockpiles and includes the site where Paul Revere was captured by a British patrol. Paul Revere's message was carried on to Concord by his colleagues, William Dawes and Dr. Samuel Prescott, and that message resonates to this day—taught to school children everywhere—"A cry of defiance, and not of fear, a voice in the darkness, a knock at the door, and a word that shall echo for evermore!" in the verse of the famous poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

The park contains the Barrett farm in Concord, which was the home of Colonel James Barrett, and contained the militia weapons and munitions that British soldiers were marching on Concord to destroy. The park also includes the Wayside, which was once home to Nathaniel Hawthorne and Louisa May Alcott, and celebrates the writings of the first great American authors, whose voices were those of a free people.

More than 1 million people visit the park every year to learn about these events that have become iconic symbols to every American. Thomas Boylston Adams, a descendent of President John Quincy Adams and the former president of the Massachusetts Historical Society, described the Battle Road as "a long road, leading even to the present." The Battle Road was the first road marched by a people in search of liberty and the road that continues to prove to all people everywhere to this day that freedom is possible.

The Minute Man National Historical Park continues to serve as a vital resource for future generations of Americans and a reminder

of the role that Massachusetts played in the creation of the most free and democratic nation in the world. I commend the fantastic work of the park in upholding these values that remain at the core of our American character and I urge my colleagues to adopt the resolution.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to be speaking on behalf of H. Res. 599, a resolution honoring the Minute Man National Historical Park on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

The park, located in Concord, Lexington, and Lincoln, Massachusetts, was established by Congress on September 21, 1959, and has enriched the lives of millions of visitors by preserving and sharing New England's seminal cultural and historical significance.

Home to Hartwell's Tavern and the recent addition of Colonel James Barrett's farm, the park is where the "shot heard 'round the world" was fired, commencing the first battle of the American Revolution in 1775. It is the inspiration for the creative work of Ralph Waldo Emerson and a priceless educational tool for students of all ages.

The success of the park is a true testament to the collaborative efforts of the local and Federal Government and countless volunteers that dedicate themselves to ensuring that the park remains a true national treasure. This past Sunday, I attended the 50th anniversary gala to celebrate the success of the park and the hard work of all involved. I want to especially recognize Superintendent Nancy Nelson whose dedication to this national treasure has helped preserve its integrity and make certain that its historical significance will inspire many future generations.

I would like to thank Mr. MARKEY for working with me on this important resolution and Chairman RAHALL for bringing it to the floor.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 599 to celebrate the past 50 years of one of our country's true historical riches and to recognize the park as valuable resource for future generations to enjoy.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support this 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 agree to the resolution, H. Res. 599.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL WILD HORSE AND BURRO ADOPTION DAY

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 688) expressing support for the goals and ideals of the first annual National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day taking place on September 26, 2009.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 688

Whereas in 1971, in Public Law 92-195 (commonly known as the "Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act") (16 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.), Congress declared that wild free-roaming horses and burros are living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West;

Whereas, under that Act, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture have responsibility for the humane capture, removal, and adoption of wild horses and burros;

Whereas the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service are the Federal agencies responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Act;

Whereas a number of private organizations will assist with the adoption of excess wild horses and burros, in conjunction with the first National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day; and

Whereas there are approximately 31,000 wild horses in short-term and long-term holding facilities, with 18,000 young horses awaiting adoption: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals of a National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day to be held annually in coordination with the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture;

(2) recognizes that creating a successful adoption model for wild horses and burros is consistent with Public Law 92-195 (commonly known as the "Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act") (16 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) and beneficial to the long-term interests of the people of the United States in protecting wild horses and burros; and

(3) encourages citizens of the United States to adopt a wild horse or burro so as to own a living symbol of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) 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 include extraneous material on the resolution that is now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 688, introduced by the gentlewoman from Nevada, Representative DINA TITUS, expresses support for the goals and the ideals of the first annual National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day, which takes place on September 26, 2009.

In 1971, Congress passed the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act, which sought to prevent the disappearance of these horses and burros from the western range and created the Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program.

H. Res. 688 supports the first annual National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day. It recognizes that a successful adoption program is vital to managing these animals, and that more must be done to promote the program and educate the public. I would also

note that in support of the goals of that 1971 act, I am proud to be a co-sponsor of H.R. 1018, the Restore our American Mustangs, or ROAM Act, introduced by House Natural Resources Committee Chairman RAHALL and passed by this House in July.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 688 is important in drawing attention to the vital role of adoption in saving America's wild horses and burros. I commend Representative TITUS for shining a light on this important event, and I ask my colleagues to support passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 688, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to commend the Nevada delegation for this resolution urging the public to adopt the 18,000 wild horses waiting for adoption. However, it is a little confusing. Just 2 months ago, both the Democratic sponsor and co-sponsor of this bill voted in favor of H.R. 1018, a bill that even the Obama administration said would make the problem worse, not better.

I am also perplexed, with Nevada's unemployment rate at 13.2 percent, how both of our Democratic colleagues from that hard-hit State could vote for a bill that would spend close to a billion dollars to expand a failed welfare program for wild horses.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to Representative TITUS, the sponsor of this resolution.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman RAHALL and subcommittee Chairman GRIJALVA for bringing this timely resolution to the floor today.

I rise in strong support of H. Res. 688, a resolution I introduced with my colleagues from the Nevada congressional delegation in support of the goals and ideals of National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Day.

Wild horses and burros are living symbols of the independent, free spirit of the American West. My State of Nevada is home to more than half the wild horses in the country, and our State quarter depicts a trio of wild mustangs.

The Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act, which became law in 1971, gave the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior responsibility for the humane capture, removal, and adoption of wild horses and burros. The agencies ensure that healthy herds thrive on healthy rangelands. But because these animals have no natural predators, herd sizes can increase dramatically in very short periods of time.

In order to maintain balance on the rangelands, wild horses and burros are gathered and offered for adoption and sale. Currently, there are some 31,000 wild horses in short-term and long-term holding facilities, with 18,000 young horses available for adoption.

□ 1500

Although reasonable people might disagree on the appropriate number of