

where they are going to try to deem a bill passed mysteriously.

This is a terrible abuse of power. It is a terrible facade that is being put up saying that people need clean drinking water. I don't have a problem with people having clean drinking water. I think this is a noble bill, a noble cause. But you should not choose some constituents in California over an entire valley in California that has 3 million people and hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland that has been idled to the point where tens of thousands of farm workers have been thrown out of work because the Democrats in this body choose to do funny little things and change bills like this, change the numbers and think that the American people won't figure out the games that you guys continue to play on that side.

The more that you play little games like this, the more that you play little tricks like this, the more that myself and other colleagues of mine will come down here and point out the hypocrisy of the Democrats in the majority.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEINER). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I will simply appeal again to the majority, water might be controversial, but it needn't be partisan. We have done everything we can in good faith to support this bill for clean drinking water for Rialto and Colton. We would ask the majority again to reconsider its opposition to restoring the full water entitlement to the Central Valley. Again, there is something desperately wrong with our public policy when we are at 129 percent of normal in our Sierra precipitation and yet only 25 percent of the water deliveries to the Central Valley.

With that final appeal for bipartisanship, 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 gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4252.

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.

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4003) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources in the Hudson River Valley in the State of New York to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park

System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4003

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 "Hudson River Valley Special Resource Study Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

(2) *STUDY AREA.*—The term "study area"—

(A) *means the portion of the Hudson River that flows from Rodgers Island at Fort Edward to the southern-most boundary of Westchester County, New York; and*

(B) *includes any relevant sites and landscapes within the counties in New York that about the area described in subparagraph (A).*

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF STUDY.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—As soon as funds are made available for this purpose, the Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the Hudson River Valley in the State of New York to evaluate—

(1) *the national significance of the area; and*

(2) *the suitability and feasibility of designating the area as a unit of the National Park System.*

(b) *STUDY GUIDELINES.*—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) *use the criteria for the study of areas for potential inclusion in the National Park System in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(c));*

(2) *determine the effect of the designation of the area as a unit of the National Park System on existing commercial and recreational activities, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, trapping, recreational shooting, motor boat use, off-highway vehicle use, snowmobile use, and on the authorization, construction, operation, maintenance, or improvement of energy production and transmission infrastructure, and the effect on the authority of State and local governments to manage those activities;*

(3) *identify any authorities that will compel or permit the Secretary to influence local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal land if the area is designated a unit of the National Park System; and*

(4) *closely examine park unit models, in particular national river and recreation areas, as well as other landscape protection models, that—*

(A) *encompass large areas of non-Federal lands within their designated boundaries;*

(B) *foster public and private collaborative arrangements for achieving National Park Service objectives; and*

(C) *protect and respect the rights of private land owners.*

SEC. 4. REPORT.

Not later than 36 months after the date that funds are first made available for this purpose, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study authorized by this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) 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 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. 4003, introduced by our friend Representative MAURICE HINCHEY of New York, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the resources in the Hudson River Valley and determine the suitability and the feasibility of establishing the area as a unit of the National Park System.

Mr. Speaker, for more than half a century various local, state, and Federal agencies have helped to protect, preserve, and celebrate this historic and significant landscape. The valley is home to numerous state and Federal parks that honor a variety of historic events. Representative HINCHEY is to be commended for his tireless efforts on behalf of his constituents and the outstanding historic and cultural resources found in New York State. We support passage of H.R. 4003, and urge its adoption by the House today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4003 has been adequately explained by the majority. I do want to point out, however, that the committee wisely adopted an amendment by Congressman ROB BISHOP that requires the National Park Service to identify local activities that will be limited or eliminated if the study leads to a park designation. As Congress considers additions to the National Park System, the public is entitled to know which existing activities, such as hunting and fishing and boating and snowmobiling and energy production and transmission, will be restricted.

As we in the West painfully know, national park designation comes with an abundance of regulations and direct Federal management. It is important that people living in the affected area know ahead of time how much authority over their local affairs will be ceded to the Federal Government.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY).

Mr. HINCHEY. I want to express also my deep appreciation and gratitude to the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, NICK RAHALL, for working with me to move this important piece of legislation. I also would like to thank Chairman GRIJALVA and the staff of the Natural Resources Committee for all the support and guidance throughout this process.

I would like to mention that there are no restrictions in the context of this legislation for any of the things that were just mentioned. None whatsoever. In fact, all of those kinds of activities will be enhanced and encouraged and be much more easy to achieve

and more beneficial to the communities.

H.R. 4003 would authorize the National Park Service to conduct a special resource study of the Hudson River Valley to evaluate the area's national significance and determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the area as a unit of the National Park System, a unit of the National Park System, not a national park.

This legislation is cosponsored by each of the Members whose district is within the proposed study area. And that in and of itself of course is very interesting. They have garnered strong support locally. Twenty-four local organizations have already endorsed the bill, and I expect to see that there will be more in the coming weeks and months.

The Hudson River Valley is one of the most significant river corridors in our country. The historical, natural, cultural, commercial, scenic, and recreational resources spread throughout the region, and in the way they do so they are absolutely unparalleled. The Hudson River Valley's landscapes are known around the world. In fact, the beauty of these great landscapes inspired the first and one of America's great artistic movements, the Hudson River school of art. Painters such as Thomas Cole and Frederic Church immortalized the region's scenery for generations to come. These works and others inspired the American preservationist movement and the movement to establish in our country national parks.

Today the region is home to a rich and sensitive ecosystem that also affords ample recreational opportunities, including hiking, canoeing, and other activities. One of the most recent additions is the Walkway Over the Hudson. Initially a rail bridge that was considered a marvel of the Industrial Revolution, it was abandoned in the 1970s following a fire on one of the trains that went across that bridge at that time. It recently was restored and reopened, however, over the course of this past October, and it is now the longest and highest pedestrian overpass in the United States. It is a remarkable bridge, where people get enormous amounts of joy walking across it, over a mile across it, and give them an opportunity to get a sense of the Hudson River Valley looking north and south as they walk across this marvelous now Walkway Over the Hudson.

From a historical perspective, the Hudson River Valley has played a central role in our Nation's narrative and our Nation's development. In 1609, of course, Henry Hudson first sailed up the river that now bears his name. And we just recently celebrated the 400th anniversary of that very important trip. During the American Revolution, the region bore witness to events that determined the course of that Revolutionary War and the establishment of the freedom and independence of our Nation.

In the 19th century, the Hudson River Valley helped foster the American Industrial Revolution and became one of the commercial corridors of our country. In 1807, Robert Fulton piloted the first successful steamboat voyage up the river. Later in the century, the Hudson and its estuary, the Mohawk River, connected the Nation's greatest port, New York City, with the entire western section of the United States through the Erie Canal network and the central Great Lakes. In the last century, the region was home to Franklin Delano Roosevelt at Hyde Park. Later, the region gave birth to the modern environmental and labor movements.

Preserving and promoting the Hudson River Valley's resources has been a top priority for me dating back to my time in the New York State Assembly. While in the State legislature, I authorized legislation to lead to the creation of the Hudson River Valley Greenway, creating a process for voluntary regional cooperation among 264 communities within 13 counties that border the Hudson River on both sides, east and west. When I came to the Congress, I authorized legislation that led to the designation of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, which provides technical assistance to local communities or local managers to assist them in managing natural and historic sites of national importance up and down the Hudson River. These designations have provided tremendous benefits to the Hudson Valley region, but it is clear that more can be done to protect, preserve, and promote the area's unique resources and its dramatic contribution to the historic development of the United States.

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I believe an enhanced National Park Service presence is warranted completely and would have a tremendously positive impact on our local economy while at the same time preserving and protecting the region's resources. The authorization of this special resource study will begin that process.

Just to be clear, no one believes the Hudson River Valley should be turned into a Yellowstone-type park. That would make no sense for the region. In fact, I firmly believe that any eventual park unit designation should and will protect private property rights and that local governments should retain local control of land-use decisions involving all of the property up and down the Hudson River that is not Federal property. There are civil existing park units, such as the Mississippi River and recreation area, a little bit we have heard about just recently, which fit these criteria and could be models for our region.

I believe the study should examine these models and the positive impact they have had on their local economies.

Passage of this bill and the subsequent study would position the Hudson

River Valley to gain the full attention of the National Park Service for all of the significant and substantial historic contributions this region has made to the development, establishment, and the continuation of the United States, as well as for the area's pristine natural beauty.

For all of these reasons and more, we are offering this Hudson River Valley Special Resource Study Act, and we have gained enormous support from everyone who has heard about it internally here within the Government of the United States, but even more importantly, widespread endorsements of this up and down the Hudson River Valley, north and south and east and west.

And so I offer this bill.

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

I appreciate sincerely the gentleman's sensitivity to the property rights of the individuals in the Hudson River Valley and the prerogatives of local government control; and for that reason, I should think that he would welcome the amendment that was placed in the bill that would give all of the people notice of what existing activities may be restricted if the study concludes that the area should be designated as a unit of the National Park System and if in fact it does become a unit.

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 gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4003, 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.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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.

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VERMONT LONG TRAIL

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1173) recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Vermont Long Trail, the oldest long-distance hiking trail in the United States, and congratulating the Green Mountain Club for its century of dedication in developing and maintaining the trail.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1173

Whereas James P. Taylor conceived of the idea of developing a long-distance hiking