

emphasizing the importance of the school lunch program and much, much more.

Where does that food come from? From people across the United States who are becoming more curious about their food sources. They want to know more about the food products themselves and who grew it.

This resolution also has a practical application. Starting in 2002, Congress mandated that all food products be labeled with their country of origin. We had a sense that consumers wanted to know the true origins of their food. And when given that choice, consumers will choose an American-made product most every time. This choice strengthens demand and prices for U.S. farmers and ranchers. It is also important that the public understand the vital role domestic agriculture carries out to produce the safest and highest quality food in the world.

Agriculture not only serves the public with high quality food, but it also creates jobs right here. In a time of economic hardship, a strong agricultural sector is needed to ensure employment at multiple levels. We often use the expression “farm to fork” in reference to the jobs gained as a certain commodity is grown, harvested, packed, bagged, labeled, shipped, and sold at local farmers’ markets and in our neighborhood grocery stores.

With this resolution, consumers can be even more empowered to choose American products over foreign imports. The flag clearly communicates the origin of the fruit or vegetable, and it’s easier to read than the fine print at the bottom of the label that reads “Product of the USA.”

If we want to feed our children the healthiest possible foods and simultaneously try to create jobs in our country, then we need to encourage American production of American products. I’m proud of the great agricultural tradition of this country, Mr. Speaker, and I encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1558, which expresses the sense of Congress that our Nation’s farmers use the American flag to promote fruits, vegetables, and commodities produced in the United States.

In the early 20th century, about 40 percent of Americans were engaged in agricultural production. Today, that number is down to 1.75 percent. Our Nation’s farmers and ranchers provide Americans the safest, most affordable, and most abundant food supply in the history of the world. Our bounty of sustainable and nutritious food is so great that we also feed countless millions around the world.

America’s farmers and ranchers endure uncertain weather, regulatory burdens, and animal and plant disease and pest threats in order to participate in a highly competitive global market.

This resolution encourages them to stand tall for what they provide for us every day.

When passage of the 2008 farm bill closed the long-running debate on mandatory country-of-origin labeling for fruits, vegetables, meat, and poultry, there remained considerable concern among opponents that we should not impose labeling on our producers. The reasoning held that origin labeling is an element of marketing and should be left to the producers, processors, packers, and retailers that bring America’s food to our tables. Proponents of labeling argued that affixing country-of-origin labeling would enhance value and benefit farmers and ranchers.

Mr. Speaker, no matter what position an individual has taken on the question of country-of-origin labeling, it is easy to support this resolution. House Resolution 1558 simply asserts that the American flag is such a positive attribute that farmers are encouraged to use this symbol to promote the products they grow here at home in America.

Mr. Speaker, I support this resolution because it encourages our farmers and ranchers to act in what we believe to be their own self interest, while refraining from additional regulatory requirements or burdens.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlelady from Ohio, the ranking member on my committee, for her support of this resolution. It’s a pleasure to serve with her on the Horticulture and Organic Subcommittee of the Agriculture Committee. I would just say that support of this resolution is in fact, as she said, something that will help promote products, and it is voluntary.

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

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the motion, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CARDOZA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1558.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. CARDOZA. 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.

BENTON MACKAYE CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST LAND CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2010

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4658) to authorize the conveyance

of a small parcel of National Forest System land in the Cherokee National Forest and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to use the proceeds from that conveyance to acquire a parcel of land for inclusion in that national forest, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4658

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 “Benton MacKaye Cherokee National Forest Land Consolidation Act of 2010”.

SEC. 2. LAND CONVEYANCES, CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST, TENNESSEE.

(a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agriculture (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall convey and quitclaim to the Towee Falls Baptist Church all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of National Forest System land in Cherokee National Forest consisting of approximately 66.5 acres surrounding the Towee Falls Baptist Church, as generally depicted on the map titled “Legislative Map H.R. 4658” and dated June 1, 2010 (in this section referred to as the “parcel”).

(b) CONSIDERATION.—

(1) CONSIDERATION REQUIRED.—As consideration for the conveyance of the parcel, the Towee Falls Baptist Church shall pay to the Secretary an amount of cash equal to the market value of the parcel based on an appraisal approved by the Secretary.

(2) DEPOSIT OF CONSIDERATION.—The consideration received under paragraph (1) shall be deposited into the account in the Treasury established by Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the Sisk Act; 16 U.S.C. 484a).

(3) USE OF CONSIDERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Monies deposited pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be available to the Secretary, until expended and without further appropriation, for the acquisition of lands and interests in land in the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee.

(B) ACQUISITION OF DOC ROGERS TRACT.—Congress finds that it is in the public interest that the Secretary acquire from the Monroe County Tennessee Board of Education all right, title, and interest of the Board of Education in and to a tract of land in Monroe County, Tennessee, consisting of approximately 102 acres and known as the “Doc Rogers tract”. The Secretary may apply the monies deposited pursuant to paragraph (1) to acquire the Doc Rogers tract if the Secretary and the Monroe County Tennessee Board of Education reach agreement on the terms of a Federal acquisition.

(c) VALUATION.—The parcel will be appraised in accordance with appraisal specifications prescribed by the Secretary, and such specifications shall include that the parcel be valued as a free standing lot unconnected with any larger tract, and unencumbered with any Forest Service special use authorization held by the Church.

(d) CONDITION OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance of the parcel shall be subject to the condition that the Towee Falls Baptist Church accept the parcel in its condition at the time of conveyance (commonly known as a conveyance “as is”).

(e) SURVEY AND COSTS.—The exact acreage and legal description of the parcel shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary of Agriculture. The cost of the survey and all other costs incurred by the Secretary to convey the parcel shall be borne by the Towee Falls Baptist Church.

(f) ADDITIONAL TERMS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance of the parcel as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 3. STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO LANGUAGE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CARDOZA) and the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4658.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4658, the Benton-MacKaye Cherokee National Forest Land Consolidation Act, authorizes the conveyance of land in the Cherokee National Forest and authorizes the Secretary to use the proceeds of the sale of that land for purchase of other suitable land within the forest. This bill, sponsored by my colleague from Tennessee, Representative DUNCAN, has the support of the Forest Service.

Specifically, this legislation would relieve the Forest Service of a 66.5-acre parcel of land that has long been maintained by the Towee Falls Baptist Church. The church will purchase the land at a fair market value to make the needed expansion to the property's cemetery and church buildings. The proceeds of the sale will be used to purchase the Doc Rogers Tract within Cherokee National Forest. This tract is close to the Benton-MacKaye Hiking Trail, which feeds into the Appalachian Trail. The local community supports this sale, including the parcel into the forest boundary.

I encourage all my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4658, a bill that authorizes two land exchanges in the Cherokee National Forest. This legislation authorizes the Forest Service to sell a 66-acre tract of land to the Towee Falls Baptist Church in order to enlarge their cemetery which is within the boundary of the national forest. The funds the Forest Service receives from this sale

will be used to purchase a 102-acre tract of land to add to the national forest. I think it's a good deal. The land exchanges would ensure better land management by the Forest Service and the Cherokee National Forest.

This bill will not cost the taxpayers one penny. The church is responsible for all costs associated with the purchase of the land. The gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) has worked with the Forest Service to ensure that this bill is drafted in a manner that is acceptable to all interested parties, including the community. I think this is a great idea. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my amended bill, H.R. 4658, the Benton MacKaye Cherokee National Forest Land Consolidation Act.

This bill is a simple bill that authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the Towee Falls Baptist Church a 65-acre parcel of National Forest System land in the Cherokee National Forest, which surrounds the Church.

The bill would also allow the Forest Service to acquire from the Monroe County Tennessee Board of Education an 102-acre parcel of land in Monroe County, Tennessee, known as the Doc Rogers tract. The result is a net increase of 37 acres for the Cherokee National Forest.

This bill is very important to Monroe County, Tennessee, a rural county in my District that is struggling economically. This bill is a win-win for all parties involved.

The Towee Falls Church sale would allow the Forest Service to dispose of a piece of property and end an inholding created by the granting of a permit to the church in question in 1946.

The Church is a willing buyer of the additional property to expand its building and cemetery, the latter of which will soon be full.

The sale of the Doc Rogers tract would allow the Monroe County School Board to dispose of a piece of property that the Forest Service would like to purchase because it is traversed by the Benton MacKaye Trail, a hiking trail that feeds into the Appalachian Trail.

This bill is named in honor of Benton MacKaye, who was an American forester, planner and conservationist who lived from 1879 to 1975. He helped pioneer the idea of land preservation for recreation and conservation purposes.

Mr. MacKaye is best known for developing the idea of the Appalachian Trail, the National Scenic Trail that runs 2,179 miles from Georgia to Maine and runs through my District in Tennessee.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CARDOZA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4658, 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.

STORY COUNTY, IOWA LAND CONVEYANCE

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5669) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain Federally owned land located in Story County, Iowa, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5669

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

SECTION 1. PURPOSES AND DEFINITIONS.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to direct the conveyance of approximately 44 acres, more or less, of Federally owned land administered by the Agricultural Research Service to the City of Ames, Iowa; and

(2) to authorize the use of the funds derived from the conveyance to purchase replacement land and for other purposes relating to the National Animal Disease Center.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) CITY.—The term "City" means the City of Ames, Iowa, and its assigns.

(2) PROPERTY.—The term "Property" means approximately 44 acres, more or less, of the Federally owned land comprising part of the National Animal Disease Center, which—

(A) was acquired by the United States in 1951 within sec. 1, T. 83 N., R. 24 W., Fifth Principal Meridian; and

(B) is generally located on 13th Street in the City.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 2. PROPERTY CONVEYANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—On receipt of the consideration and cost reimbursement provided in this Act, the Secretary shall convey and quitclaim to the City, all rights, title, and interests of the United States in the Property subject to easements and rights of record and such other reservations, terms, and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As consideration for the conveyance authorized by this Act, the City shall pay to the Secretary an amount in cash equal to the market value of the Property.

(2) APPRAISAL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—To determine the market value of the Property, the Secretary shall have the Property appraised for the highest and best use of the Property in conformity with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions developed by the Interagency Land Acquisition Conference.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The appraisal shall be subject to review and approval by the Secretary, and the approved appraisal shall at all times be the Property of the United States.

(c) CORRECTIONS.—With the agreement of the City, the Secretary may make minor corrections or modifications to the legal description of the Property or configure the Property to facilitate conveyance.

(d) COSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the City shall at closing pay or reimburse the Secretary, as appropriate, for the reasonable transaction and administrative costs incurred by the Secretary associated with the conveyance authorized by this Act, including personnel costs directly attributable to the transaction, and the transactional costs of appraisal, survey, title review, hazardous substances examination, and closing costs.