

the boundary of the National Forest, and cannot expand without this sale.

The church has agreed to pay for the costs of the transaction. The Forest Service is going to use the funds generated by the sale of this tract to purchase other land for the forest in the future. The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BROWN) has worked with the Forest Service, the church, and the community to ensure that this transaction is acceptable to everyone concerned. And most importantly, Mr. Speaker, this bill will not result in any expense to the taxpayers.

I hope and urge that my colleagues will join me in support of this legislation.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on a noncontroversial piece of legislation that I introduced that would assist many of my constituents in South Carolina's First Congressional District.

My legislation would simply facilitate the conveyance of no more than three acres of land from the Francis Marion National Forest in South Carolina.

The land would be acquired by constituents and families associated with the First Baptist Church in Bonneau, South Carolina. This land is needed in order to facilitate a one-time expansion of their cemetery which has currently reached its capacity.

This legislation would eventually allow these families to be buried together alongside other family members. It would also provide the forest service with desperately needed funds that they would be able to put to good use during these very tough budgetary times.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this noncontroversial piece of legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5414, 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.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. 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.

SKI AREA RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2476) to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding additional recreational uses of National Forest System land that are subject to ski area permits, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2476

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 "Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b)—

(1) to enable snow-sports (in addition to nordic and alpine skiing) to be permitted on National Forest System land, subject to ski area permits issued by the Secretary of Agriculture under section 3 of the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b); and

(2) to clarify the authority of the Secretary to permit appropriate additional seasonal or year-round recreational activities and facilities on National Forest System land, subject to ski area permits issued by the Secretary under section 3 of the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b).

SEC. 3. SKI AREA PERMITS.

Section 3 of the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "nordic and alpine ski areas and facilities" and inserting "ski areas and associated facilities";

(2) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "nordic and alpine skiing operations and purposes" and inserting "skiing and other snow-sports and such other seasonal or year-round recreational activities associated with mountain resorts as the Secretary may authorize pursuant to subsection (c)";

(3) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

(4) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

"(c) OTHER RECREATIONAL USES.—

"(1) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the Secretary may authorize the holder of a ski area permit issued pursuant to subsection (b) to provide on National Forest System land subject to the ski area permit such other seasonal or year-round natural resource-based recreational activities and associated facilities or improvements (in addition to skiing and other snow-sports) as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Any activity, facility, or improvement authorized by the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall—

"(A) encourage outdoor recreation and enjoyment of nature;

"(B) to the extent practicable, harmonize with the natural environment of the National Forest System land on which the activity, facility, or improvement is located;

"(C) to the extent practicable, be located within the portions of the ski permit area that are developed to support skiing and other snow sports;

"(D) be consistent with the applicable forest management plan and all other applicable laws; and

"(E) be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

"(3) NO CHANGE IN PURPOSE.—

"(A) PURPOSE TEST.—The Secretary may not authorize an activity, facility, or improvement under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the authorization of the activity, facility, or improvement would result in the primary recreational purpose of

the National Forest System land subject to the ski area permit to be a purpose other than skiing or any other snow-sport.

"(B) REVENUE TEST.—To ensure that National Forest System lands subject to a ski area permit continue to be used predominantly for skiing and other snow sports, the Secretary may authorize an activity, facility, or improvement under paragraph (1) only to the extent that the majority of the revenue of the ski area is generated by the sale of lift tickets and fees for ski and other snow-sport rentals, skiing and other snow-sport instruction, ski trail passes for the use of trails maintained by the permit holder, and ancillary facilities related to the operation and support of skiing and other snow-sport activities.

"(4) BOUNDARY CHANGES.—When determining the boundary of a ski area permit under subsection (b)(3), the Secretary shall not consider the need for activities other than skiing and other snow-sports.

"(5) EFFECT ON EXISTING AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES.—Nothing in this subsection affects any activity or facility authorized by a ski area permit in effect on the date of enactment of this subsection during the term of the permit."; and

(5) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (3))—

(A) by striking "Within one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the" and inserting "Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2010, the"; and

(B) by striking "within 3 years of the date of enactment of this Act".

SEC. 4. EFFECT.

Nothing in this Act (including the amendments made by this Act) affects—

(1) any authority of the Secretary of Agriculture (including the authority of the Secretary with respect to recreational activities or infrastructure located on National Forest System land) under any Federal law (including regulations) other than the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b); and

(2) any duty of the Secretary under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

SEC. 5. 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 Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, H.R. 2476.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2476 amends the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to update the use of ski permits to include other snow sports in addition to Nordic and alpine skiing, and to provide guidelines and clarification to the Secretary regarding other year-round recreational activities on Forest Service lands. This bill is sponsored by Representative DeGETTE, and has 16 cosponsors, and the Forest Service supports this legislation.

The original statute was enacted in 1986, before new sports like snowboarding grew into popularity. Additionally, many ski areas operate year-round activities like summertime mountain biking on the slopes. This bill will not alter any forest management plan or the need for strict environmental compliance on Federal lands.

I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2476, the Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act. This bipartisan bill provides the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to allow additional activities on National Forest land governed by a ski permit. A vendor who holds a ski area permit will be able to offer snow sports other than alpine and Nordic skiing in these permitted areas.

The legislation also clarifies the Secretary's authority to expand the number of activities allowed in these skiing areas during summer months when they are not being utilized for their primary purpose.

Mr. Speaker, these are great ways to encourage Americans to explore our National Forest systems and to appreciate the beauty of our National Forests, all while being physically active. The bill ensures that these activities are regulated in such a manner that does not alter the character of the forest.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS).

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of H.R. 2476.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that you have had the chance to visit some of the terrific winter recreation and summer recreation areas in Colorado's Second Congressional District, in places that are known across the United States and across the world, like Vail, Beaver Creek, Copper Mountain, Arapahoe Basin, Keystone, Breckenridge, Winter Park.

People know us for our skiing. Our alpine and Nordic skiing is among the best in the world. And yet there are many more opportunities to be both good stewards of our mountain resources and provide additional rec-

reational opportunities for you, Mr. Speaker, our colleagues and friends from across the country, and across the world.

With those recreational opportunities that we give for people to enjoy our mountains with summer activities like mountain biking, activities on the mountain, activities in our rivers, with those opportunities, Mr. Speaker, we create jobs, jobs for people who reside in Eagle and Summit Counties, and Grand County in my district, and other areas across the country.

We have the opportunity with National Forest System land that we use for skiing to provide additional opportunities for seasonal and year-round recreational opportunities, providing enjoyment and fun for families across the United States, and promoting jobs in my district and others like it, and the communities that serve these areas.

By increasing the extent to which the National Forest Service land is managed to allow for outdoor recreational activities, we can provide more opportunities for people to interact with nature, to gain an appreciation of our ecosystem and natural heritage.

With this bill, we clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to permit appropriate seasonal or year-round recreational activities. This all continues to be subject to permits that are granted through a process that takes into account impact on the lands themselves.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, with the passage of this bill we can do an even better job in Vail, Beaver Creek, and in our mountain communities in showing you a good time, Mr. Speaker. And in showing you a good time, Mr. Speaker, we're going to create jobs for the good residents of Colorado's Second Congressional District.

I urge support of H.R. 2476.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. I would just like to give an amen to the distinguished gentleman from Colorado for which he speaks. As one who has traveled out to Colorado myself and visited around Vail and around Golden, Colorado, what he speaks is so truthful. And the enjoyment, the recreation, and the significant amount of jobs that are created as a result of what's embodied in this legislation. I commend you for your very strong remarks on it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2476, 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.

□ 0050

SUPPORTING GOSPEL MUSIC HERITAGE MONTH

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 90) expressing support for designation of September 2010 as "Gospel Music Heritage Month" and honoring gospel music for its valuable and longstanding contributions to the culture of the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. Res. 90

Whereas gospel music is a beloved art form unique to the United States, spanning decades, generations, and races;

Whereas gospel music is one of the cornerstones of the musical tradition of the United States and has grown beyond its roots to achieve pop-culture and historical relevance;

Whereas gospel music has spread beyond its geographic origins to touch audiences around the world;

Whereas the history of gospel music can be traced to multiple and diverse influences and foundations, including African-American spirituals that blended diverse elements from African music and melodic influences from Irish folk songs and hymns, and gospel music ultimately borrowed from uniquely American musical styles including ragtime, jazz, and blues;

Whereas that tradition of diversity remains today, as the influence of gospel music can be found infused in all forms of secular music, including rock and roll, country, soul, rhythm and blues, and countless other styles;

Whereas the legacy of gospel music includes some of the most memorable voices and musical pioneers in the history of the United States, such as Thomas Dorsey, Mahalia Jackson, James Vaughan, Roberta Martin, Virgil Stamps, Diana Washington, Stamps Quartet, The Highway QCs, The Statesmen, The Soul Stirrers, Point of Grace, Smokie Norful, Terry Woods, James Cleveland, Billy Ray Hearn, Rex Humbard, Joe Ligon and The Mighty Clouds of Joy, Kirk Franklin, V. Michael McKay, Theola Booker, Yolanda Adams, Edwin and Walter Hawkins, Sandi Patty, The Winans, Kathy Taylor, and Brenda Waters, Carl Preacher, Shirley Joiner of B, C & S;

Whereas many of the biggest names in music emerged from the gospel music tradition or have recorded gospel music, including Sam Cooke, Al Green, Elvis Presley, Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, Little Richard, Ray Charles, Buddy Holly, Alan Jackson, Dolly Parton, Mariah Carey, Bob Dylan, and Randy Travis;

Whereas, regardless of their musical styles, those artists and so many more have turned to gospel music as the source and inspiration for their music, which has blurred the boundaries between secular and gospel music;

Whereas, beyond its contribution to the musical tradition of the United States, gospel music has provided a cultural and musical backdrop across all of mainstream media, from hit television series to major Hollywood motion pictures, including "American Idol", "Heroes", "Dancing with the Stars", "O Brother, Where Art Thou?", "Sister Act", "The Preacher's Wife", "Evan Almighty", and more;

Whereas gospel music has a huge audience around the country and around the world, a testament to the universal appeal of a historical American art form that both inspires