

Federal funds are needed, only Congress giving the permission to allow Oklahomans the flexibility to use their own water as needed. I am strongly in support of this. This is the type of thing that should be widely bipartisan. It is a simple fix, and hopefully we can fix this legislatively in the future to not have to have an act of Congress just for us to use our own water in each State.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and urge adoption of the measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3263.

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.

#### AUTHORIZATION OF CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN LANDS IN LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 241) to authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 241

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

#### SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

*In this Act:*

(1) **FEDERAL LAND.**—The term “Federal land” means the approximately 5 acres of National Forest System land in Santa Barbara County, California, as generally depicted on the map.

(2) **FOUNDATION.**—The term “Foundation” means the White Lotus Foundation, a nonprofit foundation located in Santa Barbara, California.

(3) **MAP.**—The term “map” means the map entitled “San Marcos Pass Encroachment for Consideration of Legislative Remedy” and dated June 1, 2009.

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

#### SEC. 2. LAND CONVEYANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to the provisions of this section, if the Foundation offers to convey to the Secretary all right, title, and interest of the Foundation in and to a parcel of non-Federal land that is acceptable to the Secretary—

(1) the Secretary shall accept the offer; and

(2) on receipt of acceptable title to the non-Federal land, the Secretary shall convey to the Foundation all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land.

(b) **APPLICABLE LAW.**—The land exchange authorized under subsection (a) shall be subject to section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716).

(c) **TIME FOR COMPLETION OF LAND EXCHANGE.**—It is the intent of Congress that the land exchange under subsection (a) shall be completed not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) **AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO CONDUCT SALE OF FEDERAL LAND.**—If the land exchange under subsection (a) is not completed by the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary may offer to sell to the Foundation the Federal land for fair market value.

(e) **ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—The land exchange under subsection (a) and any sale under subsection (d) shall be subject to—

(1) valid existing rights;

(2) the Secretary finding that the public interest would be well served by making the exchange or sale;

(3) any terms and conditions that the Secretary may require; and

(4) the Foundation paying the reasonable costs of any surveys, appraisals, and any other administrative costs associated with the land exchange or sale.

(f) **APPRAISALS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The land conveyed under subsection (a) or (d) shall be appraised by an independent appraiser selected by the Secretary.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—An appraisal under paragraph (1) shall be conducted in accordance with nationally recognized appraisal standards, including—

(A) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions; and

(B) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

(g) **MANAGEMENT AND STATUS OF ACQUIRED LAND.**—Any non-Federal land acquired by the Secretary under this Act shall be managed by the Secretary in accordance with—

(1) the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the “Weeks Law”) (16 U.S.C. 480 et seq.); and

(2) any laws (including regulations) applicable to the National Forest System.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days 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 gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 241 authorizes the Forest Service to convey, for appraised market value, approximately 5 acres of the Los Padres National Forest to the White Lotus Foundation.

Due to steep topography, there is limited access to the White Lotus Foundation other than a short access road that crosses Forest Service land. This bill would allow the foundation to acquire this parcel and ensure public access to their facility.

So I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, as authored by our colleague from California (Mr. GALLEGLY), and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 241, sponsored by the gentleman from California, provides for the conveyance of 5 acres of

land from Los Padres National Forest to the White Lotus Foundation. This conveyance allows for better access to a retreat area owned by the foundation.

We have no objections to this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the author of this legislation, the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY).

Mr. GALLEGLY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 241. This bill will authorize the Forest Service to convey a small parcel of land on the perimeter of the Los Padres National Forest to a nonprofit organization, the White Lotus Foundation.

In 1983, the White Lotus Foundation inherited property in the hills above Santa Barbara, California, on the border of the Los Padres National Forest. After operating at this location for over 25 years, the Forest Service sent a letter to the foundation notifying them of a 1/20-of-an-acre encroachment on Forest Service land.

The encroachment in question is located on a loop of the only road that allows White Lotus and the rest of the public access to and from the White Lotus property. Due to the steep topography, the foundation no longer has any other reasonable alternatives.

The loop lies on flat ground which holds equipment storage for fire and flood emergencies and provides access to a water pump and other necessary equipment. There is no other flat ground on which to move these items, and without this space, the foundation will be forced to cease operations.

My legislation authorizes the Forest Service to enter into a land exchange with the White Lotus Foundation for land worth no less than the appraised market value. If this land exchange does not occur within 2 years, the Forest Service is allowed to convey the land that would benefit White Lotus and to determine the amount to be conveyed. If the Forest Service does not feel that this land conveyance is in its best interest, it does not have to sell any Federal land to White Lotus. However, if the land sale does move ahead, my legislation will not cost the taxpayers a single penny. White Lotus will pay for the land, the survey, and all administrative costs and related costs.

There are no exemptions from NEPA or any other environmental laws. The land in question is not protected wilderness or any other specifically designated area.

In closing, I want to thank the chairman, the ranking member, and my colleagues for allowing this to be brought to the floor today.

I urge the support for my legislation, H.R. 241.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and urge adoption of the measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 241, 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.

### SALMON LAKE LAND SELECTION RESOLUTION ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 292) to resolve the claims of the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska to land adjacent to Salmon Lake in the State of Alaska and to provide for the conveyance to the Bering Straits Native Corporation of certain other public land in partial satisfaction of the land entitlement of the Corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 292

*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 "Salmon Lake Land Selection Resolution Act".

#### SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to ratify the Salmon Lake Area Land Ownership Consolidation Agreement entered into by the United States, the State of Alaska, and the Bering Straits Native Corporation.

#### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AGREEMENT.—The term "Agreement" means the document between the United States, the State, and the Bering Straits Native Corporation that—

(A) is entitled the "Salmon Lake Area Land Ownership Consolidation Agreement";

(B) had an initial effective date of July 18, 2007; and

(C) is on file with Department of the Interior, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

(2) BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION.—The term "Bering Straits Native Corporation" means an Alaskan Native Regional Corporation formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) for the Bering Straits region of the State.

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

(4) STATE.—The term "State" means the State of Alaska.

#### SEC. 4. RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this Act, Congress ratifies the Agreement.

(b) EASEMENTS.—The conveyance of land to the Bering Straits Native Corporation, as specified in the Agreement, shall include the reservation of the easements that—

(1) are identified in Appendix E to the Agreement; and

(2) were developed by the parties to the Agreement in accordance with section 17(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1616(b)).

(c) CORRECTIONS.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, with the consent of the other parties to the Agreement, may only make typographical or clerical corrections to the Agreement and any exhibits to the Agreement.

(d) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall carry out all actions required by the Agreement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 292 ratifies the Salmon Lake Area Ownership and Consolidation Agreement signed in 2007 by the State of Alaska, the United States, and the Bering Straits Native Corporation.

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The agreement resolves overlapping claims to certain public lands by the State of Alaska, the United States, and the Bering Straits Native Corporation. The claims arose from the implementation of the Alaska Statehood Act of 1958 and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

Though similar legislation sponsored by the gentleman from Alaska, and the sponsor in the House of this bill, Mr. YOUNG, passed by 410-0 in the 111th Congress, the Committee on Natural Resources undertook regular order on S. 292, including a hearing in the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, and a markup in the full committee, which reported the bill out favorably.

I am unaware of any opposition to S. 292, and so I urge full House support for the motion to suspend the rules and pass this bill today.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 292, a bill that ratifies an agreement between the United States, the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska by transferring certain Federal lands to the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska.

S. 292 is the result of years of negotiations between the parties regarding

overlapping land selections made by the Bering Straits Native Corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and the State of Alaska under its Statehood Act.

The bill reasonably and sensibly finalizes each party's interests in the land around Salmon Lake, an area of great importance to the people of the Bering Straits region.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield as much time as he may consume to the author of the legislation that the last Congress passed, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, it's been said this is a simple bill. In a way it is simple, but it solves a great problem.

As mentioned by the chairman and the ranking member, this bill probably wouldn't necessarily be passed if it wasn't because of the conflict we had between the State when we passed statehood, the Native Land Claims Act and, of course, the BLM. There is no one that objects to this bill. It solves a very important problem for the local people and the subsistence-style living. It also takes care of the recreational areas that they can be utilizing. And it's the right bill to do for the State of Alaska and Alaska natives.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to speak on another subject for a short moment which I believe relates to this. For the people listening to this great display of legislative action on the House floor, we'd like to remind them, you know, Little Red Riding Hood, do not go to sleep.

Just because the prices of gas have been dropping at the pumps, do not be lured into the idea that everything's going to be okay, because I've watched this now in my 40 years here go up and down, up and down; and every time we start to do something, start moving forward for self-dependency on our fossil fuels, those that are providing us the fuel from overseas at cost of great bloodshed and a flood of dollars, they take and drop their prices. When doing so, we start getting lulled back to sleep, and we don't do anything. And then they'll jack the prices up again, and the whole economy will not recover.

So I'm asking the public to understand one thing: do not go to sleep. Just because you go up to the pump station now and put that nozzle in and say, oh, my, gas is only \$3.60 when it was \$4.15, headed to \$5. Watch it very closely, ladies and gentlemen. Watch this, everybody on the floor of this House, because you are going to sleep. Oh, everything's fine and dandy. We do not have to worry about this anymore. Our good friends in the Middle East will take care of us. Yes, the good friend in Venezuela, Hugo Chavez.

Think about this a moment, ladies and gentlemen. We're just where we were back in 1972 when we passed the