

to be more efficient about how they do that, but they still need water. And others will.

Because the city would access the water through the ground and not from directly behind the dam, the water actually flows downstream in excess of about 20 miles, which is better for the fish to have that much more water going and released down the dam, and then the city would, through their underground pumps, pump the water out. In dry years, particularly in the winter, this higher release requirement would benefit fish and wildlife, including the Blue Ribbon trout fishery below Bowman Dam. And as I said, it fixes this problem with the wild and scenic designation and creates 50 jobs.

Additionally, the bill expedites the McKay Creek restoration project. This is something we worked closely with the Warm Springs tribal leaders on because it would increase water flows for redband trout and summer steelhead. This project has long been supported by the Warm Springs tribes and the Deschutes River Conservancy, and so I want to thank both Warm Springs and Deschutes Conservancy for their work on this issue and on, especially, McKay Creek. It is a very good, commonsense conservation project.

So this is a good, commonsense, job-creating bill. It is the culmination of years of work in a collaborative effort.

I want to thank the mayor of Prineville. Mayor Roppe has testified before the committee on a couple of occasions. Judge McCabe has been terrific in helping us, as have been many others as we have moved this forward.

So this is a jobs bill that doesn't cost the government anything. It is a good, clean water bill that helps the community provide jobs and take care of its citizens, and it resolves a longstanding issue that has been a problem for this area. Actually, this debate has gone on since Mark Hatfield was in the Senate back in the 1970s. So I appreciate the committee's diligent efforts on this and the bipartisan way we are moving forward on this piece of legislation.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I ask for your unanimous support of this bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I thank the gentleman for his presentation. He has done an excellent job.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I have no further speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2640.

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.

□ 1430

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM LAND TRANSFER ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 623) to provide for the conveyance of certain property located in Anchorage, Alaska, from the United States to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 623

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 "Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Land Transfer Act".

SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ANTHC.—The term "ANTHC" means the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium.

(2) PROPERTY.—The term "property" means the property described in subsection (d).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(b) CONVEYANCE.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, but not later than 90 days after that date, the Secretary shall convey to ANTHC all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the property for use in connection with health and related programs. The Secretary's conveyance of title by warranty deed under this section shall, on its effective date, supersede and render of no future effect any quitclaim deed to the property described in subsection (d) executed by the Secretary and ANTHC.

(c) CONDITIONS.—The conveyance of the property under this Act—

(1) shall be made by warranty deed;

(2) shall not require any consideration from ANTHC for the property;

(3) shall not impose any obligation, term, or condition on ANTHC; and

(4) shall not allow for any reversionary interest of the United States in the property.

(d) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The property (including all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto) to be conveyed under this Act is described as follows: Tract A-3A, Tudor Centre, according to plat no. 2013-43, recorded on June 20, 2013 in Anchorage recording district, Alaska.

(e) ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal law, ANTHC shall not be liable for any soil, surface water, groundwater, or other contamination resulting from the disposal, release, or presence of any environmental contamination, including any oil or petroleum product, any hazardous substance, hazardous material, hazardous waste, pollutant, toxic substance, solid waste, or any other environmental contamination or hazard as defined in any Federal or State law, on the property on or before the date on which the property was conveyed by quitclaim deed.

(2) EASEMENT.—The Secretary shall be accorded any easement or access to the property as may be reasonably necessary to satisfy any retained obligation or liability of the Secretary.

(3) NOTICE OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE ACTIVITY AND WARRANTY.—In carrying out this Act, the Secretary shall comply with subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 120(h)(3) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)(3)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman

from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. 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 Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 623 transfers by warranty deed a 2.79-acre parcel of federal land located in Anchorage, Alaska, from the Indian Health Service to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. This consortium is a nonprofit authorized by Congress to render health services to Alaska Natives under a contract with the Indian Health Service.

The land has been used for parking to accommodate nearby facilities run by the consortium and the Indian Health Service. It will be used to construct a patient housing facility, thereby expanding its capacity to offer vital health services for Alaska Native patients, some of whom travel great distances from rural areas to receive care.

Following a subcommittee hearing on the bill in May, the Indian Health Service administratively conveyed the land to the consortium by quitclaim deed. H.R. 623 remains necessary because transferring the land by warranty deed provides cleaner title to the property than by quitclaim deed.

The bill was also referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The chairman of that committee, Mr. UPTON, has kindly foregone action on the bill in the interest of expediting it for consideration on the House floor. I thank him for his cooperation and have an exchange of letters memorializing our agreement. CBO estimates that H.R. 623 would have no significant impact on the Federal budget and would not affect direct spending on revenues.

H.R. 623 is non-controversial, and I hope the House will pass it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, October 1, 2013.

Hon. DOC HASTINGS,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HASTINGS, I write concerning H.R. 623, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Land Transfer Act, which was ordered to be reported out of your Committee on July 31, 2013. I wanted to notify you that the Committee on Energy and Commerce will forgo action on H.R. 623 so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

This is done with the understanding that the Committee on Energy and Commerce is not waiving any of its jurisdiction, and the Committee will not in any way be prejudiced with respect to the appointment of conferees

or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding, and ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 623 on the House floor.

Sincerely,

FRED UPTON,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, October 10, 2013.

Hon. FRED UPTON,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 623, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Land Transfer Act. As you know, the Committee on Natural Resources ordered reported the bill, as amended, on July 31, 2013. I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Energy and Commerce will forego action on the bill.

The Committee on Natural Resources concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 623 at this time, the Committee on Energy and Commerce does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Energy and Commerce represented on the conference committee. Finally, I would be pleased to include your letter and this response in the bill report filed by the Committee on Natural Resources, as well as in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

DOC HASTINGS,
Chairman.

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

(Mr. GRIJALVA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium was established in 1997 to provide health services to Alaska Natives. Based in Anchorage, the consortium now serves over 130,000 patients from all over the State.

H.R. 623 conveys 2.79 acres of Federal land in Anchorage, Alaska, to the consortium. The parcel will be used to construct patient housing for visiting patients, allowing continued growth so that the Anchorage facilities can meet the health care needs of more and more people from rural Alaska. Some patients travel long distances to access health care facilities in Anchorage. H.R. 623 helps ensure that traveling patients are not burdened with finding their own accommodations. This is an important component of making sure that all Native Alaskans have access to equitable health care.

I am happy to report that the Indian Health Service transferred the parcel in question by quitclaim deed on June 20 of this year.

While the consortium is now able to start planning and preparation for pa-

tient housing, H.R. 623 transfers the parcel to the consortium by warranty deed. This removes future complications and guarantees there will be no hiccups in the development of additional patient housing at the Anchorage site.

We support H.R. 623 and urge its passage by the House today.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for commenting on this bill and supporting it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 623, 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.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS NATIONAL MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 330) to designate a Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 330

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 "Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial Act".

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS NATIONAL MEMORIAL IN RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The most reliable statistics regarding the number of members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross indicate that 126,318 members of the Armed Forces received the medal during World War II, approximately 21,000 members received the medal during the Korean conflict, and 21,647 members received the medal during the Vietnam War. Since the end of the Vietnam War, more than 203 Armed Forces members have received the medal in times of conflict.

(2) The National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri, burned down in 1973, and thus many more recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross may be undocumented. Currently, the Department of Defense continues to locate and identify members of the Armed Forces who have received the medal and are undocumented.

(3) The United States currently lacks a national memorial dedicated to the bravery and sacrifice of those members of the Armed Forces who have distinguished themselves by heroic deeds performed in aerial flight.

(4) An appropriate memorial to current and former members of the Armed Forces is under construction at March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California.

(5) This memorial will honor all those members of the Armed Forces who have dis-

tinguished themselves in aerial flight, whether documentation of such members who earned the Distinguished Flying Cross exists or not.

(b) DESIGNATION.—The memorial to members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, located at March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California, is hereby designated as the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial.

(c) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—The national memorial designated by this section is not a unit of the National Park System, and the designation of the national memorial shall not be construed to require or permit Federal funds to be expended for any purpose related to the national memorial.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. 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 Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 330 designates the memorial located at March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California, as the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial in honor of current and former members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

This national memorial will not be a unit of the National Park System, and the designation does not require or permit any expenditures of Federal funds.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 330, which has passed the House as part of the most recent Department of Defense authorization bill, as well as a stand-alone bill in the 112th Congress by a vote of 392-1.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mr. GRIJALVA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIJALVA. H.R. 330, designates the memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California, as the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial.

The memorial to recipients of the U.S. Air Force's Distinguished Flying Cross was dedicated on October 27, 2010, and since then, it stands as a proud symbol of remembrance and honor for all members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have demonstrated heroism or extraordinary achievement.

The Distinguished Flying Cross is the oldest military award for aviation, but there is no national memorial to recognize the sacrifice and commitment of these brave men and women.