

strength to our Nation and our brave warriors as we fought against tyranny and oppression.

The memorial was built to honor the 16 million who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II, as well as the more than 400,000 who died during the war.

Prior to introducing the legislation in 2011, I spoke to many World War II veterans in Ohio and asked them if they thought putting this prayer on the memorial would be appropriate. The answer was a resounding “yes.”

It seems to me that if the remaining veterans of World War II are supportive of the prayer being added, we as a Nation should honor that request.

You don't have to take my word for it, though, because 2 years ago, Poppy Fowler, a constituent of mine, testified before the House Natural Resources Committee in favor of this legislation. Poppy is now 90 years young, and served 3 years, 10 days, 1 hour, and 10 minutes in the United States Navy during World War II. He flew 35 missions in Air Group 15 on an SB2C Helldiver as both a rear gunner and photographer.

I had the pleasure of escorting Poppy on an Honor Flight trip to visit the World War II Memorial, and he and I became friends. Here is a brief excerpt of Poppy's testimony at that hearing:

I feel, with no doubt, that it would be appropriate that this prayer be inscribed in some manner at the World War II Memorial. Those reading this prayer will be able to recall the sacrifices made by our military, also those on the home front.

This prayer came at a perilous time, yet it was answered in victory at a dear cost of lives.

Today, this prayer can pertain to any military action. Under present circumstances, it is also appropriate.

I don't think anyone in this body could be more succinct and articulate than Mr. Fowler.

Like Poppy, I also have no doubt that the prayer should be included among the tributes to the Greatest Generation memorialized on the National Mall.

It is vitally important that the President signs this legislation as quickly as possible because time is of the essence. As some may know, there is estimated to be just over 1.5 million World War II veterans still living. Furthermore, it is estimated that roughly 600 World War II vets are dying every day.

In other words, each week that goes by that this legislation does not become law, approximately 4,000 more World War II vets will have passed away without seeing this prayer added to their memorial.

I want to thank Chairman HASTINGS and Chairman BISHOP for their hard work and efforts to get to where we are today. They have been champions of this legislation over the past 3 years, and we wouldn't be here without their help.

I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to vote “yes” on this legislation and to take this opportunity to honor the Greatest Generation by add-

ing this prayer to the World War II Memorial.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this legislation. With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a good piece of legislation. In the last two Congresses, both bodies have acted on this. It is now our time to pass this legislation and get it to the President's desk.

With that, I urge adoption of the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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, S. 1044.

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. HASTINGS of Washington. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### REVOCATION OF MIAMI TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA CHARTER

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4002) to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4002

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

#### SECTION 1. REVOCATION OF CHARTER OF INCORPORATION.

The request of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to surrender the charter of incorporation issued to that tribe and ratified by its members on June 1, 1940, pursuant to the Act of June 26, 1936 (25 U.S.C. 501 et seq.; commonly known as the “Oklahoma Welfare Act”), is hereby accepted and that charter of incorporation is hereby revoked.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) 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. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4002, which is sponsored by our colleague from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN), is a one-line bill to grant a request submitted by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to revoke its charter of incorporation, which was issued in 1940 under a 1936 act of Congress.

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The charter of incorporation is a New Deal era legal instrument through which a tribe may administer its business activities. However, the tribe has never used its corporate charter because it imposes undesirable restrictions on its activities. It instead manages its business activities pursuant to the authority of the tribal constitution.

Only Congress may revoke a charter of incorporation duly issued to and ratified by a tribe. In accordance with the express wishes of the tribe's leadership, our colleague who represents the tribe in the House sponsored H.R. 4002. The Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing on this bill on March 27, 2014. The Department of the Interior testified that it had no objection to the bill, and we see no reason for any Member to object to it either.

I commend my colleague from Oklahoma for performing this important constituent service, and I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, at the request of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, H.R. 4002 simply revokes a corporate charter issued to it by the Federal Government.

Under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act and the Indian Reorganization Act, many tribes were issued corporate charters in the 1930s and 1940s that were aimed at enabling them to better manage their own affairs and pursue business relationships with private entities. For some tribes, these corporate charters have proven unnecessary and end up hindering their business opportunities as they inevitably come up in negotiations with private entities and are looked upon with suspicion.

The charter must be revoked by an act of Congress, and Mr. MULLIN, on behalf of his constituent, is simply complying with the tribe's request through this bill. Similar bills have passed over the years without event. I ask my colleagues to stand with me in support of this noncontroversial bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN), the author of this legislation.

Mr. MULLIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation that aims to help out one of my local tribes, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma. I was approached by Chief Lankford, and at his request, I crafted this bill to remove an inoperable financial charter of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma's. The bill is needed because these charters can only be revoked through an act of Congress.

The tribe has said that this outdated charter often hinders business and economic development. It imposes restrictions on the operation of business activities that are unrealistic in today's business environment. My bill removes the charter and those unneeded barriers for business for this tribe. I ask all of my colleagues to support this.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this is a good piece of legislation, and I urge its passage.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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. 4002.

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.

#### NASHUA RIVER WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 412) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the mainstem of the Nashua River and its tributaries in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers 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. 412

*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 "Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Act".*

#### SEC. 2. DESIGNATION FOR STUDY.

*Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

*"( ) NASHUA RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS.—(A) The approximately 19-mile segment of the mainstem of the Nashua River from the confluence of the North and South Nashua Rivers in Lancaster, Massachusetts, north to the Massachusetts/New Hampshire State line, except the approximately 4.8-mile segment of the mainstem of the Nashua River from the Route 119 bridge in Groton, Massachusetts, downstream to its confluence with the Nissitissit River in Pepperell, Massachusetts.*

*"(B) The 10-mile segment of the Squannacook River from its headwaters at Ash Swamp downstream to its confluence with the Nashua River in Shirley/Ayer, Massachusetts.*

*"(C) The 3.5-mile segment of the Nissitissit River from the Massachusetts/New Hampshire State line downstream to its confluence with the Nashua River in Pepperell, Massachusetts."*

#### SEC. 3. STUDY AND REPORT.

*Section 5(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

*"( ) STUDY AND REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this paragraph, the Secretary of the Interior shall complete the study of the Nashua River in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, as described in subsection (a)( ), and submit a report describing the results of that study to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate."*

#### SEC. 4. REPORT REQUIREMENTS.

*The report required under section 3 of this Act shall—*

*(1) include a discussion of the effect of the designation of the area to be studied under this Act under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act on—*

*(A) existing commercial and recreational activities, such as hunting, fishing, trapping, recreational shooting, motor boat use, or bridge construction;*

*(B) the authorization, construction, operation, maintenance, or improvement of energy production and transmission infrastructure; and*

*(C) the authority of State and local governments to manage those activities encompassed in subparagraphs (A) and (B); and*

*(2) identify—*

*(A) all authorities that will authorize or require the Secretary of the Interior to influence local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal land if the area studied under this Act is designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act;*

*(B) all authorities that the Secretary of the Interior may use to condemn property if the area studied under this Act is designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; and*

*(C) all private property located in the area to be studied under this Act.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) 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. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 412 authorizes the National Park Service to study 32.5 miles of river in Massachusetts and New Hampshire for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The legislation requires that, in the course of the study, the National Park Service consider the effect of designation on recreational uses, such as hunting and fishing, but also consider impacts to energy production and transmission. I would like to note that this legislation exempts a 4.8-mile segment

that is currently the subject of a FERC licensing proceeding to avoid the inherent conflict between hydroelectric facilities and the Wild and Scenic Rivers program. H.R. 412 requires the study take steps to inform the public of the consequences a future designation may bring. The study will identify all authorities that could be utilized to take property through eminent domain and those authorities that compel the Park Service to involve itself in local zoning.

Property owners must not be left in the dark as to the result of this Federal designation on their properties. For the study process to be authentically derived from the community, the facts and limitations on property rights must be revealed in the process.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 412, the Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Act.

First, I want to thank Chairman HASTINGS for bringing this legislation to the floor. As we all know, Chairman HASTINGS will be retiring at the end of this year, so I want to especially thank him for his service on the Natural Resources Committee, and I wish him all the best.

I also want to thank Ranking Member DEFAZIO, Subcommittee Chairman BISHOP, and Subcommittee Ranking Member GRIJALVA for their support of this legislation.

The history and development of the towns and cities in the Third District of Massachusetts have been defined by the many rivers that course through these unique communities. From the mighty Merrimack River that supported the birth of the industrial revolution in Lowell to the Concord River where a famous shot was heard around the world, our rivers continue to play an important role in connecting our communities, but time and development have not always been kind to these rivers.

Beginning in the 1700s and continuing to just a few decades ago, paper, shoe, and textile factories were constructed along the Nashua River and many other rivers in the area. The strong currents of the rivers powered the factories and made their success possible; but at the same time, the factories were releasing industrial waste right back into the rivers, polluting the very source of their success. By the mid-1960s, the Nashua River was one of the most polluted rivers in the Nation. In fact, the river would change color almost daily because of the inks and dyes released into the river by the paper factories; but in 1965, one Third District resident, Marion Stoddart, realized that something had to be done. Ms. Stoddart formed the Nashua River Clean-up Committee to work toward cleaning up the river and protecting the land along its banks.