

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. At this time, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON).

Mr. SIMPSON. I thank the gentleman from Alaska for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4283, which is intended to authorize the use of maintenance equipment and the replacement of some outdated and potentially hazardous energy facilities at the River of No Return Lodge in Smith Gulch on the Salmon River in Idaho.

As it currently sits, the River of No Return Lodge is a small outfitter on the Salmon River that provides a unique recreational experience operating under a Forest Service permit.

Unfortunately, the Forest Service does not believe it has clear authorization to permit the use of necessary maintenance or replacement of facilities. This proposed bill is an effort to clarify Congress' intent in legislation passed in 2004 to retain the basic characteristics of the lodge without substantially altering the existing use.

This legislation makes it clear that the owners of the lodge are authorized to use weed trimmers, chainsaws, and other maintenance equipment needed for the general upkeep of the lodge.

It also will allow the outfitter to reduce or eliminate his reliance on propane fuel and replace it with modest renewable energy sources. I believe H.R. 4283 keeps recreational opportunities available on our public lands, while maintaining the ability to keep our lands in even better shape for future generations of Americans. The Congressional Budget Office has also scored this bill at no cost to the taxpayer.

It should be noted that a few small changes were made during the markup of H.R. 4283 to address both the technical corrections and concerns raised by interested parties. The bill, as amended, has been crafted with the sentiments of both the Idaho Conservation League and The Wilderness Society in mind.

We trust that the Forest Service will faithfully grant authorization for the maintenance and replacement activities without the burden of unreasonable environmental review costs.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation that has been carefully crafted with the stakeholders' views in mind, so the operator of the River of No Return Lodge can perform the fundamental maintenance and replace outdated energy sources needed to carry out this small business with respect to the existing law.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I can only compliment the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) for his work on this legislation, and it is a practical solution to a problem. Again, I agree with him.

I hope that there is an expedited process which we can fulfill our obligations to this lodge owner and, of course, the intent of the act itself and that the Congress had intended so this could continue.

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. 4283, 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. YOUNG of Alaska. 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.

REMOVAL OF USE RESTRICTION ON LAND FORMERLY A PART OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4527) to remove a use restriction on land formerly a part of Acadia National Park that was transferred to the town of Tremont, Maine, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4527

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

SECTION 1. USE RESTRICTION REMOVED.

The Act entitled "An Act to authorize the conveyance, for school purposes, of certain land in Acadia National Park to the town of Tremont, Maine, and for other purposes", approved August 1, 1950, is amended by adding at the end the following: "Lands conveyed to the town of Tremont, Maine, under the Act known as NPS Tract 06-126, which were conveyed by the National Park Service in deed recorded at the Hancock County Registry of Deeds Book 737 Page 467, National Park Service Deed 377, shall no longer be required to be used exclusively and perpetually for school purposes and upon the discontinuance of such use of said land, or any part thereof, shall no longer be required to revert to the United States."

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

Mr. Speaker, enacted in 1950, Public Law 81-629 permitted the National Park Service to convey property, formerly part of Acadia National Park, to the town of Tremont, Maine, to build a new school.

In 1951, the Secretary of the Interior completed the conveyance of approximately 8 acres with a clause that specified the land would revert back to the United States if it was not used exclusively for school purposes.

Tremont is now consolidating schools with a nearby town, and the property will no longer be used for the original intended purpose. However, Tremont would like to retain ownership and continue to use the developed property in the best interest of the community.

H.R. 4527 removes the requirement that the land be used exclusively and perpetually for school purposes, allowing Tremont to use the property to the maximum benefit of its residents.

The Natural Resources Committee has consistently sought to assist local communities in gaining control of property within their boundaries by freeing them from Federal interference. Communities around the country would benefit significantly and immediately if the example of H.R. 4527 was replicated by Congress.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, the town of Tremont, Maine, was granted a parcel of Federal land to build a school in 1950. The town, which is adjacent to Acadia National Park, no longer needs the parcel for school purposes and would like to be able to consider other uses.

H.R. 4527 will remove the restrictions on the parcel, and its passage is a priority for the town and the bill's sponsor, Mr. MICHAUD of Maine. I would like to thank and congratulate my colleague from Maine for his work on this bill on behalf of his constituents.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. As you heard, this legislation would allow the town of Tremont,

Maine, to continue to use public land that has been continuously maintained for more than six decades.

In 1950, Congress transferred a parcel of land from Acadia National Park to the Town of Tremont so the town could build and maintain a school. Unfortunately, what might have been best for the Park Service and the community in 1950 might not be best for either in 2014.

Due to demographic changes, Tremont has explored the possibility of merging its elementary school with another in a neighboring town. Under the terms of the original agreement, if Tremont were to stop using the land for school purposes, the land would be transferred back to the Federal Government.

Complicating the situation is legislation passed by Congress in 1986 that established a permanent boundary for Acadia National Park. The permanent boundary did not include the tract of land containing the school. As a result, any changes in usage would require transfer to the General Services Administration.

This legislation would simply remove any restriction on the land, which would allow the community to continue utilizing the land as it sees fit. Acadia National Park supports this legislation; GSA has no objection.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank Chairmen HASTINGS and BISHOP and Ranking Members DEFAZIO and GRIJALVA for their support for this remedy of this issue, and I would like to thank the committees on both sides of the aisle for supporting this issue.

I urge my colleagues to adopt it.

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. With that, I yield back the balance of my time also.

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. 4527.

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.

TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO PUBLIC LAW 110-229

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4751) to make technical corrections to Public Law 110-229 to reflect the renaming of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4751

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

SECTION 1. BAINBRIDGE ISLAND JAPANESE AMERICAN EXCLUSION MEMORIAL.

Section 313 of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-229) is amended as follows:

(1) In the heading of subsection (b), by striking “JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL” and inserting “JAPANESE AMERICAN EXCLUSION MEMORIAL”.

(2) In the heading of subsection (c)(5)(C), by striking “JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL” and inserting “JAPANESE AMERICAN EXCLUSION MEMORIAL”.

(3) In subsection (c)(5)(C), by striking “Japanese American Memorial” and inserting “Japanese American Exclusion Memorial”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) 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. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4751 makes technical corrections to reflect a change in the name of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial. The site will now be known as Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial to reflect a new name adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District in Kitsap County, Washington.

This legislation has no cost and is only a change in the name, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4751 changes the name of Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial in Washington State to the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial.

The addition of the word “exclusion” is significant, as it acknowledges the true purpose of the memorial: to recognize and honor the 276 Japanese Americans living on the island who were relocated and interned after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

When Congress adjusted the boundary of the Minidoka National Historic Site to include the site, the name Congress used was the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial. At the request of the Bainbridge Island community and owners of the memorial, H.R. 4751 amends the name to reflect the memorial’s official name.

I would like to thank Representative KILMER for sponsoring this bill and working to get it through the committee process. This name change is important for the Bainbridge Island community and the integrity of the memorial.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington State (Mr. KILMER), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

My legislation would make technical corrections to a 2008 law to reflect the renaming of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial.

I would also like to thank Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member GRIJALVA, as well as Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member DEFAZIO, for their efforts to move this legislation through their committee and ensure that Congress is properly recognizing this memorial.

The Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 included the site now known as the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial as a unit of a national historic site. The memorial was established to recognize the historical injustice that was committed against the Japanese American community on Bainbridge Island.

In the wake of this surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, facing fears about potential threats among people of Japanese heritage, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, forcing more than 120,000 people with Japanese ancestry to leave their homes, leave their jobs, their neighbors, their friends, and their communities. They were forced to travel great distances in order to be held indefinitely in one of ten relocation centers.

This order, now rightly denounced, first went into effect on March 30, 1942, when more than 200 residents of Bainbridge Island, Washington, were forced to leave their homes, gather at Eagledale Ferry Dock, and then were transported to a so-called relocation center. These individuals, many of them American citizens, committed no crimes, yet were deprived of their rights simply because of who they were.

Just recently, I had the honor of visiting this memorial and meeting with local Japanese American survivors who were forced to stay at these relocation camps for years before finally moving back to their homes. They told me their stories. Some were just little kids when it all happened, no older than my daughters are today. Some were older, teenagers and young adults.

The memorial tells their stories. The day I met with them I heard their stories, many of them were heartbreaking: the pain that they and their families experienced coming home to the family farm to find that you had to start over from scratch; in some instances, the painful reality, the constant reminder of having received a high school diploma from an internment camp; the challenges of coming back to a community.