

Arkansas mourn the loss of my fellow Russellville Cyclone and his fellow servicemen. My prayers are with his wife, Lorri; his two children, Rebecca and Heath; and his parents, Lew Wyatt of St. Augustine, Florida, and Deborah Boen of Atkins, Arkansas.

May God bless those he leaves behind, as they search for peace and understanding through this terrible tragedy.

LONG-TERM SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BILL

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans have had more than 4½ years to craft a long-term surface transportation bill. Their dysfunction and inability to govern is starting to have a real impact on hard-working Americans and on our communities.

They continue to lurch from crisis to crisis; meanwhile, our Nation's crumbling roads and bridges—and our economy—suffer as a result. It is like déjà vu all over again, another highway deadline this week.

Mr. Speaker, no more short-term month-to-month fixes. Enough is enough. In the last decade, Congress has passed 11 short-term funding bills to keep the highway trust fund solvent. If we are going to pass a long-term solution to rebuild our roads and bridges, it is going to take the courage of our convictions; it is going to take us working together across the aisle to get this done.

Our Nation's roads, bridges, and rails are in an urgent state of repair. One-third of America's roads are in poor or mediocre condition. One out of every four bridge is in need of significant repair.

The House Republican leadership needs to get serious and find a long-term fix to the highway trust fund. Our country relies on it.

FARM FAMILIES—LINKING THE PAST TO THE FUTURE

(Mr. EMMER of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to recognize the importance of farm families throughout the great State of Minnesota.

The University of Minnesota recently recognized the 2015 Minnesota Farm Families from across the State, and I am proud to represent five of these families who call the Sixth Congressional District home.

These farm families include the Bruce Bacon Garden Farm in Anoka County, the Scapanski Dairy in Benton County, the Buckentine Family Dairy in Carver County, the Reuter Family Farm in Washington County, and the Bernings' Green Waves Farm, Inc., in Wright County.

For many Minnesotans, farming isn't just a profession; it is a way of life. Family farms link the past to the future with each generation passing their work ethic, land, and traditions to the next. These farms make up the heartland of America and exemplify what makes Minnesota's agriculture industry great, which is why they should be celebrated.

Congratulations to the 2015 Minnesota Farm Families, and thank you so much for everything that you do.

REFORM OUR JUSTICE SYSTEM

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, I came to the floor and said it felt like open season on Black men in America. People around the country agree that the police killings undermine the efforts of good police and break the trust between police and their communities.

Black women and girls face the same threats and many more. Unsettling video of a police officer in Texas manhandling an unarmed 15-year-old girl in a bathing suit served as a wake-up call to all of us.

The arrest and death of Sandra Bland reminds us that the fight for equal justice under the law continues.

Black women also face a unique and, too often, unreported violence: sexual assault. In Oklahoma, an officer is on trial for sexually assaulting eight Black women. Tragically, this story is not unique. The challenges Black men face are real, but I was humbled to learn how unequal justice affects Black women.

Black women are the fastest growing prison population, and their stories must be told if we are going to break this trend.

Mr. Speaker, it is open season on all Americans.

FLOOD INSURANCE

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to underscore a serious problem in Pasco County, Florida, this week that is devastating homeowners—flooding—after days of continuous rain.

After Tropical Storm Debby in 2012, the Army Corps of Engineers worked with county officials to implement some measures to mitigate flooding, but more needs to be done.

For instance, Pasco County officials have been working for 19 years to extend Ridge Road. One of the main justifications for the Ridge Road extension is a matter of safety. An extension is a much-needed evacuation route in the case of natural disasters, like flooding or hurricanes.

As of today, an evacuation issued for Elfers, Florida, in my district, is ongoing.

The Ridge Road extension needs to be approved. Nineteen years is far too long. The Army Corps must stop dragging its feet.

The serious flood this week demonstrates the need for action. I hope that the Corps gets the message.

PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN MEDICARE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues of our responsibility to preserve and strengthen the Medicare Program for future generations.

Last week, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released its annual Medicare trustees report, an update on the long-term solvency and effectiveness of this vastly important health insurance program.

While the report projected that the trust fund that finances Medicare's hospital insurance coverage will remain solvent until 2030, it also cautioned that a high number of Medicare beneficiaries could see their Medicare part B premiums sharply increase in January of 2016.

As a former healthcare professional and nursing home administrator, I understand the importance of providing access to quality care at a realistic cost. One of the ways we can make Medicare services more affordable is by targeting waste and abuse within the program.

With this in mind, I have consistently worked with my colleagues to introduce and support legislation aimed at reducing fraud and increasing administrative effectiveness.

I look forward to continuing these efforts and urge my colleagues to join me in finding new ways to safeguard and sustain Medicare.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EMMER of Minnesota) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 24, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 24, 2015 at 10:19 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 23.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 2499.

That the Senate passed without an amendment H.R. 1626.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1500

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 3 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND JERRY PEAK WILDERNESS ADDITIONS ACT

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1138) to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1138

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Sawtooth National Recreation Area and Jerry Peak Wilderness Additions Act”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—WILDERNESS DESIGNATIONS

Sec. 101. Additions to National Wilderness Preservation System in the State of Idaho.

Sec. 102. Administration.

Sec. 103. Water rights.

Sec. 104. Military overflights.

Sec. 105. Adjacent management.

Sec. 106. Native American cultural and religious uses.

Sec. 107. Acquisition of land and interests in land.

Sec. 108. Wilderness review.

TITLE II—LAND CONVEYANCES FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Blaine County, Idaho.

Sec. 203. Custer County, Idaho.

Sec. 204. City of Challis, Idaho.

Sec. 205. City of Clayton, Idaho.

Sec. 206. City of Stanley, Idaho.

Sec. 207. Terms and conditions of permits or land conveyances.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to land administered by the Forest Service; or

(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to land administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) WILDERNESS AREA.—The term “wilderness area” means any of the areas designated as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System by section 101.

TITLE I—WILDERNESS DESIGNATIONS

SEC. 101. ADDITIONS TO NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM IN THE STATE OF IDAHO.

(a) HEMINGWAY-BOULDERS WILDERNESS.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), certain Federal lands in the Sawtooth and Challis National Forests in the State of Idaho, comprising approximately 67,998 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Hemingway/Boulders Wilderness Area-Proposed” and dated February 25, 2015, are designated as wilderness and as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, which shall be known as the “Hemingway-Boulders Wilderness”.

(b) WHITE CLOUDS WILDERNESS.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), certain Federal lands in the Sawtooth and Challis National Forests in the State of Idaho, comprising approximately 90,769 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled “White Clouds Wilderness Area-Proposed” and dated March 13, 2014, are designated as wilderness and as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, which shall be known as the “White Clouds Wilderness”.

(c) JIM MCCLURE-JERRY PEAK WILDERNESS.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), certain Federal lands in the Challis National Forest and Challis District of the Bureau of Land Management in the State of Idaho, comprising approximately 116,898 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness” and dated February 21, 2015, are designated as wilderness and as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, which shall be known as the “Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness”.

(d) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a map and legal description for each wilderness area.

(2) EFFECT.—Each map and legal description submitted under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct minor errors in the map or legal description.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Each map and legal description submitted under paragraph (1) shall be available in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management.

SEC. 102. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, each wilderness area shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), except that—

(1) any reference in that Act to the effective date shall be considered to be a reference to the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) with respect to wilderness areas that are administered by the Secretary of the In-

terior, any reference in the Wilderness Act to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be considered to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) CONSISTENT INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall seek to ensure that the wilderness areas are interpreted for the public as an overall complex linked by—

(1) common location in the Boulder-White Cloud Mountains; and

(2) common identity with the natural and cultural history of the State of Idaho and the Native American and pioneer heritage of the State.

(c) COMPREHENSIVE WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall collaboratively develop wilderness management plans for the wilderness areas.

(d) FIRE, INSECTS, AND DISEASE.—Within the wilderness areas, the Secretary may take such measures as the Secretary determines to be necessary for the control of fire, insects, and disease in accordance with section 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131(d)(1)).

(e) LIVESTOCK.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Within the wilderness areas, the grazing of livestock in which grazing is established before the date of enactment of this Act shall be allowed to continue, subject to such reasonable regulations, policies, and practices as the Secretary determines to be necessary, in accordance with—

(A) section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131(d)(4));

(B) with respect to wilderness areas administered by the Secretary of Agriculture, the guidelines described in House Report 96-617 of the 96th Congress; and

(C) with respect to wilderness areas administered by the Secretary of the Interior, the guidelines described in appendix A of House Report 101-405 of the 101st Congress.

(2) DONATION OF GRAZING PERMITS AND LEASES.—

(A) ACCEPTANCE BY SECRETARY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept the donation of any valid existing leases or permits authorizing grazing on public land or National Forest System land, all or a portion of which are within the area depicted as the “Boulder White Clouds Grazing Area” on the map entitled “Boulder White Clouds Grazing Area Map” and dated January 27, 2010.

(ii) PARTIAL DONATION.—A person holding a valid grazing permit or lease for a grazing allotment partially within the area described in clause (i) may elect to donate only the portion of the grazing permit or lease that is within the area.

(B) TERMINATION.—With respect to each permit or lease donated under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

(i) terminate the grazing permit or lease or portion of the permit or lease; and

(ii) except as provided in subparagraph (C), ensure a permanent end to grazing on the land covered by the permit or lease or portion of the permit or lease.

(C) COMMON ALLOTMENTS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If the land covered by a permit or lease donated under subparagraph (A) is also covered by another valid grazing permit or lease that is not donated, the Secretary shall reduce the authorized level on the land covered by the permit or lease to reflect the donation of the permit or lease under subparagraph (A).

(ii) AUTHORIZED LEVEL.—To ensure that there is a permanent reduction in the level of grazing on the land covered by the permit or lease donated under subparagraph (A), the