

Mr. Speaker, the Land and Water Conservation Fund's authorization expires on September 30. This vital program, which has broad bipartisan and bicameral support, should be made permanent and should be fully funded.

I am proud to support H.R. 502, which permanently authorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It has bipartisan support from 231 cosponsors in the House. Over 30 Republican House Members recently wrote to leadership expressing their support for reauthorizing the Land and Water Conservation Fund this year.

LWCF plays an instrumental role in preserving and protecting our precious drinking water, safeguarding our natural resources, and providing pristine outdoor recreational spaces to millions of Americans, all while creating jobs and supporting local economies.

Stakeholders work together to leverage LWCF funding with other State, local, and private funds to make the most out of every LWCF dollar spent. Without these Federal funds sparking the investment, we would never amass the resources needed to protect critical tracts of land.

LWCF funds are almost always the critical piece of a puzzle that allows precious land to be forever protected and preserved. It is the funds from offshore gas and oil revenue that provide the funding for LWCF, not taxpayer dollars.

We all benefit greatly from the LWCF and the lands that it protects. The outdoor recreation economy generates \$1 trillion per year and supports 7.6 million American jobs. In my district alone, outdoor recreation accounts for well over \$1 billion a year. It is a sector that also annually generates \$65.3 billion in Federal tax revenue and \$59.2 billion in State and local tax revenue.

Our Federal investment in these historic, cultural, and recreational landmarks and wildlife habitats generates a substantial return to the American taxpayer.

As we speak, LWCF is making a dramatic difference in my own district. We have worked for years to find the funds to take advantage of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to purchase and preserve a beautiful piece of land in the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. LWCF helped leverage funding from State, local, and private sources, but without LWCF, this land would have been lost forever. I worked very hard in the Appropriations Committee to make sure the LWCF had enough money to acquire the full 2,931 acres in Cherry Valley.

But we shouldn't have to work this hard for every LWCF dollar. We should be dedicating more money and permanently reauthorizing the LWCF to complete more projects like Cherry Valley.

From historic battlefields like Gettysburg to the very home of Gifford Pinchot—Grey Towers National Historic Site in Milford, Pennsylvania—

LWCF is providing critical funding to protect our most important lands. It has wide-ranging bipartisan support, and it is past time that we permanently reauthorize LWCF and give it the robust funding that it so richly deserves.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the State of Virginia (Mr. MCEACHIN).

Mr. MCEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the comments of my colleagues about the importance of our Nation's premier outdoor recreation and conservation program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Over the past five decades, LWCF has helped protect our Nation's most treasured places, including many in my congressional district like the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge and both the Richmond and Petersburg National Battlefields.

As we know, authorization of LWCF is set to expire in 100 short days. That is why the timing of this Special Order hour is so critical. If Congress does not reauthorize LWCF, we will lose one of our most powerful tools for protecting our Nation's natural, historical, and cultural landmarks. If that happens, every State and district in our country will feel the damaging consequences.

That outcome is unacceptable, which is why I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 502, which is Ranking Member GRIJALVA's legislation to permanently reauthorize LWCF. I also support robust funding for LWCF in the appropriations bills.

For my constituents, preserving our lands and waters is personal. Virginia's Fourth Congressional District is home to many beautiful public lands and waters, along with many other sites that still need to be protected.

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Earlier this month, I toured the beautiful James River National Wildlife Refuge with local nonprofits to highlight the need to reauthorize the LWCF. My tour reminded me that there is no place quite like the James, but my district is far from unique. Across our district, LWCF has helped conserve precious ecosystems that wildlife, people, and local economies needed to survive.

While preserving these lands is the right thing to do, it also makes good business sense. In fact, outdoor recreation generates billions of dollars for the Commonwealth's economy.

The same dynamic applies across the country. That is why I intend to keep up the fight to reauthorize the LWCF. It helps communities protect the places they love, and we owe it to our children and our children's children to keep this tool in place.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

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

This week marks 100 days until the expiration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund authorization.

The LWCF has assisted New York State in many, many ways over its 50 years to protect some of New York's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities.

Both the House and Senate have currently introduced bipartisan bills to permanently reauthorize the LWCF. I am a proud cosponsor of the House bill, H.R. 502, and I urge the House leadership to bring it up for a vote.

Some examples of special places in New York's 20th Congressional District include Thatcher Park in Albany, Frear Park development in Troy, the bike-hike trail in Glenville, Schenectady, Niskayuna, Peebles Island, Congress Park in Saratoga, and Mohawk Mills Park in Amsterdam.

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

IMMIGRATION ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) until 10 p.m.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it has been an interesting week.

We were told when we were starting the week that we were going to be taking up a couple of immigration bills. Before we could even get that started, we were met with a firestorm of absolute outrage about children being separated from their parents.

Well, anybody who is a parent doesn't want that to happen, even though, as a felony judge in Texas, I know. I watched it happened constantly. It happens every day in our country. It is heartbreaking, but it happens every day all over the country when any person in the United States commits a crime and is taken to jail.

I watched it happen over and over in my courtroom. Your heart breaks for their children. You can't let the children go to jail with the parent. Sometimes there is somebody else to take care of them. Sometimes it is Child Protective Services. But it is still heartbreaking. That is what we have seen on the border.

We have a President and Attorney General trying to follow their oath and enforce the law. But it is heartbreaking when you see some of these pictures like the first one here. When I saw that, my heart broke for this beautiful little boy in a blue shirt—actually, I think this is a separate picture, and these are two others—initially, just seeing this, where it looks like he is in a cage.

You feel bad that Jeff Sessions as Attorney General and President Trump are the ones in office when this is going on. But then we find out actually he is a child of one of the protesters that is protesting the Trump administration. He is not really incarcerated. This was completely trumped up, so to speak, by the media and by the groups that are trying to do everything they can since

the stories about Russia collusion turned out to have more to do with the Clinton campaign colluding with the Russians than Trump.

Well, this has to be another source of attack. Again, it is just heart-wrenching to see a child like that, until you find out he is not really in a cage. He is not somebody that the Trump administration was restraining. In fact, here is the same little boy skipping around over here on the other side of the fence with the protesters. So it turns out he is not.

But then we look at some of these other pictures here. We will do this in rapid order, because we are running out of time.

Here you have all of these people, many of them children, in this facility and a chain link fence everywhere. It is treating them like animals, basically. They are all under these shiny blankets. It is tragic. But then we found out, actually, that was while President Obama was in office and then conditions improved dramatically.

This is another tragic picture. Tragic. It does look like they are caged animals. Again, they were appearing to be caged animals during the Obama administration. President Obama was responsible for that.

You see this tragic sign "Juvenile Holding Cell," where the Trump administration is treating these little juveniles this way. They are locked up in this little room. It is strictly for juveniles being held away from others. Then we find out, no, that was the Obama administration, too. But all of these pictures were originally touted as being part of Trump's war on children.

Here is a female juvenile holding cell. That is proof positive that President Trump was isolating these female juveniles away. Then we find out, no, that is part of the Obama administration. It is proof positive the Obama administration was separating children from their parents, even though there are some lamebrain newspapers in Texas that try to tell me I didn't see what I personally saw.

I have been there. I have seen what they did. I have been there all hours of the day and night.

All these lumps are precious little children, and it is heartbreaking to think that any parent could send these children—90 percent of them—unaccompanied through deserts and put them in the custody of gangs. The former gangs are the ones the drug cartels use normally as coyotes to bring these precious people across.

Tragic circumstances. Horrendous circumstances. Yet that was all going on, all of this tragic stuff was happening, without one single word from Hollywood about the tragedy that President Obama was causing.

A couple of more quick pictures here. Again, these were portrayed initially as being proof of the horrors of the Trump administration. It turns out these were all under the Obama administration.

All these little silver lumps, it turns out that most of them are children. All of them are people under there. Tragic circumstances, but it is what President Obama was doing, his administration was doing, not the Trump administration.

So all these people who were throwing dirt balls at the Trump administration, where they actually stuck was on the Obama administration.

It always helps if you don't just fly off like so many have. It is not really mainstream media; it is the alt-left media. Once they were the mainstream media, now they are the alt-left media.

But they are covering for the Obama administration, trying to make the Trump administration look horrendous, when what the Trump administration has done has been far more caring and supportive of the children than the facilities that I saw during the Obama administration. They have a lot better facilities they are using now.

The ones I am particularly familiar with are down in south Texas. That is where I spent so much time during the Obama administration. Since President Trump has been in office, I am telling you the facilities are a lot better, and they are doing a better job of caring for people.

I heard somebody this morning say: Wow, there are so many people who are just getting outraged about children being ripped from their mothers' arms. I believe Mr. KING had mentioned that nothing does that like abortion.

Then somebody reminded me this morning that when children were being ripped from their mothers in a process called abortion, it appears that the Democrats felt like it was okay. At least they didn't say anything about it, not that I heard, when those little children's body parts were being sold off after being ripped from their moms in abortions.

So politics makes for strange situations, to have people who are not outraged by a precious little child being ripped from the mother's womb and killed and have the parts sold off—not bothered by that. But then when 90 percent of the children coming into this country are said to be coming unaccompanied and many of those that come—we have 12,000 who are being held right now. Some of them tenderly held; some of them not so tenderly.

But when you have nearly 40 percent who are male, teenaged, and potentially part of gangs or subject to being recruited into gangs, it is not the precious little child that is often being portrayed by the alt left media.

We need to have commonsense. I know in Washington, it is just sense. Back in east Texas it is commonsense. Here, it is sense.

In the few minutes I have left, we have been taking up bills on border issues. I thought it was extremely unfortunate that our leadership would not allow us to have an amendment to the Goodlatte bill. It has so many good things in it. It has an amnesty for

DACA. At the end, that was my problem.

So many good things—I really think if our Republican leadership had wanted it to pass, they could have put on there a fix where children were not separated from their parents, and that would have helped get enough votes to go from 193 to get votes to pass it.

But it just felt like our own leadership didn't want it to pass. They weren't going to allow something like that that would add votes, because many of them were out there saying: No, no. The compromise bill will get a lot more votes than the Goodlatte bill.

It simply wasn't true. They were misreading our conference.

I recall our Speaker, right after President Trump was elected, saying that he was hearing voices none of the rest of us heard. Well, some of us were saying those same things that President Trump was saying before the election, and we need them to be heard. But, apparently, they are still not being heard.

But a good comparison was done by NumbersUSA on the issue of amnesty. Under the Goodlatte bill, it says 690,000 existing DACA recipients with Federal ID cards can apply for contingent non-immigrant status, which may be renewed every 3 years indefinitely. It makes ineligible those aliens with two or more misdemeanors or a felony. It makes ineligible those aliens charged with a misdemeanor or felony while the charge or charges are still pending. But there is amnesty at the end of the Goodlatte bill.

Under the compromise bill, as the Speaker was calling it, 1.8 million to 2.4 million illegal aliens who may have been eligible for DACA may apply for contingent nonimmigrant status, which may be renewed every 6 years indefinitely.

It goes on to describe that the applications could actually reach 5 million or more. It is the largest amnesty ever provided. It is bigger than any amnesty that was ever given during President Obama's two terms.

With regard to a special path to citizenship, the Goodlatte bill did not offer any, but there was one under the so-called compromise bill. It created a merit-based green card category for a path to citizenship and then had tens of thousands of green cards that would be available under the compromise bill that we are supposed to vote on early next week.

With regard to the visa lottery, both of them reallocate those. With regard to chain migration—this was a good thing under the Goodlatte-McCaul bill—it ends chain migration completely. However, under the so-called compromise bill, it doesn't end chain migration. That is why some say it put us on the road to ending chain migration, because it doesn't. It doesn't. Parents who acted illegally to bring their children into this country illegally would be rewarded by being allowed to get legal.

As far as enforcement, NumbersUSA has a good comparison there.

It would be tragic if our leadership brings up the so-called compromise bill. The Goodlatte bill was a good one. It cut out amnesty. It ought to pass. We can secure the border. We can save this Republic and God will bless us and enable us to help these countries that are in trouble.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. JEFFRIES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of son's graduation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, June 22, 2018, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5259. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Poultry Improvement Plan and Auxiliary Provisions [Docket No.: APHIS-2017-0055] (RIN: 0579-AE37) received June 19, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5260. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 18-18, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5261. A letter from the Clerk of the House of Representatives, transmitting the annual compilation of financial disclosure statements filed by the members of the board of the Office of Congressional Ethics for the period between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017, pursuant to Clause 3 of House Rule XXVI (H. Doc. No. 115-135); to the Committee on Ethics and ordered to be printed.

5262. A letter from the Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a determination; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Intelligence (Permanent Select).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5026. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office of Biometric Identity Management, and for other purposes; with an amendment

(Rept. 115-773). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5207. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the immigration advisory program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-774). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. SIRES, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. WELCH, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 6172. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Attorney General, to reunite alien parents separated from their minor children with such children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KNIGHT:

H.R. 6173. A bill to amend section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to clarify the standards for family detention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. KAPTUR, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H.R. 6174. A bill to authorize funding for the creation and implementation of infant mortality pilot programs in standard metropolitan statistical areas with high rates of infant mortality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HUNTER (for himself and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 6175. A bill to enhance maritime safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Mr. GOODLATTE):

H.R. 6176. A bill to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 2, United States Code, title 50, United States Code, and title 52, United States Code; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH:

H.R. 6177. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise the definitions of a qualifying portfolio company and a qualifying investment to include an emerging growth company and the equity securities of an emerging growth company, respectively, for purposes of the exemption from registration for venture capital fund advisers under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. WESTERMAN):

H.R. 6178. A bill to amend the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 with respect to exemptions from certain motor carrier regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. DUNN):

H.R. 6179. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply current income tax brackets to capital gains brackets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H.R. 6180. A bill to require the Federal Government to provide mental health services to each child who has been separated from one or more parent as a result of implementation of the Trump Administration's zero tolerance policy at the United States border, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 6181. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to address the protective custody of alien children accompanied by parents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina:

H.R. 6182. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to codify President Trump's "Affording Congress an Opportunity to Address Family Separation Executive Order," and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 6183. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to reunite unaccompanied alien children with the parents or legal guardians with whom they entered the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. DELAUNO, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire):

H.R. 6184. A bill to support educational entities in fully implementing title IX and reducing and preventing sex discrimination in all areas of education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 6185. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an accurate comprehensive student count for the purposes of calculating formula allocations for programs under the Johnson-O'Malley Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mr. EVANS):

H.R. 6186. A bill to establish Minority Depository Institutions Advisory Committees, to provide advice related to preserving and encouraging minority depository institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.