

And, secondly, the idea in this bill comes from the Clinton administration from 20–25 years ago. It was part of Al Gore's reinventing government initiative. So it has a bipartisan history that goes back decades. Emotional diatribes against the President, I think, are not germane to what this bill is really all about.

I would like to conclude, Mr. Speaker, by pointing out that this also has strong environmental protections. In no way is any environmental law eroded, and it does not allow those who wish to pursue title transfer to do so unless they adhere to Federal environmental statutes. Section 5 of the bill simply states that the Secretary develop a categorical exclusion process consistent with NEPA.

This section is in no way a NEPA waiver, nor is it a congressionally mandated categorical exclusion. This provision simply requires the Secretary to develop a checklist so that the agency can quickly identify any possible conflicts with the Endangered Species Act or any other environmental factors that need to be addressed in the NEPA process.

Section 8 of the bill specifically states that after conveyance into this act, the receiving entity must still comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

Finally, I think it is worth noting two additional criteria set forth in this legislation. The transfer must not have an unmitigated, significant effect on the environment, and the receiving entity must operate the property consistent with current operations under the Bureau of Reclamation.

So any thought that there is an evasion of environmental protections is simply false. At this point, I would urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation. There are plenty of good safeguards that are put into place on a bipartisan level. This is a bipartisan piece of legislation with decades of support from both parties. I would urge my colleagues to adopt H.R. 3281, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 985, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. HUFFMAN. I am in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Huffman moves to recommit the bill H.R. 3281 to the Committee on Natural Re-

sources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 10. PROHIBITION AGAINST CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

The Secretary may not relinquish ownership of an eligible facility to a qualifying entity if the entity employed the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of the Interior as a federally registered lobbyist within the past 3 years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is the part where I give the usual stipulation that this is the final amendment to the bill which will not kill the bill or send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will immediately proceed to final passage, as amended.

This amendment is simple. The underlying bill allows the Department of the Interior to dole out publicly owned infrastructure and other public assets to water districts.

My amendment simply says, the Department of the Interior can't give away public assets to a water district if that district has employed the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary of the Interior as a lobbyist in the previous 3 years.

Put another way, the Secretary and Deputy Secretary can't give away public infrastructure to those who recently signed their lobbying paychecks. It should go without saying that this basic ethics requirement is needed, particularly in this administration, where conflicts of interest and corruption run so rampant.

The Department of the Interior has been mired in scandals. The Interior Secretary's actions have triggered at least 10 government investigations. It was also recently revealed that the Secretary and/or his family, are currently in a business partnership to develop a former industrial site with the chairman of the energy company, Halliburton. Halliburton, of course, has a lot of business pending before the Department of the Interior. This is an outrageous conflict of interest, and demonstrates how hollow the President's pledge to drain the swamp has been.

Further, Mr. Speaker, Interior Deputy Secretary Bernhardt, the number two official at the agency, was most recently employed as a Federal lobbyist and had a long list of clients with business before the Department, including clients who stand to gain with the passage of this bill by taking ownership of public infrastructure. We must not allow such blatant conflicts to stand.

□ 1600

It is time for Congress to exercise some oversight over this administration and install some basic rules of accountability and ethics.

If my Republican colleagues are serious about exercising their oversight responsibilities, they will support my

amendment. It simply makes sure that the public's assets cannot be given away to big business and narrow special interests if those same interests employed agency leadership in the past 3 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition to the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMBORN. This motion, Mr. Speaker, is just a procedural gimmick to delay passage of this important bipartisan legislation.

If the amendment made by this motion was of critical importance to the minority, they could have offered this as an amendment when the Natural Resources Committee marked up the bill or filed this amendment with the Rules Committee. They did not in either case.

This bill is a commonsense, bipartisan bill that supports local infrastructure and gives local communities the ability to seek private financing through equity to improve local, vital water infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, I urge rejection of the motion to recommit, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. HUFFMAN. 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 question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1645

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE) at 4 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motion to recommit on H.R. 3281;
 Passage of H.R. 3281, if ordered; and
 Passage of H.R. 6237.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

Schneider
 Schrader
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Serrano
 Sewell (AL)
 Shea-Porter
 Sherman
 Sinema
 Sires
 Smith (WA)

Soto
 Suozzi
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Titus
 Tonko
 Torres
 Tsongas
 Vargas

Veasey
 Vela
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters, Maxine
 Watson Coleman
 Welch
 Wilson (FL)
 Yarmuth

□ 1715

Messrs. CLOUD, YOUNG of Alaska, GROTHMAN, LATTI, REICHERT, POE of Texas, BRADY of Texas, BILLIRAKIS, JORDAN, and COLLINS of Georgia changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. SCHNEIDER, POCAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. NADLER changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 233, noes 184, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 325]

AYES—233

RECLAMATION TITLE TRANSFER AND NON-FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE INCENTIVIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 3281) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to facilitate the transfer to non-Federal ownership of appropriate reclamation projects or facilities, and for other purposes, offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 187, nays 230, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 324]

YEAS—187

Adams	Doyle, Michael	Lipinski
Aguilar	F.	Loebsack
Barragan	Engel	Lofgren
Bass	Eshoo	Lowenthal
Beatty	Espallat	Lowey
Bera	Esty (CT)	Lujan Grisham,
Beyer	Evans	M.
Bishop (GA)	Foster	Lujan, Ben Ray
Blumenauer	Frankel (FL)	Lynch
Blunt Rochester	Fudge	Maloney,
Bonamici	Gabbard	Carolyn B.
Boyle, Brendan	Gallego	Maloney, Sean
F.	Garamendi	Matsui
Brady (PA)	Gomez	McCollum
Brown (MD)	Gonzalez (TX)	McEachin
Brownley (CA)	Gottheimer	McGovern
Bustos	Green, Al	McNerney
Butterfield	Green, Gene	Meeks
Capuano	Grijalva	Meng
Carbajal	Gutiérrez	Moore
Cárdenas	Hastings	Murphy (FL)
Carson (IN)	Heck	Nadler
Cartwright	Higgins (NY)	Napolitano
Castor (FL)	Himes	Neal
Castro (TX)	Hoyer	Nolan
Chu, Judy	Huffman	Norcross
Cicilline	Jackson Lee	O'Halleran
Clark (MA)	Jayapal	O'Rourke
Clarke (NY)	Jeffries	Pallone
Clay	Johnson (GA)	Panetta
Cleaver	Johnson, E. B.	Pascarell
Clyburn	Jones	Payne
Cohen	Kaptur	Pelosi
Connolly	Keating	Peters
Cooper	Kelly (IL)	Peterson
Correa	Kennedy	Pingree
Courtney	Khanna	Pocan
Crist	Kihuen	Polis
Crowley	Kildee	Price (NC)
Cuellar	Kilmer	Quigley
Cummings	Kind	Raskin
Davis (CA)	Krishnamoorthi	Rice (NY)
Davis, Danny	Kuster (NH)	Richmond
DeFazio	Lamb	Rosen
DeGette	Langevin	Roybal-Allard
Delaney	Larsen (WA)	Ruiz
DeLauro	Larson (CT)	Ruppersberger
DelBene	Lawrence	Rush
Demings	Lawson (FL)	Ryan (OH)
DeSaulnier	Lee	Sánchez
Deutch	Levin	Sarbanes
Dingell	Lewis (GA)	Schakowsky
Doggett	Lieu, Ted	Schiff

Abraham	Gosar
Aderholt	Gowdy
Allen	Granger
Amash	Graves (GA)
Amodei	Graves (LA)
Arrington	Graves (MO)
Babin	Griffith
Bacon	Grothman
Banks (IN)	Guthrie
Barletta	Handel
Barr	Harris
Barton	Hartzler
Bergman	Hensarling
Biggs	Herrera Beutler
Bilirakis	Hice, Jody B.
Bishop (MI)	Higgins (LA)
Bishop (UT)	Hill
Blackburn	Holding
Blum	Hollingsworth
Bost	Hudson
Brady (TX)	Huizenga
Brat	Hultgren
Brooks (AL)	Hunter
Brooks (IN)	Hurd
Buchanan	Jenkins (KS)
Buck	Jenkins (WV)
Bucshon	Johnson (LA)
Budd	Johnson (OH)
Burgess	Johnson, Sam
Byrne	Jordan
Calvert	Joyce (OH)
Carter (GA)	Katko
Carter (TX)	Kelly (MS)
Chabot	Kelly (PA)
Cloud	King (IA)
Coffman	King (NY)
Cole	Kinziger
Collins (GA)	Knight
Collins (NY)	Labrador
Comer	LaHood
Comstock	LaMalfa
Conaway	Lamborn
Cook	Lance
Costa	Latta
Costello (PA)	Lesko
Cramer	Lewis (MN)
Crawford	LoBiondo
Culberson	Long
Curbelo (FL)	Loudermilk
Curtis	Love
Davidson	Lucas
Davis, Rodney	Luetkemeyer
Denham	MacArthur
DeSantis	Marchant
DesJarlais	Marino
Diaz-Balart	Marshall
Donovan	Massie
Duffy	Mast
Duncan (SC)	McCarthy
Duncan (TN)	McCaul
Dunn	McClintock
Emmer	McHenry
Estes (KS)	McKinley
Faso	McMorris
Ferguson	Rodgers
Fitzpatrick	McSally
Fleischmann	Meadows
Flores	Messer
Fortenberry	Mitchell
Fox	Moolenaar
Frelinghuysen	Mooney (WV)
Gaetz	Mullin
Gallagher	Mullins
Garrett	Murphy
Gianforte	Nadler
Gibbs	Nolan
Gohmert	Norcross
Goodlatte	Norman
	Nunes
	Olson
	Palazzo
	Palmer
	Paulsen
	Pearce
	Perry
	Peterson
	Pittenger
	Poe (TX)
	Poliquin
	Posey
	Ratcliffe
	Reed
	Reichert
	Renacci

NOT VOTING—11

Harper	Perlmutter
Issa	Speier
Kustoff (TN)	Walz
Moulton	

Abraham	Donovan	King (IA)
Aderholt	Duffy	King (NY)
Allen	Duncan (SC)	Kinzinger
Amodei	Duncan (TN)	Knight
Arrington	Dunn	Labrador
Babin	Emmer	LaHood
Bacon	Estes (KS)	LaMalfa
Banks (IN)	Faso	Lamborn
Barletta	Ferguson	Lance
Barr	Fleischmann	Latta
Barton	Flores	Lesko
Bergman	Fortenberry	Lewis (MN)
Biggs	Fox	LoBiondo
Bilirakis	Frelinghuysen	Long
Bishop (GA)	Gaetz	Loudermilk
Bishop (MI)	Gallagher	Love
Bishop (UT)	Garamendi	Lucas
Blackburn	Garrett	Luetkemeyer
Blum	Gianforte	MacArthur
Bost	Gibbs	Marchant
Brady (TX)	Gohmert	Marino
Brat	Goodlatte	Marshall
Brooks (AL)	Gosar	Mast
Brooks (IN)	Gottheimer	McCarthy
Buchanan	Gowdy	McCaul
Buck	Granger	McClintock
Bucshon	Graves (GA)	McHenry
Budd	Graves (LA)	McKinley
Burgess	Graves (MO)	McMorris
Byrne	Griffith	Rodgers
Calvert	Grothman	McSally
Carter (GA)	Guthrie	Meadows
Carter (TX)	Handel	Messer
Chabot	Harris	Mitchell
Cloud	Hartzler	Moolenaar
Coffman	Hensarling	Mooney (WV)
Cole	Herrera Beutler	Mullin
Collins (GA)	Hice, Jody B.	Newhouse
Collins (NY)	Higgins (LA)	Noem
Comer	Hill	Norcross
Comstock	Holding	Norman
Conaway	Hollingsworth	Nunes
Cook	Hudson	Olson
Costa	Huizenga	Palazzo
Costello (PA)	Hultgren	Palmer
Cramer	Hunter	Paulsen
Crawford	Hurd	Pearce
Cuellar	Jenkins (KS)	Perry
Culberson	Jenkins (WV)	Peterson
Curbelo (FL)	Johnson (LA)	Pittenger
Curtis	Johnson (OH)	Poe (TX)
Davidson	Johnson, Sam	Poliquin
Davis, Rodney	Jordan	Posey
Denham	Joyce (OH)	Ratcliffe
DeSantis	Katko	Reed
DesJarlais	Kelly (MS)	Reichert
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (PA)	Renacci