

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, Washington, DC, September 24, 2018.
Hon. ROB BISHOP, Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter concerning H.R. 6599, a bill to modify the application of temporary limited appointment regulations to the National Park Service, and for other purposes. As a result of your having consulted with me concerning the bill, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform will not seek a sequential referral and agrees to forego formal action on the bill.

The Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing a request for a sequential referral of H.R. 6599 at this time we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. I appreciate your agreement to support appointment of members of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform as conferees in any House-Senate conference on this or related legislation. In addition, I request the Committee be consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so we may address any remaining issues within our jurisdiction.

Finally, I would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the bill report filed by the Committee on Natural Resources, as well as in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Sincerely,

TREY GOWDY.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is correct; this decision created a lot of confusion and frustration. Staff needs at national parks fluctuate throughout the year. They are highly seasonally dependent, and many career personnel work at different parks through the year, a lifestyle that is supported by the ability to return to a position every year without having to recompete for it. Without that certainty, they lose job security, and it becomes extremely difficult to ensure adequate experienced staff throughout the National Park system.

I agree with my colleague. I want to thank Representatives KNIGHT and PANNETTA for coming up with this bipartisan solution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask for adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6599, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENDING AUTHORIZATION FOR CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 5585) to extend the authorization for the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5585

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

SECTION 1. CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE ADVISORY COMMISSION.

Effective September 26, 2018, section 8(a) of Public Law 87-126 (16 U.S.C. 459b-7(a)) is amended in the second sentence by striking “2018” and inserting “2028”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

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GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which 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 California?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5585 extends authorization of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission until 2028. The commission provides valuable feedback to the Cape Cod National Seashore, which helps to promote sound park management, improve public access, and ensure that the National Park Service is a good neighbor to the surrounding communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for adoption of the measure and am prepared to close when my colleague is finished. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING), my colleague and champion of the Cape Cod National Seashore.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 5585, to reauthorize the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission for another decade.

One of President John F. Kennedy’s first acts was to sign into law the bill that created the Cape Cod National Seashore, a bill which he himself had previously offered when he was a Senator from Massachusetts.

This beautiful expanse of sand dunes, marshlands, highland woods, lakes, rivers, streams, and pristine coastal estuaries stretches from Chatham in the south to Provincetown in the north, and includes the six towns that form the Outer Cape and spans over 43,000 acres.

Today, more than 4 million visitors from around the world come to my district every year to experience the nat-

ural beauty and recreational opportunities that the seashore offers. In this way, the seashore is crucial for the many local businesses that depend on the cape’s tourism industry for their livelihoods.

Yet, even while hosting the millions of visitors each summer, the seashore continues to protect dozens of threatened endangered species, invests in important local science and education, expands cultural arts, and hosts numerous environmental endeavors. One of these projects, the Herring River Restoration Project, will be the largest salt marsh restoration project in New England history.

It is important to note that, for many communities on the cape, the parklands make up more than 75 percent of their land area. That is why this regional board—the first of its kind in the National Park System—is so important. It links Federal partners in the National Park Service with their State and local partners to inform the public about park matters; to problem-solve on numerous environmental, economic, and public infrastructure issues; and to promote open lines of communication with the National Park Service.

Think about it. Six small communities and a large Federal agency drawing several million people into their towns each year, in solutions rather than conflict.

Time and time again, this commission has proven itself to be an important forum for the communities that make up the Outer Cape to have productive discussions with their leadership on the Cape Cod National Seashore about issues that affect not only the seashore but the broader Outer Cape region as well.

For 60 years, the relationship that the commission has provided between the National Seashore and its host communities represents the best of what a partnership with local entities and Federal officials can and should be.

The track record of success that the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission has shown since its inception clearly demonstrates the need for it to continue its exemplary work for the challenges of the next decade.

I would like to thank the chairman of the committee and the ranking member, my two colleagues from California, for their help in moving this bill forward. I urge my colleagues, all my colleagues, to join me in support of this legislation.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask for adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5585.

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.

FORT ONTARIO STUDY ACT

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 46) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in the State of New York, with a Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fort Ontario Study Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) STUDY AREA.—The term "study area" means Fort Ontario in Oswego, New York.

SEC. 3. FORT ONTARIO SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a special resource study of the study area.

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of the study area;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the study area by the Federal Government, State or local government entities, or private and nonprofit organizations;

(4) consult with interested Federal agencies, State or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit organizations, or any other interested individuals; and

(5) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives.

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

Mr. McCLINTOCK (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have the amendment considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

URGING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO RECOGNIZE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF RIB MOUNTAIN

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 418) urging the Secretary of the Interior to recognize the cultural significance of Rib Mountain by adding it to the National Register of Historic Places, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 418

Whereas Paul Bunyan is a larger-than-life folk hero who embodies the frontier spirit, might, the willingness to work hard, and the resolve to overcome all obstacles;

Whereas reliable documentation establishes that the earliest story about Paul Bunyan was told north of Tomahawk, Wisconsin;

Whereas this evidence suggests that Wisconsin's claim that it is the birthplace of Paul Bunyan is superior to claims from other States;

Whereas Paul Bunyan has been the subject of countless literary compositions, musical pieces, commercial works, and theatrical productions;

Whereas local legend states that the "ribs" in Rib Mountain, Wisconsin, denote that the mountain is the burial site of Paul Bunyan;

Whereas Rib Mountain is nearly 4 miles long and peaks at 1,924 feet above sea level and 670 feet above the local terrain, making it the highest natural feature in North Central Wisconsin and one of the highest points in the entire State of Wisconsin;

Whereas Rib Mountain is home to the Granite Peak Ski Area, one of the first ski areas in North America, where thousands of visitors come annually to ski or snowboard;

Whereas Rib Mountain State Park, situated on Rib Mountain, is over 1,500 acres and boasts a well-maintained network of hiking and nature trails with breathtaking views; and

Whereas Rib Mountain State Park attracts visitors from the local community as well as from across the State and the country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) affirms the importance of Rib Mountain to the culture and economy of Wisconsin;

(2) recognizes the legend of Paul Bunyan as the embodiment of the frontier spirit; and

(3) requests that the Secretary of the Interior recognize the legendary burial site of Paul Bunyan by adding Rib Mountain to the National Register of Historic Places.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MCCLINTOCK

Mr. McCLINTOCK. I have an amendment to the text at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 2, line 1, strike "That the House of Representatives—" and all that follows through page 3, line 2, and insert the following: "That the House of Representatives requests that the Secretary of the Interior recognize the legendary burial site of Paul Bunyan by adding Rib Mountain to the National Register of Historic Places."

Mr. McCLINTOCK (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The amendment was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REQUESTING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO RECOGNIZE THE RICH HISTORY OF THE LOGGING INDUSTRY

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 460) requesting the Secretary of the Interior to recognize the rich history of the logging industry and the importance of lumberjack sports by adding the Lumberjack Bowl to the National Register of Historic Places, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 460

Whereas the Lumberjack World Championships began in 1960 as a tribute to the rich history of the logging industry across the United States, and particularly in Wisconsin;

Whereas the Lumberjack World Championships occur annually in Hayward, Wisconsin, the biggest small town in America, which is renowned for its history and beauty;

Whereas the Lumberjack Bowl has hosted the Lumberjack World Championships for decades, thereby drawing economic activity in the Hayward area;

Whereas hundreds of volunteers from Sawyer County work tirelessly to make the competition a world class event for thousands of spectators every July;

Whereas this year's competition will showcase over 100 athletes across 21 unique events that demonstrate the skills, abilities, and grit of the old-time lumberjacks;

Whereas lumberjack sports continue to increase in popularity, with loyal fans and competitors from across the globe;

Whereas many universities across the United States have woodsmen or lumberjack teams that compete at the collegiate level;

Whereas the Lumberjack Bowl was formerly a holding pond for the North Wisconsin Lumber Company;

Whereas the North Wisconsin Lumber Company Office in Hayward, Wisconsin, was added to the National Register of Historic Places on May 7, 1980;

Whereas listing on the National Register of Historic Places drives tourism to communities and further denotes the cultural significance of a structure; and

Whereas the Lumberjack Bowl still hosts all the events for the Lumberjack World Championships, including men's and women's logrolling, chopping, pole climbing, boom running, and sawing: Now, therefore, be it