

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time and would inquire whether my colleague has any remaining speakers on his side.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have one speaker.

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN).

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill. I support it; I urge its adoption.

I have to take this opportunity to address another vital issue that we are addressing this week in Congress, but we are not having any time to debate, practically speaking. All special orders have been shut down, all 1 minutes have been shut down, practically speaking, so I am going to take this moment and address the impeachment issue, which we will be voting on as early as Wednesday.

I rise to highlight the work of the late President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who wrote the book, "Profiles in Courage."

In this book, then-Senator Kennedy highlighted six Senators who each took a stand for what they knew was right, risking their political futures in favor of their convictions. One of these Senators was Kansas Senator Edmund Ross, who courageously cast the deciding vote against his own political party and against the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson despite enormous pressure from his colleagues in Congress.

Senator Ross was a brilliant freshman senator with enormous potential, yet he sacrificed it all with one vote in 1868.

During the process, an onlooker overheard him say that he had no sympathy for President Johnson but wanted to see a fair trial.

Ross' reverence for the Constitution and the institutions of American government superseded the wishes of his own political party.

Today, my friends and colleagues across the aisle would do well to learn from Senator Ross, who put principle and a strong belief in the Constitution over the fads and crazes of the politics of the moment. His reasoning echoes loudly today.

If a President could be forced out of office by insufficient evidence that was generated from partisan disagreement, the Presidency would then be under the control of whatever congressional faction held sway.

The American people clearly decided in 2016 that Donald Trump is our President.

I fear that, throughout this impeachment process, my colleagues across the aisle will choose to cast aside the Constitution and the will of the American people as they carry out this hyperpartisan impeachment.

History will long remember those who stood and courageously defended the Constitution, just as Senator Ross

did on that fateful day as he forged his profile in courage by bucking his own political party.

I wonder if my colleagues understand the legacy they are forging. My question for them simply is this: Who of you will choose to be a profile in courage?

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

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I just once more want to remind this House how important this measure is, this bill that my colleague, Mr. CURTIS, has put forth, and I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 722.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. WESTERMAN. 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.

COLUMBIA RIVER IN-LIEU AND TREATY FISHING ACCESS SITES IMPROVEMENT ACT

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 50) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 50

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act".

SEC. 2. SANITATION AND SAFETY CONDITIONS AT CERTAIN BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FACILITIES.

(a) ASSESSMENT OF CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, in consultation with the affected Columbia River Treaty tribes, may assess current sanitation and safety conditions on lands held by the United States for the benefit of the affected Columbia River Treaty tribes, including all permanent Federal structures and improvements on those lands, that were set aside to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds—

(1) in accordance with the Act of March 2, 1945 (59 Stat. 10, chapter 19) (commonly known as the "River and Harbor Act of 1945"); or

(2) in accordance with title IV of Public Law 100–581 (102 Stat. 2944).

(b) EXCLUSIVE AUTHORIZATION; CONTRACTS.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs—

(1) subject to paragraph (2)(B), shall be the only Federal agency authorized to carry out the activities described in this section; and

(2) may delegate the authority to carry out activities described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (d)—

(A) through one or more contracts entered into with an Indian Tribe or Tribal organization under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.); or

(B) to include other Federal agencies that have relevant expertise.

(c) DEFINITION OF AFFECTED COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY TRIBES.—In this section, the term "affected Columbia River Treaty tribes" means the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior \$11,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2020 through 2025, to remain available until expended—

(1) for improvements to existing structures and infrastructure to improve sanitation and safety conditions assessed under subsection (a); and

(2) to improve access to electricity, sewer, and water infrastructure, where feasible, to reflect needs for sanitary and safe use of facilities referred to in subsection (a).

SEC. 3. STUDY OF ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES.

The Comptroller General of the United States, in consultation with the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, shall—

(1) conduct a study to evaluate whether the sanitation and safety conditions on lands held by the United States for the benefit of the affected Columbia River Treaty tribes (as defined in section 2(c)) have improved as a result of the activities authorized in section 2; and

(2) prepare and submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report containing the results of that study.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

□ 1730

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HAALAND. 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 material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 50 authorizes the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the BIA, to assess sanitation and safety conditions on lands that were set aside to provide

Columbia River Treaty Tribes access to their traditional fishing grounds. The bill also authorizes the BIA to enter into contracts with Tribes or Tribal organizations to improve the conditions at those sites.

The Columbia River Treaty Tribes, through a series of treaties in 1855, established their continued access to traditional fishing grounds and to certain fishing facilities on the Columbia River. However, starting in the 1930s, construction of the dams of the Columbia River power system resulted in the flooding and destruction of Tribal villages, homes, and traditional fishing sites, severely impacting the ability of the Tribes to exercise their treaty rights.

The Tribes and their citizens have never been fully compensated for these losses.

Starting in 1939, the Federal Government acquired and developed small parcels of land to serve as in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites, providing members of the Columbia River Treaty Tribes access and a way to exercise their rights to fish in the Columbia River and to reside at their traditional fishing places and stations.

Congress also enacted the Columbia River Treaty Fishing Access Sites project in 1988, which authorized improvements for certain fishing facilities and directed the Army Corps of Engineers to acquire new lands to provide unencumbered river access for Tribal members.

Today, there are 31 Tribal fishing sites located along the Columbia River, 27 of which are managed by the BIA. The sites were intended to be used primarily for in-season fishing and some temporary camping. However, out of both a need for housing and a desire to be closer to their own traditional fishing areas, many Tribal members now use these areas as permanent residences.

These sites were not designed for and cannot sustainably accommodate this use. In fact, many people at these sites are living in extremely distressed, unsafe, and unsanitary conditions as a direct result of decades of unmet obligations by the BIA.

S. 50 will allow much-needed improvements to the conditions at these sites.

I thank Senator MERKLEY for his work on moving this bill through the Senate. I also thank our colleague from Oregon, Representative BLUMENAUER, for being the champion in the House on this issue and for tirelessly advocating for the Columbia River Treaty Tribes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge quick adoption of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill will help ensure that certain Columbia River Tribes have meaningful access to usual and accustomed fishing areas and related fishing facilities as established by treaty.

Due to the construction of dams in the 1930s and 1950s along the Columbia River, the lands of these Tribes were flooded. Congress authorized the Federal Government to acquire and replace lost Tribal fishing areas along the river, including the construction of improvements. However, in recent years, there have been continued reports that the conditions at these fishing sites have deteriorated significantly.

S. 50 directs the Department of the Interior to assess current sanitation and safety conditions on lands that were set aside to provide affected Columbia River Treaty Tribes access to traditional fishing grounds. The Bureau of Indian Affairs would also be authorized to execute improvements at the sites in coordination with the four Tribes that the sites serve.

While this legislation is intended to address safety and basic maintenance needs, it is not the intent of Congress for these fishing sites to become permanent residences but to continue their existing purpose as traditional fishing access sites.

With this caveat, we see no issues with this bill that was favorably reported by unanimous consent by the Committee on Natural Resources last Congress.

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

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 50.

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.

EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE HISTORIC LANDS REACQUISITION ACT

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 453) to take certain Federal lands in Tennessee into trust for the benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 453

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Act”.

SEC. 2. LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST FOR THE EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS.

(a) LANDS INTO TRUST.—Subject to such rights of record as may be vested in third parties to rights-of-way or other easements or rights-of-record for roads, utilities, or other purposes, the following Federal lands

managed by the Tennessee Valley Authority and located on or above the 820-foot (MSL) contour elevation in Monroe County, Tennessee, on the shores of Tellico Reservoir, are declared to be held in trust by the United States for the use and benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians:

(1) SEQUOYAH MUSEUM PROPERTY.—Approximately 46.0 acres of land generally depicted as “Sequoyah Museum”, “Parcel 1”, and “Parcel 2” on the map titled “Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Map 1” and dated April 30, 2015.

(2) SUPPORT PROPERTY.—Approximately 11.9 acres of land generally depicted as “Support Parcel” on the map titled “Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Map 2” and dated April 30, 2015.

(3) CHOTA MEMORIAL PROPERTY AND TANASI MEMORIAL PROPERTY.—Approximately 18.2 acres of land generally depicted as “Chota Memorial 1” and “Tanasi Memorial” on the map titled “Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Map 3” and dated April 30, 2015, and including the Chota Memorial and all land within a circle with a radius of 86 feet measured from the center of the Chota Memorial without regard to the elevation of the land within the circle.

(b) PROPERTY ON LANDS.—In addition to the land taken into trust by subsection (a), the improvements on and appurtenances thereto, including memorials, are and shall remain the property of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

(c) REVISED MAPS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of a land transaction made pursuant to this section, the Tennessee Valley Authority, after consultation with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Secretary of the Interior, shall submit revised maps that depict the land taken into trust under this section, including any corrections made to the maps described in this section to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate.

(d) CONTOUR ELEVATION CLARIFICATION.—The contour elevations referred to in this Act are based on MSL Datum as established by the NGS Southeastern Supplementary Adjustment of 1936 (NGVD29).

(e) CONDITIONS.—The lands taken into trust under this section shall be subject to the conditions described in section 5.

SEC. 3. PERMANENT EASEMENTS TAKEN INTO TRUST FOR THE EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS.

(a) PERMANENT EASEMENTS.—The following permanent easements for land below the 820-foot (MSL) contour elevation for the following Federal lands in Monroe County, Tennessee, on the shores of Tellico Reservoir, are declared to be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians:

(1) CHOTA PENINSULA.—Approximately 8.5 acres of land generally depicted as “Chota Memorial 2” on the map titled “Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Map 3” and dated April 30, 2015.

(2) CHOTA-TANASI TRAIL.—Approximately 11.4 acres of land generally depicted as “Chota-Tanasi Trail” on the map titled “Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Map 3” and dated April 30, 2015.

(b) REVISED MAPS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of a land transaction made pursuant to this section, the Tennessee Valley Authority, after consultation with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Secretary of the Interior, shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate revised maps that depict the lands subject to easements