

he would bring to a critical U.S. embassy. Therefore, I opposed his nomination.

EMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I rise today regarding the Emery County Public Land Management Act, that was included in S. 47, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act. This became Public Law 116–9 on March 12th, 2019.

Throughout 2018 and early 2019, Senator Hatch, Congressman CURTIS, and I engaged with the Emery County Commissioners and Emery County Public Lands Council on this important piece of legislation. After Senator Hatch's retirement, I was honored to help carry the ball across the finish line.

This law is the result of over 25 years of deliberation, and I find it important to highlight some areas of congressional intent to maintain the integrity of the process. While congressional intent should be evident in the legislative text and corresponding map, the historical context of how we arrived at some of these decisions may be of benefit to the Department of the Interior, future members of the Utah delegation, and those in Utah. The residents of Emery County, the Utah delegation, and I look forward to the implementation of this new law.

Fundamental to this process was the effort to avoid any action that would end a current ongoing use. For example, it was important to not close a road, trail, airstrip, or prohibit other existing use in the legislative text or corresponding map with a wilderness designation. Further, to avoid applying more restrictive designations, such as wilderness, to areas it would limit ongoing activity, such as grazing or recreation. Designation boundaries were drawn along geographic and physical features or just outside cherry-stemmed roads to ensure management made sense for the area.

Any designation boundary that does not follow this approach, particularly any designation that puts at risk an existing use due to a poorly drawn boundary, was a clerical error and should be resolved under the authority clearly provided in Sec. 1221. Given the scale of this bill and legislative map, this authority is a vital tool to resolve such errors.

I would also highlight the clear intent within Sec. 1232, section (e), which clearly states that non-wilderness activities or uses that can be seen or heard from areas within wilderness are to be left uninterrupted by this legislation. The clear intention of the bill was to avoid any type of a buffer zone management plan.

On the topic of roads, stakeholders worked closely with BLM to ensure all roads in the 2008 Resource Management Plan were "cherry-stemmed," meaning they were not included in a wilderness designation. Our intent was to main-

tain these roads and for those designated as "open" to stay open. These cherry-stems are of various sizes and were intended to ensure an adequate corridor exists to facilitate necessary maintenance. In the Recreation Area, Sec. 1222 includes language to ensure the necessary maintenance to existing routes may continue and allow rerouting of roads or trails to protect the resources of the Recreation Area.

The driving force for this compromise bill was the desire for county-wide land use certainty and thus preventing the designation of a national monument under the authority granted to the President under the Antiquities Act. As so many know, in my home State of Utah national monument designations under the Antiquities Act have been the source of extreme controversy and deep division in our communities. In my own view, land management is most effective when it is driven by local voices and well-reasoned planning. Sweeping designations via Presidential proclamation are often politically motivated, lead to poor management of the lands they intend to protect, and erode trust between the Federal Government and local residents. With the passage of the Emery County legislation, the need for a national monument is obsolete because a clear plan has been laid out for the long-term management of the San Rafael Swell. To be clear, this is a view that was shared by the many parties, including locally elected officials, conservationists, recreationists, and others that were intimately involved in the forging of this compromise legislation. Any advocacy of a future national monument designation under the Antiquities Act or other large-scale land use designation in Emery County would be a violation of the good-faith agreement that was shared among those that negotiated during this bill's process.

I believe this bill is a victory for all stakeholders, and I look forward to watching this quarter-century journey for Emery County finally come to fruition.

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I call attention to National POW/MIA Recognition Day through Senate statements, such as this, each year to try to help keep national focus on the return of American servicemembers and help their families to know that our country stands with them as we continue to find the answers they more than deserve.

As we observe this National POW/MIA Day on September 20, 2019, a special tribute must be paid to the families and friends of missing servicemembers. Too often, their quiet, ceaseless, and enormous service to our Nation is overlooked. Many have carried on through years and even decades of sorrow and uncertainty. Their ques-

tions must be replaced with answers. Their loss must be softened, if possible, by resolution.

Those working hard through challenging conditions to get needed answers and bring all American servicemembers home also deserve appreciation and steady encouragement. Thank you to those who work for and assist the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and related efforts. So far this month, the agency has reported accounting for more than 20 missing servicemembers, many of whom were lost in the attack on Pearl Harbor and the Korean war. Piecing together the circumstances, whereabouts and lives of those lost cannot be easy, but bringing them home is critical to honoring their service. To help with this effort, I have continually fought for the Bring Our Heroes Home Act that is meant to address obstacles preventing families and caseworkers from accessing the records needed for recovery efforts by putting one entity in charge of prioritizing and facilitating the declassification of records related to missing servicemembers.

Thank you to the members of the POW*MIA Awareness Rally Corp. of Pocatello, ID, and other similar groups that hold rallies and other events to keep a spotlight on the immense service of our Nation's veterans and the need for an ongoing focus on bringing them all home. Bringing all of the 82,000 Americans the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency reports remain missing home will certainly not fill the losses felt in far too many American families, but those who have served our Nation deserve no less than to rest at home, and we cannot rest until they do.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CONGDON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I join with my colleague Senator Whitehouse, the city of Providence, and the State of Rhode Island in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Congdon Street Baptist Church, Rhode Island's oldest Black congregation. For generations, it has been a spiritual home for the community and an unwavering beacon for religious and civil liberties in Rhode Island.

The church's founding members left the First Baptist Church, where they were forced to attend segregated services, and established their own house of worship in 1819. Initially named the African Union Meeting House, the church aimed to provide a place of worship and schooling for Black Americans. This mission positioned the congregation as a focal point of the African-American community and paved the way for its continuing advocacy for meaningful social change.

As one of the earliest African-American churches in the State and the first schoolhouse for African-American children in Providence, the African Union

Meeting House opened its doors to a variety of different denominations. Beyond these religious and educational roles, the church offered a meeting place for African Americans to discuss civil rights and other vital issues and hosted literary clubs, youth groups, and numerous other social organizations.

Unfortunately, the original church structure, which was renamed the Meeting Street Baptist Church in 1840, was torn down in the 1860s without the congregation's approval amid tensions with its White neighbors. However, the congregation persevered, and a new structure was built on a nearby plot of land in 1875.

The new church was renamed the Congdon Street Baptist Church and to this day continues to be a pillar of support and advocacy for Rhode Island's African-American community. Its congregants supported Black Brown University students during their 1968 walkout protesting the university's lack of recruitment of and support for students of color. In a testament to Congdon Street Baptist Church's importance to Black Rhode Islanders, the students chose to march from the university to the church and remained there until their demands for change were met. During the mid-20th century, congregants also pressured the State to investigate and end discrimination in employment and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. More recently, the church has, among its numerous activities, increased its outreach to college students, embarked on mission trips to help disadvantaged communities around the world, and tutored local children in reading, math, and writing.

Today, after 200 years of worship and public service, Congdon Street Baptist Church continues to uplift our State while adhering to its vision of being a "radically authentic community." I join community members in Providence and Rhode Islanders across the State in congratulating Pastor Justin R. Lester and the entire Congdon Street Baptist Church congregation on this significant milestone.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate a milestone for Rhode Island's oldest Black church. In August, the Congdon Street Baptist Church on the East Side of Providence celebrated its bicentennial. From its inception at the nearby African Union meetinghouse and schoolhouse in 1819, Congdon Street Baptist Church has been a centerpiece of spiritual and community life for generations of African Americans in Providence.

The Congdon Street Baptist Church has weathered racial injustices to flourish as a place for worship and education. Its founding members left the First Baptist Church in America, where they were made to worship in a segregated space. They formed their own congregation in Providence so that people of color could worship in dignity and secure a fitting education for their children.

Fulfilling that mission did not come without adversity. The original church was demolished in the 1860s at the behest of White neighbors. Unbowed, the congregation rebuilt. The new church, completed in 1875, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In the 1960s, the church served as a sanctuary for Rhode Islanders involved in the civil rights movement. Today, education and empowerment remain hallmarks of the church community.

Rhode Island was founded on the principles of religious freedom and tolerance. I am proud to have Congdon Street Baptist Church as a cornerstone of that tradition, and I wish the congregation centuries of peaceful worship to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING WALTER TURNBOW

• **Mr. BOOZMAN.** Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Walter Turnbow, who passed away on September 9 at the age of 95. Walter was a longtime leader in northwest Arkansas and truly represented what it meant to put the needs of others above one's own.

Walter Turnbow served on the Springdale Industrial Commission, Springdale Public Facilities board, Beaver Water District board, and the Springdale Water and Sewer Commission. In addition to these positions, he also served on the Springdale School Board, Northwest Arkansas Community Care Foundation, and the Arkansas State Board of Education.

He dedicated his life to public service and the education system in Springdale. While serving on the water and sewer commission, he oversaw the construction of what was, at that time, the State's largest water tank. This proved to be a forward-thinking decision since the city's continued growth would require greater infrastructure investment. Because of Walter's leadership, Springdale was prepared for the changes and completed the project without having to borrow money.

Walter saw education as the gateway to a better future for his community. In 2006, the Springdale School District honored his contributions to the community and the school board by naming an elementary school after him. He often visited the school to meet with students and read to them. In addition to the elementary school, other sites and meeting spaces in the Springdale community have also been named in his honor, a testament to his very real impact and incredible legacy.

As one of Springdale's most well-known public servants, he touched the lives of everyone in the community. From overseeing economic development to ensuring a quality education for everyone, Walter Turnbow left a mark on the community of Springdale that no one will soon forget. I extend my condolences to his loved ones and

the entire Springdale community and pray that future leaders will follow his remarkable example.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:10 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate

H.R. 806. An act to require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1618. An act to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2134. An act to reauthorize the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind.

H.R. 2211. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety rule for free-standing clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over related death or injury, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2486. An act to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 163. An act to prevent catastrophic failure or shutdown of remote diesel power engines due to emission control devices, and for other purposes.

S. 1689. An act to permit States to transfer certain funds from the clean water revolving fund of a State to the drinking water revolving fund of the State in certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 4003(e) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114-255), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee to fill the existing vacancy thereon: Dr. Jim Jirjis of Nashville, Tennessee.

The message also announced that the House insists upon its amendment to the bill (S. 1790) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and that the following Members be the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Armed Services, for consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Messrs. LANGEVIN, LARSEN of Washington, COOPER, COURNEY, GARAMENDI, Ms. SPEIER, Messrs. NORCROSS, GALLEGOS, MOULTON, CARBAJAL, BROWN of Maryland,