

1957 murder of Willie Joe Sanford, whose body was fished out of a creek in Hawkinsville, Georgia; the 1946 killing of a black couple, including a pregnant woman, who was pulled out of a car in Monroe, Georgia, and dragged down a wagon trail before being shot in front of 200 people.

Solving cases like these is part of the unfinished work of America.

Madam Speaker, 53 years ago, Medgar Evers was murdered in Jackson, Mississippi; justice would not be done in his case for more than twenty years.

But that day was foretold because the evening before the death of Medgar Evers, on June 11, 1963, President John F. Kennedy addressed the nation from the Oval Office on the state of race relations and civil rights in America.

In his historic speech to the nation President Kennedy said:

“We are confronted primarily with a moral issue. It is as old as the scriptures and is as clear as the American Constitution.

“One hundred years of delay have passed since President Lincoln freed the slaves, yet their heirs, their grandsons, are not fully free. They are not yet freed from the bonds of injustice. They are not yet freed from social and economic oppression. And this Nation, for all its hopes and all its boasts, will not be fully free until all its citizens are free.”

H.R. 35 will help ensure that justice is received by those for whom justice has been delayed.

In doing so, this legislation will help this Nation fulfill its hopes and justify its boast that in America all persons live in freedom.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this legislation and urge all Members to join me in voting for its passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 35, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. NADLER. Madam 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.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RESIDENTS RELIEF ACT

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 560) to amend section 6 of the Joint Resolution entitled “A Joint Resolution to approve the Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes”, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 560

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 “Northern Mariana Islands Residents Relief Act”.

SEC. 2. LONG-TERM LEGAL RESIDENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

Section 6(e)(6)(B) of the Joint Resolution entitled “A Joint Resolution to approve the Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes”, approved March 24, 1976 (48 U.S.C. 1806), is amended—

(1) in clause (iii), by inserting “except in the case of an alien who meets the requirements of subclause (VI) of clause (v),” before “resided continuously and lawfully”; and

(2) in clause (v)—

(A) in subclause (IV), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subclause (V), by striking the period at the end and inserting “;”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(VI) was admitted to the Commonwealth as a Commonwealth Only Transitional Worker during fiscal year 2015, and during every subsequent fiscal year beginning before the date of the enactment of the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-218); or

“(VII) resided in the Northern Mariana Islands as an investor under Commonwealth immigration law, and is presently a resident classified as a CNMI-only nonimmigrant under section 101(a)(15)(E)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(E)(ii)).”

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members 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 gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 560, which was introduced by my colleague, the Delegate from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAM), will address an issue involving certain long-term residents in his district that was not addressed when we extended the U.S. immigration laws to the CNMI in 2009.

The Natural Resources Committee held a markup of the bill on September 18, 2019, and ordered the bill reported favorably to the House by voice.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman

from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAM) to explain his legislation.

Mr. SABLAM. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

I have been working for the last dozen years to make the transition to Federal immigration policy in the Marianas as least difficult as possible.

In 2018, with Chairman ROB BISHOP’s essential help, we protected the rights of U.S. workers against the unfair competition from foreign workers in the Marianas’ economy with Public Law 115-218.

Last year, President Trump signed Public Law 116-24 and helped us convert about 1,000 people living under administrative parole into residents with a permanent legal status in the Marianas only, not eligible for any public charge at all.

Just last week, the administration issued the necessary guidance to allow those 1,000 people to begin the application process, and I am very grateful to the President and to everyone at USCIS and the Department of Homeland Security for their support.

Today’s bill, H.R. 560, continues this work of smoothing over the rough places in the application of national immigration law to my isolated district.

H.R. 560 provides the same permanent status—in the Marianas only—that President Trump approved for parolees in June. This time, we want to give stability to a small group of investors who were in the Marianas even before Federal immigration. They have been holding on with short-term visas ever since, never certain from year to year about their business investments.

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We want to give the same certainty to a group of long-term workers—some of whom have been in the Marianas for 40 years—and to the businesses that employ them.

The Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on H.R. 560 last February. Our Republican Governor, the Honorable Ralph Torres, testified in favor of the bill. The Trump administration did not take a position, but their witness said: “Without a sustained labor force, projected investment in the CNMI likely will wither.”

Well, we can do something to avoid that consequence by passing H.R. 560. Again, this bill is Marianas only. It has bipartisan support. Chairman GRIJALVA and Ranking Member BISHOP are both cosponsors, for which I am grateful.

Madam Speaker, I ask all Members now to vote in favor.

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

Madam Speaker, as was just described, H.R. 560 would extend Northern Mariana Islands-only resident status for two groups of foreign nationals: individuals who came to Northern Mariana Islands as transitional workers in 2015, and individuals who have resided

in the Northern Mariana Islands with an investor status.

These individuals were excluded from a June 2019 law that allowed other classes of current Northern Mariana Islands workers to remain in the territory. If signed into law, H.R. 560 would allow approximately 3,000 additional foreign nationals to remain there long term.

Now, bear in mind that the entire population of the Northern Mariana Islands is about 55,000, so just this addition of foreign nationals comprises about 5 percent of the entire population of the islands.

While I appreciate the majority did take this bill through regular order, I am still disappointed that it has not been willing to work with the Department of Homeland Security or even wait for it to consider the impact of the bill before moving it to the floor.

As the Department of Homeland Security is charged with managing programs that allow foreign nationals to work in the Northern Mariana Islands and elsewhere, I believe it is critical to have their views on something they will be charged with executing.

Further, it is my continued hope that this body remains committed to promoting an American workforce rather than that of a foreign one.

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 560, 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.

CHESAPEAKE BAY GATEWAYS AND WATERTRAILS NETWORK REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2427) to amend the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2427

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 “Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Reauthorization Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF CHESAPEAKE BAY GATEWAYS AND WATERTRAILS NETWORK.

Section 502(c) of the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public

Law 105-312) is amended by striking “2019” and inserting “2025”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam 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 gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 2427, introduced by Representative SARBANES, would reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network.

The Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network is a State, local, and Federal partnership that helps the National Park Service and its partners connect people to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

This system of more than 170 sites tells the story of the connection between people and nature throughout the region and has been critical for expanding public access to the Chesapeake Bay, supporting enhanced interpretation, education, youth employment, and recreation associated with the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

This program is a great example of collaboration and partnership, and I want to thank my colleague from Maryland for his hard work to ensure that it succeeds.

The Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network deserves our support, and so I urge my colleagues to support this bill and authorize this program for an additional 5 years.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

H.R. 2427 reauthorizes appropriations at current levels for the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 taking us through the year 2025.

Much of the early history of our country was written on the Chesapeake Bay. Eight recognized American Indian Tribes maintain ancestral homes there. It is the site of Jamestown and the early English settlements. It was a center for the great Yankee trading ships, the birthplace of George Washington, the site of Fort McHenry, and the main line of the Underground Railroad which took so many to their freedom.

The Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network, originally authorized through the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998, set up a network of Chesapeake Bay-related sites such as

parks, wildlife refuges, and trails. The program includes 160 sites in six States and the District of Columbia. The National Park Service provides matching grants for projects that enhance public education about and access to the Chesapeake Bay.

At a time when so many are losing touch with our country’s proud heritage—or even denigrating that heritage—it is all the more important to keep alive the memory of those great days that set the American Nation on its path to prosperity and freedom.

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for his support of the bill.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2427, 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.

AUTHORIZING EVERY WORD WE UTTER MONUMENT TO ESTABLISH A COMMEMORATIVE WORK

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 473) to authorize the Every Word We Utter Monument to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 473

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Every Word We Utter Monument may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate the women’s suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which gave women the right to vote.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemorative work under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

(c) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EVERY WORD WE UTTER MONUMENT.—The Every Word We Utter Monument shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.