

I rise in support of H.R. 5852, the Weir Farm National Historical Park Redesignation Act, introduced by Representative JIM HIMES.

In 1882, American artist Julian Alden Weir traded a still life painting he had acquired in Europe for a 153-acre farm in Branchville, Connecticut. Inspired by the farm's rural setting, Weir spent the next 36 years developing a new approach to landscape painting and gained a reputation as a leader of the American Impressionists.

In 1990, Congress established the Weir Farm National Historic Site to preserve the structures and rural landscape that inspired Weir's transition into American Impressionism. Today, the 68-acre site includes more than a dozen structures, as well as historic gardens, orchards, fields, and hundreds of historic painting sites. The National Historic Site also maintains a museum collection containing more than 200,000 archives and objects, including original paintings, sculptures, and prints.

H.R. 5852 would redesignate the Weir Farm National Historic Site as the Weir Farm National Historical Park to conform with the National Park Service's standard pattern of nomenclature and to help promote increased visitation to the area.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

H.R. 5852 would redesignate Weir Farm National Historic Site in Connecticut as a National Historical Park.

This 68-acre historic site is the only National Park System unit dedicated to American painting and was established as a unit of the system in 1990. It preserves the home, studio, and grounds of American artist Julian Alden Weir.

Weir spent nearly four decades painting, and his artist friends Childe Hassam, John Twachtman, Emil Carlsen, John Singer Sargent, and Albert Pinkham Ryder often joined him there. Together, they created masterpieces of light and color on canvas that came to define American Impressionism.

Following his death, Weir's daughter, Dorothy Weir Young, an artist in her own right, and her sculptor husband carried on the artistic legacy at the farm. They were followed by New England painters Sperry and Doris Andrews.

Madam Speaker, redesignation of Weir Farm as a national historic park does not affect the laws or policies that govern the area. I urge adoption of this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GALLEGOS. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES).

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, Mr. GALLEGOS, for yielding.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 5852.

Weir Farm is a magnificent jewel that resides in the middle of my district.

I should say at the outset, my district is actually smaller than a great number of the national park assets in this country, and so much of the agriculture that used to characterize southwestern Connecticut, of course, has given way to urban environments and to suburban environments. As a consequence, this 70 acres of land is truly a jewel inside Connecticut's Fourth District and inside Fairfield County, Connecticut.

The Weir Farm National Historic Site stretches across just 70 acres of land, but in those 70 acres, there are any number of historical buildings, a vast collection of American art, orchards and landscapes, trails, gardens, miles of stone walls, and Weir Pond, as well as over 250 historic painting sites.

Sometimes people don't remember—though I appreciate my colleagues today reminding everyone—that southwestern Connecticut has a long tradition of the production of American art, including Childe Hassam, who resided in my own town of Cos Cob, Connecticut.

But this particular national historical site, soon to become a national historical park, offers an opportunity, in particular, to the children who live in Stamford, Connecticut; Norwalk, Connecticut; and Bridgeport, Connecticut, cities that actually do have some meaningful poverty and in which children don't have a lot of opportunities to come face-to-face with their history, face-to-face with art, and face-to-face with our agricultural heritage, to actually see and touch these things.

It is a really wonderful location in the middle of Fairfield County, Connecticut, and this redesignation will capture the full breadth and the full comprehensive set of offerings that the Weir Farm National Historical Park will continue to offer the people of Connecticut and, quite frankly, the people of the United States.

The park's designation today fails to represent everything that the farm offers, including the remarkable youth programs that I referred to earlier, where organizations like Groundwork Bridgeport have partnered with Weir Farm to provide young people with opportunities that they might not otherwise have.

Before I close, Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Chairwoman HAALAND, Chairman GRIJALVA of the subcommittee, Ranking Member BISHOP, and Representative YOUNG for working on this piece of legislation.

I thank the Friends of Weir Farm, including Elizabeth Castagna and Judy Wander, who have pushed this very hard, and the hardworking men and women at Weir Farm, including Linda Cook, the superintendent.

Finally, I thank my colleague, Senator MURPHY, who will be seeing that this bill moves expeditiously through the United States Senate.

I also thank, again, my friend, Mr. GALLEGOS.

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GALLEGOS. Madam 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 gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5852.

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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1530

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. CASTOR of Florida) at 3 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

JULIUS ROSENWALD AND THE ROSENWALD SCHOOLS ACT OF 2020

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3250) to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the sites associated with the life and legacy of the noted American philanthropist and business executive Julius Rosenwald, with a special focus on the Rosenwald Schools, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 387, nays 5, not voting 37, as follows:

[Roll No. 245]

YEAS—387

Adams	Balderson	Blumenauer
Aderholt	Banks	Blunt Rochester
Aguilar	Barr	Bonamici
Allen	Barragán	Bost
Allred	Bass	Boyle, Brendan
Amodei	Beatty	F.
Armstrong	Bera	Brindisi
Arrington	Bergman	Brooks (AL)
Axne	Beyer	Brooks (IN)
Babin	Bilirakis	Brown (MD)
Bacon	Bishop (GA)	Brownley (CA)
Baird	Bishop (NC)	Buchanan

STAND UP FOR AMERICANS WHO
ARE TRYING TO SURVIVE THE
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thought about every day I would rise to emphasize the number of Americans who have died in the last 24 hours because of COVID-19, some 3,000-plus; 300,000 Americans have already died, a half a million are expected to lose their life by the beginning of the year.

It is crucial that we, without ceasing, pass a COVID-19 package that includes a lifeline for families that are trying to survive: cash payment; unemployment; more money for vaccines; more testing; more money to stop evictions; more money for small businesses, restaurants, and our transportation community.

But more importantly, children are losing parents. And the holiday season is coming, and many are not even thinking about another surge like we had from Thanksgiving.

Madam Speaker, I beg of America to prayerfully commemorate, celebrate, love this holiday season, but it should be a skinny season to save lives.

Save lives.

And we must pass a COVID-19 package, not leave until we get it done.

Americans are dying, and that means that we have to stand up, and stand up for them, and I am here on the floor to stand up for them.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SHERRILL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I would hope that anyone who has ever had the privilege to serve as a Member of Congress leaves this place with a heart full of gratitude. After 32 years as a Member of this body, I certainly feel that way.

It is hard to believe that I have been elected for 16 terms, 32 years. I came here at age 41, not knowing exactly what to expect, and I have learned a great deal in these 32 years.

I send gratitude, first and foremost, to the people of the 16th District of New York for sending me here 16 times. It has been an honor to have your trust and to be your voice here in the House.

Gratitude to thousands of people: the Capitol Police; the Sergeant at Arms; the Congressional Research Service; the Architect of the Capitol; the Office of the Attending Physician, Dr. Brian Monahan; and so many others. It takes