

The building is a tangible reminder of a time in American history where separate but equal remained prevalent in our culture. It is a symbol of community solidarity, pride, and identity, and it remains to this day.

Approximately 4,000 students attended the Blackwell School over the course of more than 50 years. Despite the inherent unfairness of segregation, the Blackwell School became a meeting place and a source of pride for the local Mexican-American community in the region.

Today, all that remains of the once-sprawling campus is a three-room adobe schoolhouse, one of the last such schools remaining in Texas.

Designating the Blackwell School as a national historic site ensures that the story of the Blackwell School is maintained so that future Americans can learn from and understand its rich, complex, and troubling history.

Representative TONY GONZALES should be applauded for his efforts on this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in supporting the bill and sending it to President Biden for his signature, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1800

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2490, the Blackwell School National Historic Site Act. This legislation, championed in the House by my friend, TONY GONZALES of Texas, would establish a new unit of the National Park System to tell the history of this segregated education in Marfa, Texas.

Although there was no State law that mandated separate schools for Hispanic students, Texas school districts practiced de facto segregation through the mid-20th century.

Blackwell School was known originally as the Ward School and later renamed for its longtime principal, Jesse Blackwell, who arrived at the school in 1922. During Blackwell's 25-year tenure, the school grew from one building with 120 students to a multi-building campus with more than 600 students.

The original historic school building and grounds provide an authentic setting to the interpretation of history of segregated schools in Texas.

I commend Mr. GONZALES for his work on this important landmark. He has been a strong champion for this legislation, including writing House companion legislation that previously passed this Chamber with strong bipartisan support.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time on this legislation. I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TONY GONZALES).

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote "yes" on the Blackwell School National Historic Site Act. And I thank my distinguished colleague from Alabama for allowing me this opportunity.

This bill would designate the Blackwell School in my district as one of the first national park sites dedicated to Latino history. This legislation comes at a critical time, as we celebrate the accomplishments of the Latino community during Hispanic Heritage Month.

From 1909 to 1965, the Blackwell School in Marfa, Texas, was the only public school for the city's Mexican-American children. Although there was no State law that mandated separate schools for Hispanic students, it was common practice for them to be taught at different facilities. This meant that the Blackwell School was the only place where children of Mexican descent could be educated and have a shot at the American Dream.

Today, the Blackwell School reminds us of the resiliency the Mexican-American community has displayed throughout our history.

Designating the Blackwell School as a national park site would improve the ability of the Park Service to oversee conservation efforts, promote regional tourism, and share important stories about the Mexican-American community in the U.S.

Please join me in passing this bill to honor the hard work and fighting spirit of the Hispanic community.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, again, I urge the adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BROWN of Ohio). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2490.

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. GAETZ. 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.

NEW PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 820) to establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 820

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 "New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) *HISTORIC SITE.*—The term "Historic Site" means the New Philadelphia National Historic Site established by this Act.

(2) *MAP.*—The term "Map" means the map titled "New Philadelphia National Historic Site Proposed Boundary", numbered 591/176,516, and dated July, 2021.

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

(4) *STATE.*—The term "State" means the State of Illinois.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PHILADELPHIA.

(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—Subject to subsection (c), there is established the New Philadelphia National Historic Site in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System to preserve, protect, and interpret the history and archeological resources of the town established by Frank McWorter, a formerly enslaved man, in 1836.

(b) *BOUNDARY.*—The boundaries of the Historic Site shall be the boundaries generally depicted on the Map.

(c) *SECRETARIAL DETERMINATION.*—The Historic Site shall not be established until the date on which the Secretary determines that the Secretary has acquired a sufficient quantity of land or interests in and within the boundary of the Historic Site to constitute a manageable unit.

(d) *NOTICE.*—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary makes a determination under subsection (c), the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register notice of the establishment of the Historic Site.

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall administer land within the boundary of the Historic Site in accordance with—

(1) *this Act; and*

(2) *the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including—*

(A) *section 100101(a), chapter 1003, and sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753, and 102101 of title 54, United States Code; and*

(B) *chapter 3201 of title 54, United States Code.*

(b) *COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.*—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with the State or other public and nonpublic entities, under which the Secretary may identify, interpret, and provide assistance for the preservation of non-Federal land within the boundaries of the Historic Site and at sites in close proximity to the Historic Site, but located outside the boundaries of the Historic Site, including providing for placement of directional and interpretive signage, exhibits, and technology-based interpretive devices.

(c) *ACQUISITION OF LAND.*—The Secretary may acquire any land (including interests in land), within the Historic Site boundary by donation, transfer, exchange, or purchase from a willing seller using donated or appropriate funds.

(d) *MANAGEMENT PLAN.*—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the State, shall complete a general management plan for the Historic Site in accordance with any other applicable laws.

(e) *NO BUFFER ZONE CREATED.*—Nothing in this Act, the acquisition of the land or an interest in land authorized by this Act, or the management plan for the Park shall be construed to create buffer zones outside of the Park. That activities or uses can be seen, heard, or detected from the acquired land shall not preclude, limit,

control, regulate, or determine the conduct or management of activities or uses outside of the Park.

(f) *EMINENT DOMAIN OR CONDEMNATION.*—In carrying out this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may not use eminent domain or condemnation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within 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 Arizona?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 820, the New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act. New Philadelphia was the first town platted and legally registered by an African American before the Civil War. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, designated as a National Historic Landmark, and included in the National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program.

This bill would further establish the New Philadelphia National Historic Site in Pike County, Illinois.

Honoring the legacy of New Philadelphia and celebrating the history of Black Americans is critically important. The protection and conservation of New Philadelphia ensures that this important history is preserved so that visitors to the site can have the opportunity to learn from and understand an important part of Illinois and American history.

The story of New Philadelphia is our story, and it rightly deserves a place in our National Park System.

As chair of the Natural Resources Committee, I am committed to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout our committee's work, including by advancing the preservation of forgotten or under-told stories.

I thank my colleague, Representative LAHOOD, for introducing this important legislation and championing the bill on behalf of, not only of his constituents, but the overall interest of the American people.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 820, the New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act, sponsored by Congressman DARIN LAHOOD of Illinois, which would establish New Philadel-

phia as a unit of the National Park System.

New Philadelphia Town Site, located near Barry, Illinois, is the first known town in the United States to be established and officially registered by an African American.

The national historic site established by this bill will tell the inspiring story of "Free Frank" McWorter, who founded New Philadelphia in 1836. He was born into slavery in South Carolina in 1777 and spent the first 42 years of his life enslaved. He worked to save enough money to purchase the freedom of his expectant wife, Lucy, and ensuring the freedom of their child. Two years later, he purchased his own freedom.

The family moved to a pioneer homestead in Illinois, where McWorter founded a town called New Philadelphia where free-born and formerly enslaved African Americans lived, alongside European Americans in a region and an era intense with racial strife.

New Philadelphia was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2005 and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2009. New Philadelphia is also listed as part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

I commend Representative LAHOOD for sponsoring this bipartisan and locally supported bill. New Philadelphia will be a valuable addition to the National Park System.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time on my side, and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD).

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Alabama (Mr. CARL) for yielding and for his terrific work on the Natural Resources Committee, and I thank the majority and Chairman GRIJALVA for their support.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bipartisan bill, H.R. 820, the New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act.

Located in West Central Illinois, near the Missouri border, in Barry, Illinois, is New Philadelphia. Founded in 1836 by Frank McWorter, this was the first town founded, platted, and registered by an African American in the United States.

Once an enslaved person himself, Mr. Frank McWorter also known as "Free Frank," bought his freedom. Mr. McWorter went on in his life and in his legacy to establish New Philadelphia, but also to demonstrate the critical role many African Americans played in their own freedom efforts.

Through the sale of land in New Philadelphia, among other business ventures, Free Frank used his earnings to free 15 other family members out of

slavery. Additionally, many of the residents of New Philadelphia, both European Americans and African Americans, later came together to assist freedom-seekers moving north from slave-occupied States and locations.

The 40-acre original townsite is now nationally and historically significant. It is an archaeological site, advancing our understanding of free, rural communities and the abolitionist movement in the antebellum area.

The New Philadelphia site has already been recognized for its historical significance. It is currently on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a National Historic Landmark. The site is also included in the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and the Smithsonian National Museum of American History displays many of the artifacts unearthed from the area near New Philadelphia.

This bipartisan bill would establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System.

Many local and regional organizations have worked tirelessly for many years to preserve and protect this site and they deserve so much credit. One organization in particular, the New Philadelphia Association, has done a tremendous job in improving, maintaining, and endorsing the site for the benefit of New Philadelphia descendants, those living in the surrounding community, and those visiting from afar. I am delighted to be here tonight to assist their efforts and support the continued advocacy of many of my engaged constituents on this issue.

Including New Philadelphia in the National Park System would provide certainty and ensure its continued preservation far into the future. The National Park Service will be able to provide the tools, resources, and expertise necessary to elevate the site to its fullest potential.

It is imperative that sites like New Philadelphia are preserved for years to come, so that future generations can better understand their important history as well as the lessons that history provides us.

In closing, I thank the Natural Resources Committee for supporting this important piece of legislation, and I urge the adoption of the bill.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I urge the adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, 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. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 820, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to establish the New

Philadelphia National Historic Site in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LITTLE MANATEE WILD AND SCENIC RIVER ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4358) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Little Manatee River as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4358

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 “Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act”.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION FOR STUDY OF WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SEGMENTS, LITTLE MANATEE RIVER, FLORIDA.

Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“() LITTLE MANATEE RIVER, FLORIDA.—*The approximately 50-mile segment beginning at the source in southeastern Hillsborough County, Florida, downstream to the point at which the river enters Tampa Bay, including appropriate tributaries, but shall not include—*

“(A) *those portions lying within Manatee County, Florida, and being more particularly described as Parcel ID 247800059, Parcel ID 248200008 and Parcel ID 248100000; and*

“(B) *South Fork.*”.

SEC. 3. STUDY AND REPORT.

Section 5(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“() LITTLE MANATEE RIVER, FLORIDA.—*Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this paragraph, the Secretary of the Interior shall—*

“(A) *complete the study of the Little Manatee River, Florida named in subsection (a)() ; and*

“(B) *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 the results of the study.*”.

SEC. 4. EFFECT ON MANAGEMENT.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not interfere with the current management of the area of the Little Manatee River described in section 5(a)() of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, nor shall the fact that such area is listed for study under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) be used as justification for more restrictive management until Congress acts on the study recommendations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the item under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4358, the Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act, offered by our colleague from Florida, Representative BUCHANAN.

The bill will formally designate an approximately 51-mile segment of the Little Manatee River in Florida as a national scenic river.

Beginning at its source in southeastern Hillsborough County, the Little Manatee River flows downstream into Tampa Bay.

The river is one of the most pristine blackwater rivers in Southwest Florida and is designated as an outstanding Florida water.

□ 1815

Like all other wild and scenic rivers throughout the country, this bill will protect the river for public enjoyment without the fear of intrusive development.

The bill ensures the river remains available for full a range of recreational activities, such as canoeing, kayaking, boating, and fishing.

Designating the Little Manatee River as a Scenic River will ensure that it continues to be enjoyed by future generations of Floridians and visitors of all stripes.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4358, the Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act. This bill, sponsored by my colleague from Florida, Representative VERN BUCHANAN, would authorize a study of the Little Manatee River in Florida to consider its inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

The Little Manatee River, which has been designated an Outstanding Florida Water, transitions from a 10- to 20-foot-wide creek flowing through an ash and oak floodplain forest to a 300-foot-wide tide-influenced river flowing through tidal marsh that empties into Tampa Bay.

The bill contains important provisions protecting private property rights that ensure that study cannot be used as a justification for new restrictive management practices unless Congress acts to officially designate the river as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System at a future date.

This bill is locally supported, and I commend Representative BUCHANAN for his work on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from

Alabama, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4358, bipartisan legislation I introduced last July with my fellow Floridian Rep. DARREN SOTO, regarding the Little Manatee River. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join with us in voting in support of this bill.

The Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act authorizes the National Park Service (NPS) to study whether it's appropriate to add an approximately 51-mile-long segment of the Little Manatee River, from its source in southeastern Hillsborough County to the point at which the river enters Tampa Bay, to its Wild and Scenic River System.

For my part, I strongly support both passage of this bill today and of subsequently adding the Little Manatee River to the NPS' Wild and Scenic River program in the future. Passage of the bill before us today begins that journey and I have been very pleased to work with my colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee toward realizing that goal.

Adding this river to the Wild and Scenic River program in the future will help ensure the Little Manatee will remain available for a full range of recreational activities for Floridians, like canoeing, kayaking, boating and fishing.

In Florida, protecting our precious natural resources has always been a top priority. Florida's Suncoast is blessed with an abundance of natural treasures like Sarasota Bay, Emerson Point Preserve and Myakka River State Park.

I want all of my colleagues to know that adding the Little Manatee River to the Wild and Scenic River program enjoys strong local support as well. Both the Hillsborough County Commission and the Manatee County Commission have approved resolutions supporting this designation.

Of particular note, Hillsborough County Commission Chairman Stacy White has been a leader in the effort to add the Little Manatee River to the Wild and Scenic River program. He has been a champion of this effort from day one and an invaluable partner for me in my efforts at the federal level.

Protecting and enhancing water quality for all of Southwest Florida has always been one of my highest priorities in Congress.

Approving this bill today will move us forward in our efforts to help ensure a vibrant, clean and healthy environment in my home state of Florida. It's both an important element in our quality of life and a vital part of our economic well-being because millions of people visit Florida every year.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the bipartisan leadership of the Natural Resources Committee for working with me to bring H.R. 4358 to the floor today.

Again, I urge all of my colleagues in the House to join with me in voting for this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4358, 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. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.