

principles of leadership, courage, and public service.

I am pleased to support the ongoing work that has brought the Adams Memorial closer to reality, ensuring that our Nation's first leaders are remembered in a fitting and lasting way.

I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH).

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Adams Memorial Commission, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2306, the Adams Memorial-Great American Heroes Act. This legislation would extend until 2032 the existing authorization to build the Adams Memorial in the President's Park, dedicated to the contributions to our Nation by John and Abigail Adams, John Quincy and Louisa Catherine Adams, Charles Francis Adams and Henry Adams and their family.

The exciting part of this is that while efforts have been made in the past, we have finally arrived upon what I think is a suitable location for this memorial. It is shown in this small rectangle here, not very far from the White House itself on the Ellipse. I think that is the key to the success of this effort, and I give great credit to the bill's sponsor, JOHN MOOLENAAR, and my other colleagues on the Adams Commission for making the effort and advocating that the Adams family receive the recognition, and the appropriateness of this memorial speaks to that as well.

Mr. Speaker, during the 118th Congress, I was honored to be appointed to the Adams Memorial Commission by Democratic Leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES. I also recognize and thank the commission chair, Jackie Cushman, who was essential to this whole process and really was a driving force in bringing all of us together, as well as Commissioner Major General Peter Cooke, and Commissioner Richard Houghton for their dedication to this effort. In addition, I thank my fellow Members of Congress on the commission, Congressman MORGAN GRIFFITH of Virginia and also the lead sponsor of this bill, Congressman JOHN MOOLENAAR of Michigan.

As others have also noted, our dear friend and colleague, the late Congressman Gerry Connolly also served on the Adams Commission until his passing earlier this year. Gerry dedicated his life to serving his community and our Nation and stood for what was fair and just, as did our former Presidents John and John Quincy Adams.

Congressman Connolly is deeply missed, and the remaining members of the commission greatly appreciate his work and the work of my Massachusetts delegation colleagues, first Bill Delahunt, who we lost a couple years ago and worked on this commission, and Congressman BILL KEATING, who actually stood in Gerry Connolly's

place to join the commission and carry on Representative Connolly's legacy.

As the gentleman from Colorado noted, the success of this endeavor is greatly aided by the designation of this particular site for the purpose of establishing this memorial.

President John Adams was one of our most influential Founding Fathers, negotiating the Treaty of Paris that secured our independence from Britain. He was also a steadfast public servant who believed staunchly in the rule of law, defending British soldiers after the Boston Massacre, even when it was unpopular, and ensuring the first peaceful transfer of power after his loss in the 1800 Presidential election.

His son, John Quincy Adams, was equally as devoted to public service, and I am honored to hold the same seat in the House of Representatives that he once held after his Presidency, where he made the fight against slavery one of his primary causes. His advocacy for public education and the sciences is a legacy that I am proud to continue.

Mr. Speaker, this is the third attempt at this effort. It is a glaring oversight that on the eve of our 250th anniversary there is still no memorial in our Nation's Capital honoring John Adams, John Quincy Adams, both Presidents, and their family, and their leading role in shaping our country. This recognition is long overdue.

In closing, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this act, and I thank you for the time and courtesy.

□ 1620

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Just down the hall from this Chamber, we get to take our constituents many times on a tour through Statuary Hall and we see the desk location where John Quincy Adams served as President.

Some of our Founding Fathers tolerated slavery. John Quincy Adams knew it for what it was, a stain on our soul, and he worked so hard, dedicating his life to eliminating slavery. I can't help but think of the divine providence that allowed John Quincy Adams for one term to serve in the same Chamber as Abraham Lincoln. I think God smiled upon our Nation when he did that to pass the torch on to Abraham Lincoln and end that scourge for America and for mankind.

Mr. Speaker, by reauthorizing the Adams Memorial Commission, H.R. 2306 would provide the time needed to thoroughly design, locate, and construct a memorial truly worthy of the Adams family's commitment to America.

I, once again, recognize Representative MOOLENAAR for his bipartisan commitment to honoring one of America's

most accomplished founding families ahead of our Nation's 250th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, 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. CRANK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2306, 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.

## RESOLVING THE AKWESASNE MOHAWK LAND CLAIM IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2916) to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Agreement of Settlement and Compromise to Resolve the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim in the State of New York, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2916

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

### SECTION 1. AGREEMENT AND TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED, RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED.

The following are hereby authorized, ratified, and confirmed:

(1) The Agreement of Settlement and Compromise to Resolve the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim in the State of New York (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Settlement Agreement"), entered into by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, the State of New York, the Counties of Franklin and Saint Lawrence, New York, the Towns of Fort Covington and Bombay, New York, and the New York Power Authority.

(2) Any transfer of land, right-of-way, or easement that is the subject of the claims in the Canadian Saint Regis Band of Mohawk Indians v. New York et al. (82-CV-783); the Canadian Saint Regis Band of Mohawk Indians v. New York et al. (82-CV-1114); and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council and the People of the Longhouse at Akwesasne, by Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs v. The State of New York, et al. (89-CV-829).

### SEC. 2. LANDS OWNED BY SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBE WITHIN SETTLEMENT ACQUISITION AREAS.

The following shall be Indian Country as defined in section 1151(a) of title 18, United States Code, subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations of the Settlement Agreement:

(1) Land owned on the effective date of the Settlement Agreement by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe within the Settlement Acquisition Areas, as defined in the Settlement Agreement.

(2) Land acquired by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe within the Settlement Acquisition Areas after the effective date of the Settlement Agreement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Colorado (Mr. CRANK) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2916, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2916, to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Agreement of Settlement and Compromise to resolve the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim in the State of New York, introduced by the gentlewoman from New York, Congresswoman STEFANIK.

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe is located on the border of New York and Canada along the St. Lawrence River. Following the Revolutionary War, the Seven Nations of Canada and the State of New York signed the 1796 Treaty, which gave the Tribe its reservation.

In 1824 and 1825, New York acquired land from the Tribe without the Federal Government's approval, violating the Non-Intercourse Act, which reserves to the United States the exclusive right to acquire Indian lands and prohibits conveyance without Federal approval.

After decades of court proceedings, a 2022 Northern District of New York ruling determined that the State of New York's 1825 purchase of land violated the Non-Intercourse Act. Mediation between the parties resumed and culminated in a settlement signed earlier this year.

The settlement would return approximately 3,500 acres of land to reservation status and would allow the Tribe to acquire up to 14,000 additional acres from willing sellers. Additional provisions in the settlement include waived tuition and mandatory fees for Akwesasne Mohawk students attending State University of New York institutions and preferred-rate power from the New York Power Authority.

The settlement requires no Federal monetary contribution and clearly defines the reservation's boundaries.

Negotiated settlements related to Indian land claims under the Non-Intercourse Act require congressional approval, and that is why we are here today.

H.R. 2916 would authorize, ratify, and confirm the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim Settlement Agreement and bring final resolution to a longstanding claim.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2916 would finalize a longstanding land claim in New York for the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe by ratifying and confirming the Agreement of Settlement and Compromise to resolve the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim in the State of New York.

Under this settlement, the Tribe will see 3,500 acres of land returned to reservation status and have the opportunity to acquire up to 14,000 acres of land in the land claim areas.

The settlement also provides Akwesasne Mohawk students who attend State University of New York institutions free tuition and mandatory fees.

In addition, the Tribe will have the right to nine megawatts of power at a preferred rate from the New York Power Authority and will receive \$70 million from the power authority over 35 years.

This legislation will finally resolve the Akwesasne Land Claim after 43 years of litigation and 11 years of negotiation.

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

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK), the lead sponsor of this bill.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative CRANK, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2916, my bill to ratify the land claim settlement agreement between the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, New York State, Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties, the towns of Fort Covington and Bombay, and the New York Power Authority.

For more than 40 years, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne have worked diligently to resolve the Akwesasne land claim in northern New York in my district. The last decade has seen very focused efforts between the Tribe, local, and county officials, and our congressional office to realize this long-sought agreement dating back to the 1796 Treaty with the Seven Nations of Canada.

This historic settlement provides long-term certainty and remedies in terms of lands, land acquisition, payment of past property taxes, and will greatly benefit our North Country community.

For the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, today's action represents the resolution of a generations-long fight, and finalizing this settlement allows the Tribe to restore portions of their homeland, strengthen self-governance, and expand economic opportunities for the North Country.

Unfortunately, I was dismayed to watch the agreement sit on the Governor's desk for over 6 months while she refused to review the documents and then pushed last-minute changes, leaving members of the Saint Regis

Mohawk Tribe and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, who worked alongside my office on this legislation, in limbo and long awaiting the culmination of over 40 years of their leadership's hard work.

Our office worked swiftly and diligently to pass this out of committee, and I am proud to have gotten this across the finish line in the House. I look forward to getting this legislation passed in the Senate and on to the President's desk for his signing.

Mr. Speaker, this moment is the culmination of the dedicated work by many past and present Mohawk leadership, elders, and community members from Akwesasne, as well as county and local officials, and I am honored to pass this bill in Congress.

Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this policy, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2916 gives the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe clarity on their reservation land and resolves a centuries-old violation of the Non-Intercourse Act. This settlement is long overdue and widely agreed upon. It is up to Congress to take the final steps and authorize the settlement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this bill, 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. CRANK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2916.

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.

□ 1630

#### STUDYING NEPA'S IMPACT ON PROJECTS ACT

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 573) to require the Council on Environmental Quality to publish an annual report on environmental reviews and causes of action based on alleged non-compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 573

*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 "Studying NEPA's Impact on Projects Act".*

#### SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORT ON NEPA'S IMPACT ON PROJECTS.

*Section 201 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4341) is amended to read as follows:*

#### "SEC. 201. ANNUAL REPORTS ON NEPA'S IMPACT ON PROJECTS.

*"(a) SUBMISSIONS BY LEAD AGENCIES.—Not later than July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter,*