

technical changes in there. We wouldn't have gotten the base done without bipartisan support. I thank Mr. MORELLE for his hard work on helping us improve this bill through the process. We have actually worked on this for well over a year now, trying to get it correct.

In all fairness, Mr. Speaker, to satisfy some of our friends on the other side of the building, we made two little technical changes that I think will make them happy. We were already happy.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 10204, the Legislative Branch Agencies Clarification Act. Apart from a few technical corrections, as my friend has described, this bill is identical to H.R. 6028, which passed the House in June.

It updates the appointment process for the heads of two legislative branch agencies: the Library of Congress and the Government Publishing Office. It also creates a new Presidential appointment, subject to Senate confirmation, for the Register of Copyrights, and makes clear that the United States Copyright Office, which is currently part of the Library of Congress, will remain in the legislative branch.

I thank the bill's author, Representative GRIFFITH, as well as Chairman STEIL, and their staff for working with us to improve prior versions of this legislation. It did, indeed, take many months, but I appreciated the openness and willingness of the majority to entertain some of the suggestions we made, which I do think make the bill stronger.

In addition to ensuring the Copyright Office remains a legislative branch entity, the bill protects the Copyright Office's workforce, who will enjoy the same rights, privileges, and protections they hold today as Library employees. I do think that is very important. I have long said the Library of Congress should be appointed by Congress, and this bill achieves that important goal.

□ 1520

Still, we must make this change thoughtfully and be mindful of the consequences, particularly for the Copyright Office. Copyright authorities are enshrined in Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 of the Constitution, and the Copyright Office has resided in the legislative branch for well over a century. It should remain there, and that is the intent of this bill.

The copyright economy, I might add, contributes more than \$2 trillion annually to our economy and supports more than 11 million American jobs—but only with a stable, reliable, and apolitical copyright system. This bill helps to preserve it at a critical moment for copyright stakeholders and millions of Library users.

The Library and Copyright Office have operated in partnership for more

than 150 years, and the Copyright Office depends on the Library's infrastructure. The Library builds its collections through the copyright deposits, so severing that relationship would harm both institutions.

The bill recognizes this: It establishes a significant transition period. It allows the Copyright Office to continue Library support services. It requires the Register to consult with the Librarian before taking any action affecting the Library's access to copyright deposits. It safeguards the rights of Copyright Office employees.

For too long, Congress has allowed its own authority and capacity to atrophy. The Library, Copyright Office, Government Publishing Office, and other support agencies we rely on are funded from a legislative branch budget that amounts to roughly four-tenths of 1 percent of all Federal discretionary spending. If we are serious about legislating on questions as complex as AI and copyright, we must be serious about sustaining the institutions that make that work possible.

Mr. Speaker, the bill is not perfect. I don't know of a bill that has passed this House that has ever been deemed perfect, but it does ensure that the Librarian of Congress can be hired and fired only by Congress and does so while preserving both the Library and Copyright Office as the preeminent institutions in their fields.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and friend, Mr. GRIFFITH, for his hard work and that of the staff and Chairman STEIL.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate all the hard work that went into this. I think we are in a much better place.

I am pleased to think that if this legislation is successful, the Library of Congress will continue to be the Library of Congress and have its leadership appointed by this body in consultation with our, as Mr. GRIFFITH describes it, friends on the other side of the building. Hopefully, they will see the wisdom in doing this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 10204. This is an important bill. It probably won't get headlines or be the lead story on CNN or FOX tonight. But making sure, as the gentleman from New York said, that we have the Librarian of Congress actually answering to Congress, I think that is important.

I think this is a good housekeeping bill in many ways. It does some reform,

but it also lets us move forward into the future.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the great work, as I said before, that Mr. MORELLE and his team did on getting this bill into a good position. It was a thoughtful exchange. We were just trying to get the bill as good as we could.

I would also be remiss if I didn't recognize my constituent, former Congressman Bob Goodlatte, for his work on trying to make sure that we got the communication lines between the Register of Copyrights and the Librarian of Congress in a good position, as well. As Mr. MORELLE pointed out to the body, Mr. Speaker, it is important that both of these institutions remain preeminent in their fields and that they work together, hand in glove, even though one is legislative and one is executive.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the 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 Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 10204.

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Matthew Hanley, one of his secretaries.

ILLEGAL RED SNAPPER AND TUNA ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 283) to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of seafood to support enforcement against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 283

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 "Illegal Red Snapper and Tuna Enforcement Act".

SEC. 2. METHODOLOGY FOR IDENTIFYING COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF SEAFOOD.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

(3) **ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, OR UNREGULATED FISHING; IUU FISHING.**—The terms “illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing” and “IUU fishing” mean “illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing” as such term is defined for purposes of section 609(e) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(e)).

(4) **KEY AGENCY LEADERSHIP.**—The term “key agency leadership” means the Administrator and the Under Secretary, in consultation with the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(5) **RED SNAPPER.**—The term “red snapper” means the species *Lutjanus campechanus*.

(6) **TUNA.**—The term “tuna” means the following species of tuna:

(A) Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*).

(B) Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*).

(C) Bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*).

(7) **UNDER SECRETARY.**—The term “Under Secretary” means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology.

(b) **STANDARD METHODOLOGY FOR IDENTIFICATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Key agency leadership shall jointly develop a standard methodology, based on chemical analysis, for identifying the country of origin of seafood to support enforcement against IUU fishing and seafood fraud.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—Key agency leadership shall ensure that the methodology developed under this subsection—

(A) is consistent with the needs of Federal and State law enforcement agencies in combating IUU fishing and seafood fraud;

(B) minimizes processing time;

(C) involves the use of a field kit that can be easily carried by one individual; and

(D) to the extent practicable, can be used to test prepared food, including raw preparations of seafood, such as ceviche, sashimi, sushi, and poke.

(3) **INITIAL SPECIES FOR IDENTIFICATION.**—In developing the methodology under this subsection, key agency leadership shall conduct pilot studies on red snapper, as an example of a stationary stock, and tuna, as an example of a highly migratory stock.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that includes the following:

(1) A summary of the methodology developed under subsection (b).

(2) A plan for operationalizing such methodology.

(3) If the Under Secretary determines any aspect of such methodology is impractical, an explanation relating thereto, whether additional research would make developing such a methodology practicable, and whether a different approach other than chemical analysis might be practicable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 283, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 283, the Illegal Red Snapper and Tuna Enforcement Act, sponsored by Senator TED CRUZ from Texas.

This legislation would direct the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the NOAA Administrator to jointly develop a standard methodology, based on chemical analysis, for identifying the country of origin of seafood products to support enforcement against illegal, unregulated, or unreported fishing, otherwise known as IUU fishing.

IUU fishing undermines the sustainability of the seafood supply chain and the United States' leadership as a gold standard for fisheries management. This bill will promote innovation to help keep IUU products out of American markets.

I thank Representative BRIAN BABIN from Texas, a sponsor of companion legislation, for his leadership on this issue in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 283, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, or IUU fishing, threatens domestic fisheries and ecosystems around the world.

In the United States, up to 32 percent of seafood imports are derived from IUU fishing. These illegal practices harm our economy, disadvantage fishermen, and threaten the long-term health of our oceans and fish stocks.

Mr. Speaker, S. 283 would address one part of that challenge by investing in science to improve the detection of illegally sourced seafood. This bill would direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology and NOAA to develop a chemical analysis to identify the origin of seafood. If successful, this could assist law enforcement in identifying products from illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

This legislation specifically focuses on red snapper and several species of tuna, offering an opportunity to determine whether the chemical analysis research would apply to reef fish and migratory species. This is a practical, bipartisan piece of legislation that would strengthen our ability to identify seafood linked to IUU fishing and improve enforcement efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 283, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from

Texas (Mr. BABIN), the lead sponsor of the House companion to this bill and chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 283, the Illegal Red Snapper and Tuna Enforcement Act, as amended.

This bill directs the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology using chemical analysis to identify the country of origin of seafood.

Both commercial and recreational fishing contribute significantly to the Texas economy. Red snapper, in particular, is highly sought after by the recreational fishing sector. This effort is especially important in the Gulf of America, where red snapper is a valuable resource for American fishermen and coastal communities.

Illegally harvested seafood can make its way into U.S. markets, undercutting the fishermen and seafood producers who play by the rules.

□ 1530

NIST scientists have developed chemical methods to identify the geographic origin of foods like beef, honey, fruits, and rice. This bill would build on that expertise to give law enforcement another tool to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and seafood fraud.

Today's bill also incorporates edits made by the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee during our bipartisan markup earlier this year as part of H.R. 3706, the Standards for Understanding Source and Habitat Identification Act, also known as the SUSHI Act, which I sponsored.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, again, S. 283 supports the development of new technology that can help identify and cut off IUU fish products entering our markets.

I greatly appreciate Senator CRUZ and Representative BABIN for their leadership on this legislation. I urge the passage of S. 283 and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 283, 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.

MODERNIZING ACCESS TO OUR PUBLIC OCEANS ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 759) to provide for the standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 759

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 “Modernizing Access to Our Public Oceans Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.**—The term “exclusive economic zone” has the meaning given that term in section 107 of title 46, United States Code.

(2) **FISHING RESTRICTION.**—The term “fishing restriction” means a restriction on fishing in a federally managed fishery established under section 303(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1853(b)(2)), including—

(A) a full or partial fishing closure, in terms of both area and duration, or a seasonal closure;

(B) a no-catch zone in the fishery;

(C) a restriction on the method of catch for the fishery; and

(D) another restriction on fishing, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) **INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.**—The terms “Indian Tribe” and “Tribal organization” have the meanings given those terms in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(4) **NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.**—The term “Native Hawaiian organization” has the meaning given the term in section 6207 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7517), except that the term includes the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs of the State of Hawaii.

(5) **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.**—The term “nonprofit organization” means an organization that is described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(6) **RECREATIONAL VESSEL.**—The term “recreational vessel” has the meaning given that term in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code.

(7) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

SEC. 3. DATA STANDARDIZATION.

Not later than 31 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, including State and local governments, Indian Tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations, shall develop and adopt standards with respect to the coordination and dissemination of geospatial data relating to fishing restrictions, use of the exclusive economic zone by recreational vessels, and access to Federal waters by such vessels, including such data made available under section 4.

SEC. 4. DATA PUBLICATION AND ACCESSIBILITY.

(a) **DATA ON FISHING AND RECREATIONAL VESSELS IN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.**—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Office of Science

and Technology of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and to the maximum extent practicable, shall make available on a publicly accessible website geographic information system data that—

(1) includes, with respect to the exclusive economic zone—

(A) information with respect to the conditions under which fishing restrictions are imposed and the areas within the exclusive economic zone that are open or closed to recreational boating, diving, and related recreational activities (as determined by the Secretary), including for safety reasons such as because of the presence of harmful algal blooms;

(B) the areas of the exclusive economic zone with restrictions on the use of motorized propulsion, horsepower, or fuel by or of recreational vessels; and

(C) the types of recreational vessels that are restricted on each area of the exclusive economic zone;

(2) describes the geographic boundaries of areas where fishing restrictions occur; and

(3)(A) identifies Federal marine protected areas, including National Marine Sanctuaries, national marine monuments, and other federally protected waters; and

(B) includes information on what fishing, recreational boating, and other related recreational activities are authorized in each such area.

(b) **DATA ON NAVIGATION WITHIN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall continue to make available digitized geographic information system data that includes, with respect to access to the exclusive economic zone—

(A) navigation information;

(B) bathymetric information;

(C) depth charts; and

(D) other information, consistent with law and policy.

(2) **WEBSITE.**—The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, make the data described in paragraph (1) available on the website on which the Secretary makes the data described in subsection (a) available.

(c) **DATA ACCESSIBILITY.**—The Secretary shall ensure that the website on which the Secretary makes the data described in subsections (a) and (b) available—

(1) organizes that data so that the data is findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable; and

(2) includes a mechanism by which users can be easily updated when new data becomes available.

(d) **PUBLIC COMMENT.**—The Secretary shall develop—

(1) a process to allow members of the public to submit questions or comments regarding the data described in subsections (a) and (b) and the accessibility of that data under subsection (c); and

(2) methods to improve the accessibility of data.

(e) **UPDATES.**—The Secretary shall update—

(1) the data described in subsections (a)(1) and (b) not less frequently than 2 times each year; and

(2) the data described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) in real time.

(f) **NONDISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.**—The Secretary may not, consistent with applicable law and policy, disclose, in any geographic information system data made publicly available under this section—

(1) information regarding the nature, location, character, or ownership of historic, paleontological, cultural, or archaeological resources; or

(2) commercial fishing information, including proprietary information.

(g) **TREATMENT OF TRIBAL WATERS AND FISHING AREAS.**—The authorities granted by

this section shall not apply with respect to any usual or accustomed fishing areas or Tribal waters.

SEC. 5. COOPERATION AND COORDINATION.

(a) **COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND THIRD-PARTY PROVIDERS.**—For purposes of carrying out this Act, the Secretary may—

(1) coordinate and partner with non-Federal entities, including—

(A) States;

(B) Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, and Tribal organizations;

(C) interstate commissions (as defined in section 303 of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4102));

(D) Regional Ocean Partnerships (as defined in section 10202 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (16 U.S.C. 1468));

(E) experts in data science, analytics, and operations research;

(F) the private sector, including technology or geospatial data industries;

(G) nonprofit organizations; and

(H) institutions of higher education (as defined in section 201 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)); and

(2) enter into agreements with experts within entities described in any of subparagraphs (A) through (H) of paragraph (1) to carry out any of the provisions of this Act.

(b) **INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.**—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, work with the relevant offices of the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Coast Guard, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping codified by section 12203 of the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act (33 U.S.C. 3502), to ensure compatibility and interoperability among applicable Federal databases with respect to the collection and dissemination of geospatial data relating to public outdoor recreational use of the exclusive economic zone.

(c) **APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND TRIBAL LAW AND REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary, in developing and distributing geospatial data under this Act, shall make clear that the data are subject to applicable laws and regulations of the Federal Government, States, and Indian Tribes.

SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act may be construed—

(1) to modify or alter the definition of the term “navigable waters” under any provision of Federal law;

(2) to affect the jurisdiction or authority of Federal or State agencies to regulate navigable waters;

(3) to increase or diminish the responsibility or authority of Federal or State agencies or Indian Tribes to manage fisheries under existing law;

(4) to satisfy any requirement for government-to-government consultation with Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations; or

(5) to affect or modify any treaty or other right of any Indian Tribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise