

SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.

In this [title] Act the following definitions apply:

(1) **AUTHORIZED ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.**—The term “authorized enforcement officer” means a person authorized to enforce this [title] Act, any regulation issued under this [title] Act, or any measure that is legally binding on the United States under the Convention.

(2) **COMMISSIONER.**—The term “Commissioner” means a United States Commissioner to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization appointed under section 2(a).

(3) **CONVENTION.**—The term “Convention” means the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, done at Ottawa on October 24, 1978.

(4) **FISHERIES COMMISSION.**—The term “Fisheries Commission” means the Fisheries Commission provided for by Articles II, XI, XII, XIII, and XIV of the Convention.

(5) **GENERAL COUNCIL.**—The term “General Council” means the General Council provided for by Article II, III, IV, and V of the Convention.

(6) **MAGNUSON ACT.**—The term “Magnuson Act” means the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.).

(7) **ORGANIZATION.**—The term “Organization” means the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization provided for by Article II of the Convention.

(8) **PERSON.**—The term “person” means any individual (whether or not a citizen or national of the United States), and any corporation, partnership, association, or other entity (whether or not organized or existing under the laws of any State).

(9) **REPRESENTATIVE.**—The term “Representative” means a United States Representative to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Council appointed under section 2(c).

(10) **SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL.**—The term “Scientific Council” means the Scientific Council provided for by Articles II, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X of the Convention.

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

SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this [title] Act, including use for payment as the United States contribution to the Organization as provided in Article XVI of the Convention, \$500,000 for each of the fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].

(Mr. SAXTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 622, noncontroversial legislation pending before us today.

H.R. 622 is the implementation of the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. This bill was introduced by the ranking minority member of the Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans Subcommittee, Mr. STUDDS.

H.R. 622 would authorize U.S. participation in the North Atlantic Fisheries Organization—also known as NAFO.

The NAFO is an international body established by convention in 1978 to oversee certain fisheries existing beyond the 200-mile territorial seas of the United States, Canada, and Greenland in the northwest Atlantic. The United States participated in the negotiations and signed the original convention. While the other body consented to membership to NAFO in 1983, Congress never enacted implementing legislation to allow full participation in the organization. And while U.S. fishermen must abide by the NAFO treaty, these same fishermen are unable to formally participate in the process that results in the treaty. This legislation would allow just that.

Once again, this is a noncontroversial bill and I ask for your support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 622, legislation to implement the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.

Two weeks ago, I stood in this spot describing for Members the drastic decline of commercial fisheries worldwide, and the need for all coastal nations to participate in international agreements and organizations that provide for the responsible conversation and management of high seas resources. Demonstrating the U.S. commitment to such an effort, the legislation we passed that day encouraged the development of a multilateral management agreement for pollock stocks in the north Pacific.

Similarly, the bill we are considering today, H.R. 622, would authorize U.S. participation in NAFO, an international body established by convention in 1978 to manage certain valuable high seas fisheries in the northwest Atlantic. Seventeen nations are party to this convention. While the U.S. participated in the negotiation for NAFO, signed the original convention, and the Senate consented to membership in 1983, Congress has never enacted implementing legislation to allow full participation in the organization.

In the past, U.S. fishermen have had little interest in fishing in the NAFO regulatory area, so membership was not crucial. Recently, however, U.S. fishing vessels have begun harvesting fish in the NAFO area. Complicating this situation, is the fact that the United States is about to implement a high seas fisheries treaty adopted at the United Nations in November 1993. That treaty would prohibit our vessels from fishing in the NAFO area unless we are party to the NAFO convention. As a result, joining NAFO is not only the responsible thing to do, it is essen-

tial if our fishermen are to have any hope of access to the area in the future.

By requiring the United States to work cooperatively in an area of the ocean where fisheries important to our own fishermen exist, H.R. 622 is the second bill we will pass in 2 weeks that signals U.S. dedication to multilateral management of high seas resources, it is good for the fish and the fishermen, and I urge Members to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, my colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. STUDDS, has introduced H.R. 622, a bill to implement the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. This legislation will allow the United States to become a member of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization [NAFO].

Currently, the United States is not an active member in NAFO, even though we were involved in the negotiations which created this organization in 1978. Since this organization is active in recommending how resources that are harvested by U.S. fishermen are being managed and conserved, I support H.R. 622. This legislation will give the administration a more active role in NAFO's management and conservation recommendations, while giving U.S. fishermen greater access to the organization's research.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 622, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. 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 H.R. 622, as amended, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

FORT CARSON-PINON CANYON MILITARY LANDS WITHDRAWAL ACT

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 256) to withdraw and reserve certain public lands and minerals within the State of Colorado for military uses, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 256

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the "Fort Carson-Pinon Canyon Military Lands Withdrawal Act".

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Withdrawal and reservation of lands at Fort Carson Military Reservation.
- Sec. 3. Withdrawal and reservation of lands at Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.
- Sec. 4. Maps and legal descriptions.
- Sec. 5. Management of withdrawn lands.
- Sec. 6. Management of withdrawn and acquired mineral resources.
- Sec. 7. Hunting, fishing, and trapping.
- Sec. 8. Termination of withdrawal and reservation.
- Sec. 9. Determination of presence of contamination and effect of contamination.
- Sec. 10. Delegation.
- Sec. 11. Hold harmless.
- Sec. 12. Amendment to Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986.
- Sec. 13. Authorization of appropriations.

SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION OF LANDS AT FORT CARSON MILITARY RESERVATION.

(a) **WITHDRAWAL.**—Subject to valid existing rights and except as otherwise provided in this Act, the lands at the Fort Carson Military Reservation, Colorado, that are described in subsection (c) are hereby withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral and geothermal leasing laws, and the mineral materials disposal laws.

(b) **RESERVATION.**—The lands withdrawn under subsection (a) are reserved for use by the Secretary of the Army—

(1) for military maneuvering, training and weapons firing; and

(2) for other defense related purposes consistent with the uses specified in paragraph (1).

(c) **LAND DESCRIPTION.**—The lands referred to in subsection (a) comprise 3,133.02 acres of public land and 11,415.16 acres of federally-owned minerals in El Paso, Pueblo, and Fremont Counties, Colorado, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Fort Carson Proposed Withdrawal—Fort Carson Base", dated February 6, 1992, and published in accordance with section 4.

SEC. 3. WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION OF LANDS AT PINON CANYON MANEUVER SITE.

(a) **WITHDRAWAL.**—Subject to valid existing rights and except as otherwise provided in this Act, the lands at the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado, that are described in subsection (c) are hereby withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral and geothermal leasing laws, and the mineral materials disposal laws.

(b) **RESERVATION.**—The lands withdrawn under subsection (a) are reserved for use by the Secretary of the Army—

(1) for military maneuvering and training; and

(2) for other defense related purposes consistent with the uses specified in paragraph (1).

(c) **LAND DESCRIPTION.**—The lands referred to in subsection (a) comprise 2,517.12 acres of public lands and 130,139 acres of federally-owned minerals in Las Animas County, Colo-

rado, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Fort Carson Proposed Withdrawal—Fort Carson Maneuver Area—Pinon Canyon site", dated February 6, 1992, and published in accordance with section 4.

SEC. 4. MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.

(a) **PREPARATION OF MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.**—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall prepare maps depicting the lands withdrawn and reserved by this Act and publish in the Federal Register a notice containing the legal description of such lands.

(b) **LEGAL EFFECT.**—Such maps and legal descriptions shall have the same force and effect as if they were included in this Act, except that the Secretary of the Interior may correct clerical and typographical errors in such maps and legal descriptions.

(c) **AVAILABILITY OF MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.**—Copies of such maps and legal descriptions shall be available for public inspection in the offices of the Colorado State Director and the Canon City District Manager of the Bureau of Land Management and in the offices of the Commander of Fort Carson, Colorado.

(d) **COSTS.**—The Secretary of the Army shall reimburse the Secretary of the Interior for the costs of implementing this section.

SEC. 5. MANAGEMENT OF WITHDRAWN LANDS.

(a) **MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES.**—

(1) **MANAGEMENT BY SECRETARY OF THE ARMY.**—Except as provided in section 6, during the period of withdrawal, the Secretary of the Army shall manage for military purposes the lands covered by this Act and may authorize use of the lands by the other military departments and agencies of the Department of Defense, and the National Guard, as appropriate.

(2) **ACCESS RESTRICTIONS.**—When military operations, public safety, or national security, as determined by the Secretary of the Army, require the closure of roads and trails on the lands withdrawn by this Act commonly in public use, the Secretary of the Army is authorized to take such action, except that such closures shall be limited to the minimum areas and periods required for the purposes specified in this subsection. Appropriate warning notices shall be kept posted during closures.

(3) **SUPPRESSION OF FIRES.**—The Secretary of the Army shall take necessary precautions to prevent and suppress brush and range fires occurring within and outside the lands as a result of military activities and may seek assistance from the Bureau of Land Management in suppressing such fires. The memorandum of understanding required by this section shall provide for Bureau of Land Management assistance in the suppression of such fires, and for a transfer of funds from the Department of the Army to the Bureau of Land Management as compensation for such assistance.

(b) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—

(1) **DEVELOPMENT REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of the Army, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior, shall develop a plan for the management of acquired lands and lands withdrawn under sections 2 and 3 for the period of withdrawal. The plan shall—

(A) be consistent with applicable law;

(B) include such provisions as may be necessary for proper resource management and protection of the natural, cultural, and other resources and values of such lands; and

(C) identify those withdrawn and acquired lands, if any, which are to be open to mining or mineral and geothermal leasing, including mineral materials disposal.

(2) **TIME FOR DEVELOPMENT.**—The management plan required by this subsection shall

be developed not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) **IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—

(1) **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to implement the management plan developed under subsection (b).

(2) **DURATION.**—The duration of any such memorandum of understanding shall be the same as the period of withdrawal specified in section 8(a).

(3) **AMENDMENT.**—The memorandum of understanding may be amended by agreement of both Secretaries.

(d) **USE OF CERTAIN RESOURCES.**—The Secretary of the Army is authorized to utilize sand, gravel, or similar mineral or mineral material resources from the lands withdrawn by this Act when the use of such resources is required for construction needs of the Fort Carson Reservation or Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.

SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT OF WITHDRAWN AND ACQUIRED MINERAL RESOURCES.

Except as provided in section 5(d), the Secretary of the Interior shall manage all withdrawn and acquired mineral resources within the boundaries of the Fort Carson Military Reservation and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site in the same manner as provided in section 12 of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-606; 100 Stat. 3466) for mining and mineral leasing on certain lands withdrawn by that Act from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws.

SEC. 7. HUNTING, FISHING, AND TRAPPING.

All hunting, fishing, and trapping on the lands withdrawn and reserved by this Act shall be conducted in accordance with section 2671 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8. TERMINATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

(a) **TERMINATION DATE.**—The withdrawal and reservation made by this Act shall terminate 15 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) **DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.**—

(1) **DETERMINATION REQUIRED.**—At least three years before the termination under subsection (a) of the withdrawal and reservation established by this Act, the Secretary of the Army shall advise the Secretary of the Interior as to whether or not the Department of the Army will have a continuing military need for any of the lands after the termination date.

(2) **METHOD OF MAKING DETERMINATION.**—If the Secretary of the Army concludes under paragraph (1) that there will be a continuing military need for any of the lands after the termination date established by subsection (a), the Secretary of the Army, in accordance with applicable law, shall—

(A) evaluate the environmental effects of renewal of such withdrawal and reservation;

(B) hold at least one public hearing in Colorado concerning such evaluation; and

(C) file, after completing the requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B), an application for extension of the withdrawal and reservation of such lands in accordance with the regulations and procedures of the Department of the Interior applicable to the extension of withdrawals for military uses.

(3) **NOTIFICATION.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall notify the Congress concerning a filing under paragraph (3)(C).

(c) **EARLY RELINQUISHMENT OF WITHDRAWAL.**—If the Secretary of the Army concludes under subsection (b) that before the termination date established by subsection (a) there will be no military need for all or any part of the lands withdrawn and reserved

by this Act, or if, during the period of withdrawal, the Secretary of the Army otherwise decides to relinquish any or all of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this Act, the Secretary of the Army shall file with the Secretary of the Interior a notice of intention to relinquish such lands.

(d) **ACCEPTANCE OF LANDS PROPOSED FOR RELINQUISHMENT.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior, upon deciding that it is in the public interest to accept jurisdiction over the lands proposed for relinquishment, may revoke the withdrawal and reservation established by this Act as it applies to the lands proposed for relinquishment. Should the decision be made to revoke the withdrawal and reservation, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register an appropriate order which shall—

(1) terminate the withdrawal and reservation;

(2) constitute official acceptance of full jurisdiction over the lands by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(3) state the date upon which the lands will be opened to the operation of the public land laws, including the mining laws if appropriate.

SEC. 9. DETERMINATION OF PRESENCE OF CONTAMINATION AND EFFECT OF CONTAMINATION.

(a) **DETERMINATION OF PRESENCE OF CONTAMINATION.**—

(1) **BEFORE RELINQUISHMENT NOTICE.**—Before filing a relinquishment notice under section 8(c), the Secretary of the Army shall prepare a written determination as to whether and to what extent the lands to be relinquished are contaminated with explosive, toxic, or other hazardous materials. A copy of the determination made by the Secretary of the Army shall be supplied with the relinquishment notice. Copies of both the relinquishment notice and the determination under this subsection shall be published in the Federal Register by the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) **UPON TERMINATION OF WITHDRAWAL.**—At the expiration of the withdrawal period made by this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall determine whether and to what extent the lands withdrawn by this Act are contaminated to an extent which prevents opening such contaminated lands to operation of the public land laws.

(b) **PROGRAM OF DECONTAMINATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Throughout the duration of the withdrawal and reservation made by this Act, the Secretary of the Army, to the extent funds are made available, shall maintain a program of decontamination of the lands withdrawn by this Act at least at the level of effort carried out during fiscal year 1992.

(2) **DECONTAMINATION OF LANDS TO BE RELINQUISHED.**—In the case of lands subject to a relinquishment notice under section 8(c) that are contaminated, the Secretary of the Army shall decontaminate the land to the extent that funds are appropriated for such purpose if the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of the Army, determines that—

(A) decontamination of the lands is practicable and economically feasible, taking into consideration the potential future use and value of the land; and

(B) upon decontamination, the land could be opened to the operation of some or all of the public land laws, including the mining laws.

(c) **AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO REFUSE CONTAMINATED LANDS.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall not be required to accept lands proposed for relinquishment if the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior conclude that—

(1) decontamination of any or all of the lands proposed for relinquishment is not practicable or economically feasible;

(2) the lands cannot be decontaminated sufficiently to allow them to be opened to the operation of the public land laws; or

(3) insufficient funds are appropriated for the purpose of decontaminating the lands.

(d) **EFFECT OF CONTINUED CONTAMINATION.**—If the Secretary of the Interior declines under subsection (c) to accept jurisdiction of lands proposed for relinquishment or if the Secretary of the Interior determines under subsection (a)(2) that some of the lands withdrawn by this Act are contaminated to an extent that prevents opening the contaminated lands to operation of the public land laws—

(1) the Secretary of the Army shall take appropriate steps to warn the public of the contaminated state of such lands and any risks associated with entry onto such lands;

(2) after the expiration of the withdrawal, the Secretary of the Army shall undertake no activities on such lands except in connection with decontamination of such lands; and

(3) the Secretary of the Army shall report to the Secretary of the Interior and to the Congress concerning the status of such lands and all actions taken under paragraphs (1) and (2).

(e) **EFFECT OF SUBSEQUENT DECONTAMINATION.**—If the lands described in subsection (d) are subsequently decontaminated, upon certification by the Secretary of the Army that the lands are safe for all nonmilitary uses, the Secretary of the Interior shall reconsider accepting jurisdiction over the lands.

(f) **EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.**—Nothing in this Act shall affect, or be construed to affect, the obligations of the Secretary of the Army, if any, to decontaminate lands withdrawn by this Act pursuant to applicable law, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.).

SEC. 10. DELEGATION.

The functions of the Secretary of the Army under this Act may be delegated. The functions of the Secretary of the Interior under this Act may be delegated, except that the order referred to in section 8(d) may be approved and signed only by the Secretary of the Interior, the Deputy Secretary of the Interior, or an Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

SEC. 11. HOLD HARMLESS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The United States shall be held harmless and shall not be liable for any injuries or damages to persons or property suffered in the course of any mining, mineral activity, or geothermal leasing activity conducted on lands comprising the Fort Carson Reservation or Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, including liabilities to non-Federal entities under section 107 or 113 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9607, 9613), or section 7003 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6973).

(b) **INDEMNIFICATION.**—Any party conducting any mining, mineral, or geothermal leasing activity on lands comprising the Fort Carson Reservation or Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site shall indemnify the United States against any costs, fees, damages, or other liabilities (including costs of litigation) incurred by the United States and arising from or relating to such mining activities, including costs of mineral materials disposal, whether arising under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, the Solid Waste Disposal Act, or otherwise.

SEC. 12. AMENDMENT TO MILITARY LANDS WITHDRAWAL ACT OF 1986.

(a) **USE OF CERTAIN RESOURCES.**—Section 3(f) of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-606; 100 Stat. 3461) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) Subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary of the military department concerned may utilize sand, gravel, or similar mineral or material resources when the use of such resources is required for construction needs on the respective lands withdrawn by this Act.”.

(b) **TECHNICAL CORRECTION.**—Section 9(b) of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-606; 100 Stat. 3466) is amended by striking “section 7(f)” and inserting in lieu thereof “section 8(f)”.

SEC. 13. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. HEFLEY] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. HEFLEY].

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

Mr. Speaker, at the outset, I would like to thank my colleagues on the National Security Committee and the Resources Committee, particularly Chairman SPENCE, Chairman YOUNG, and ranking minority members, DELLUMS and MILLER, for their willingness to consider H.R. 256 early in this session.

H.R. 256 would withdraw and reserve certain public lands and minerals within El Paso, Pueblo, Teller, and Las Animas Counties in Colorado for military purposes. The bill would withdraw 3,133 acres of public lands and minerals and another 11,415 acres of public domain mineral estate within the existing Fort Carson Military Reservation. The bill would also withdraw 2,517 acres of surface land and 130,139 acres of minerals at the associated Pinon Canyon maneuver site.

Since the 1930's, the Army has used the lands on which Fort Carson was established, and the Pinon Canon maneuver site has been in use since the early 1980's. The legislation will help provide the space necessary to improve training for our Armed Forces. The principal uses of the withdrawn acreage will be for mechanized training at battalion and brigade levels with related maneuvering, training, and weapons firing. I want to note, however, that no weapons firing will be conducted at Pinon Canyon due to environmental constraints.

The Department of the Army and the Department of the interior have renewed the withdrawal of mineral rights controlled by the Bureau of Land Management every 5 years. The previous withdrawal expired on June 23, 1993. The BLM has argued that these 5-year withdrawals are too short, since environmental assessment work leading up to the renewals take about 8 years. Thus, the bill before the House includes

a 15-year withdrawal period. This is consistent with the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 and with earlier legislation which provided a 15-year withdrawal for Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada.

The Army would prefer a 25-year withdrawal period because of the substantial lead time required to comply with all statutory and administrative requirements to process military land withdrawals. However, the Army can support this compromise of a 15-year withdrawal period.

I would note that the text of the bill you see before you is virtually identical to legislation which passed the House in the previous two Congresses.

As I said, Fort Carson's immediate past mineral withdrawal expired on June 23, 1992. That withdrawal has been extended, both administratively and through a 1-year legislative extension in 1992. This is an important administrative matter, and I hope the other body will move quickly on this legislation so that we can send this measure to the White House for the President's signature.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, this is the third time the House has considered this legislation, having passed it previously in both the 102d and 103d Congress. H.R. 265 would withdraw and reserve for military use certain public lands and minerals in two existing military-use areas, the Fort Carson Reservation and the Pinon Canyon manuever area, both in Colorado.

I would note that H.R. 256 differs from the version of the bill that passed the House in the last Congress. The bill now includes amendments that were adopted by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in the bill they reported to the Senate last year. If the Senate had been able to pass the bill, it is my understanding that the House would have likely gone along with those changes.

Mr. Speaker, I hope for the sponsor, Representative HEFLEY's sake, that the third time around on this legislation is the charm. I support the legislation and recommend its adoption by the House.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would comment in response to the comment of the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON], this has become like the cherry blossoms. It is a rite of springtime here in Washington. I hope this is the last time we have to look at this bill, and

that we can get it passed and move on to other things.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ORTIZ], the ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Security.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Colorado, Chairman HEFLEY, for the outstanding job he has done.

Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues to know that there is no controversy with respect to this legislation. This bill passed the Committee on National Security without dissent. An identical bill previously passed the House of Representatives and has passed the U.S. Senate. It passed the Committee on Resources on January 18 of this year by a vote of 42 to 0. The Department of the Army and the Bureau of Land Management support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for support of this legislation.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 256. As my colleagues have stated, there is no opposition to this bill. This is the second year this bill has been taken up. It has been favorably reported out of both the Natural Resources and National Security Committees. I would like to thank my colleagues involved who have put so much work into getting this bill to the floor.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, 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. HEFLEY] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 256.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 256, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 73, TERM LIMITS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 116 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 116

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pur-

suant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 73) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to the number of terms of office of Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The first reading of the joint resolution shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the joint resolution and shall not exceed three hours equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the joint resolution shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. No amendment shall be in order except those specified in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be offered only in the order specified in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, may be considered notwithstanding the adoption of a previous amendment in the nature of a substitute, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment. If more than one amendment is adopted, then only the one receiving the greater number of affirmative votes shall be considered as finally adopted. In the case of a tie for the greater number of affirmative votes, then only the last amendment to receive that number of affirmative votes shall be considered as finally adopted. At the conclusion of consideration of the joint resolution for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the joint resolution to the House with such amendment as may have been finally adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. BEILENSEN], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to open this historic debate and mindful of the significance of our discussion. As we speak, reports suggest that there are not yet enough votes to pass the constitutional amendment limiting Members terms. A loss on this issue will be decried by some as failure—but that would miss the point. It is a victory to be here having this debate, to have a rule that forces Members to come clean on where they really stand on term limits. We promised this vote—and we have delivered. It was not so long ago, that Tom Foley was Speaker of this House—the same man who sued the people of his own State over this question; the same man who refused to allow term limits to come to the floor for an honest vote. We may or may not have the 290 votes when all is said and done here this week, but either way the issue of term limits is not going away. There are 22 States with term limits; 80