(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act $1,500,000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 710, introduced by Senator TRENT LOTT from Mississippi, authorizes a feasibility study of the Vicksburg Campaign during the Civil War. The Vicksburg Campaign was one of the most important, decisive events of the Civil War. Vicksburg was the Confederacy's most vital defensive citadel, located on the Mississippi River. Its capture was considered essential to the Union plans to gain control of the Mississippi in 1863.

The fall of Vicksburg effectively split the South in two and gave the North complete control of the Mississippi River.

□ 1415

Clearly, many of the battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail are of important historical significance and their preservation would contribute to the understanding of the heritage of the United States. Mr. Speaker, S. 710 would authorize a feasibility study on the preservation of many of the Civil War battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail to determine what measures should be taken to preserve these historical battlefields.

In addition, this bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a management entity for Civil War battlefields and to acquire funds and lands for use in managing these battlefields.

Mr. Speaker, I urge members of the House to support S. 710.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The gentleman from Alaska has quite properly explained this legislation to direct the National Park Service to conduct a feasibility study to explore various options of the preservation of the Vicksburg Campaign Trail, and I urge the support of this legislation.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 710.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO ISSUE A PATENT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1218) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue to the Landusky School District, without consideration, a patent for the surface and mineral estates of certain lots, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1218

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary of the Interior shall issue to the Landusky School District, without consideration, a patent for the surface and mineral estates of approximately 2.06 acres of land as follows: T.25 N, R.24 E, Montana Prime Meridian, section 27 block 2, school reserve, and section 27, block 3, lot 13.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1218, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue to the Landusky School District in the State of Montana a patent for the surface and mineral estates of certain lots, totaling 2.06 acres.

Landusky is a small agricultural community in north central Montana. An oversight in the original transfer of land from the Bureau of Land Management did not convey the surface and mineral estates on the two lots that the Landusky Elementary School has now occupied for a lengthy period of time. This legislation corrects that oversight.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1218 was introduced on June 14, 1999, by Senator BURNS. A legislative hearing was held where the assistant director of the Bureau of Land Management testified on behalf of the administration in support of the bill with certain amendments.

Today, we take up a bill fully supported by the administration and the other body. The estimated fair market value of the parcels is only $30,300. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The gentleman from Alaska has quite properly explained the legislation. The administration supports this bill, and we have no objections to it.

S. 1218 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey, without consideration, the surface and subsurface mineral estates of about two acres of federal land to the Landusky School District, located in Montana.

According to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the school district currently operates and maintains an elementary school and auxiliary school buildings on the land and bears full financial responsibility for the property. The land currently generates no federal receipts, and BLM does not expect the land to generate any significant receipts over the next 10 years.

The administration supports S. 1218. We have no objection to the bill.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1218.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

LAND AROUND THE CASCADE RESERVOIR

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1778) to provide for equal exchanges of land around the Cascade Reservoir.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1778

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

SECTION 1. EXCHANGES OF LAND EXCESS TO CASCADE RESERVOIR RECLAMATION PROJECT.

Section 5 of Public Law 86–92 (73 Stat. 219) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) LAND EXCHANGES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may exchange land of either class described in subsection (a) for non-Federal land of not less than approximately equal value, as determined by an appraisal carried out in accordance with—

''(A) the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.); and

''(B) the publication entitled 'Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions', as amended by the Interagency Land Acquisition Conference in consultation with the Department of Justice.

''(2) EQUALIZATION.—If the land exchanged under paragraph (1) is not of equal value, the values shall be equalized by the payment of funds by the Secretary or the grantor, as appropriate, in an amount equal to the amount by which the values of the land differ.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1778 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate