receive environmentally sensitive, pristine forest lands that truly belong under the stewardship of the U.S. Forest Service to be preserved for future generations.

This exchange was originally initiated by the Forest Service to consolidate the largest remaining checkerboard parcel of land in Arizona and to protect the Juniper Mountains forested area from future development. Watershed management, wildlife habitat, and outdoor recreation in the consolidated land parcel will be preserved through this action.

Many of the land parcels the Forest Service will trade to accomplish these goals are eagerly sought by local communities for a variety of worthwhile civic purposes, including expansion of airports, parks, and other municipal facilities. Also, six summer camps that currently lease lands from the Forest Service will acquire those leased areas.

There has been considerable participation of local elected officials, Forest Service personnel, private citizens, and various citizen groups from northern Arizona and Arizona's Verde Valley in drafting this legislation. Their input and perspectives have proven invaluable, and I am confident that the bill now put forth by my colleague from Arizona addresses every major concern that has been brought forward.

This bill makes good common sense for our forests and for our people of Arizona. The cost savings for the Federal Government and, therefore, for American taxpayers associated with this land exchange are significant. The savings are accomplished through consolidation of Federal lands that allows for much greater ease in forest management.

But much more important, this exchange will ensure that one of the last largest pristine forested parcels in Arizona will pass out of private hands and be protected from potentially harmful development indefinitely.

It will prove good for this generation of Arizonans, future generations of Arizonans and for all Americans, and I join my colleagues from both Colorado and the Virgin Islands in urging passage of this legislation.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 161, the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act. This legislation facilitates a land exchange in northern Arizona of private land within the Yavapai Ranch for Forest Service land in the northern portion of the state and establishes a water resource planning and management partnership in the Verde River Basin.

This legislation accomplishes several goals in northern Arizona. First, it will preserve the pristine areas within Yavapai Ranch for wildlife and recreation, by consolidating a 110 square mile area in the Prescott National Forest. This area is adjacent to the Juniper Mesa Wilderness Area and will help preserve precious habitat for ponderosa pine, alligator juniper and pronghorn antelope.

Second, the bill provides the City of Flagstaff with the opportunity to acquire land to expand and improve Pulliam Airport. This legislation will allow the City of Flagstaff to develop a new city park and recreational areas and obtain ownership of land near their water treatment plant. This is critical to the City of Flagstaff's future by providing economic development and affordable housing.

The Northern Arizona Land Exchange Act will also allow the City of Williams to acquire land for its well sites, water storage tanks and wastewater facility and drinking water treatment plants. Until recently, the City of Williams relied completely on surface water supplies to service the community, however, surface water reservoirs in Williams are well below their needed capacity. This legislation will assist Williams in meeting their water challenges in the future by providing new land for well drilling sites.

Finally, this legislation ensures that six summer youth camps, serving between 10 and 12 thousand children a year, have the opportunity to acquire the land and benefit from full ownership and management of this land.

S. 161 ensures that stringent water conservation and water use restrictions must be met for any future development. In addition, any development must also comply with the State of Arizona's surface and ground water laws, as well as local community planning standards.

This legislation also creates the Verde River Basin Partnership to help resolve water issues. The goal of this collaborative group is to develop a water resource management plan and submit this plan to the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Arizona.

Nothing in this section will undermine state and local water laws. In fact, this legislation's partnership is simply a forum for planning and working together on the Verde Basin's pressing water issues. As such, there is a very serious expectation that the Partnership will reach out to everyone in the Basin's communities as it creates its Plan. Holding town meetings, meeting with all levels of local government and releasing draft documents for the general public's comment are just three items that the Partnership is expected to perform.

I am confident that the Partnership will truly be accountable to the local communities who live in the backyard of the Verde River. These local citizens have asked for and deserve the very best in having their voices heard and the legislation will meet that need.

This legislation will benefit the public, the many communities and camps in northern Arizona that will receive opportunities for future economic development, and the natural beauty of the Yavapai Ranch. In addition, the science-based water resource planning and management partnership created by this legislation will provide much- needed research in this sensitive area. Bringing the Yavapai Ranch into federal ownership is in the best interest of the public, and the Forest Service has indicated that it would otherwise be unable to acquire these parcels.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 161, the Northern Arizona Land Exchange Act and Verde River Basin Partnership Act.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 161.

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.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STUDY REGARDING CASTLE NUGENT FARMS

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 318) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating Castle Nugent Farms located on St. Croix, Virgin Islands, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 318

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

SECTION 1. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STUDY REGARDING CASTLE NUGENT FARMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Castle Nugent Farms, located on the southeastern shore of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, is the largest parcel of privately-held land in the Virgin Islands and has been an operating cattle ranch for 50 years.

(2) This land has the largest and healthiest fringing coral reef anywhere in the Virgin Islands.

(3) It consists of Caribbean dry forest and pasturelands with considerable cultural resources including both pre-Columbian and post-European settlement.

(4) Castle Nugent Farms contains a large historic 17th century Danish estate house that sits on over 4 miles of pristine Caribbean oceanfront property.

(5) In addition to being an area for turtle nesting and night heron nesting, it is the home for the Senepol cattle breed, a unique breed of cattle that was developed on St. Croix in the early 1900's to adapt to the island's climate.

(b) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall carry out a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating Castle Nugent Farms as a unit of the National Park System.

(c) STUDY PROCESS AND COMPLETION.—Section 8(c) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)) shall apply to the conduct and completion of the study required by this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

H.R. 318, introduced by my Resources Committee colleague DONNA CHRISTENSEN of the U.S. Virgin Islands, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Castle Nugent Farms located on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, as a unit of the National Park System. I understand that the owners of the farm, the largest parcel of privately held land in the United States Virgin Islands, are aware of this legislation and support the national park study.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 318 is supported by the majority and minority of the Resources Committee and the administration. Additionally, identical legislation was passed by the House in the 108th Congress.

I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that the House today is considering H.R. 318, legislation that I introduced to provide for a study to determine the feasibility and suitability of designating Castle Nugent Farms in the United States Virgin Islands as a unit of the National Park System.

Castle Nugent Farms is a unique 1,350-acre property located on the southeastern shore of my home island of St. Croix. It contains natural and cultural resources which could provide an unparalleled insight into the plantation period of the Virgin Islands.

Castle Nugent Farms is presently operated as a cattle ranch by owners who are very interested in preserving and interpreting the natural and cultural resources of the area. Caroline Gasperi, whose family members have been stewards of this land for more than 50 years, has been an enthusiastic supporter for the preservation of this site. The passage of this bill today would bring her one step closer to her long-held and also hard-fought-for dream.

The owners are justifiably proud of their ranch, which contains more than 4 miles of pristine oceanfront with a large and healthy fringing coral reef. The interior of the property consists of Caribbean dry forest and pasture lands with cultural resources from both pre-Colombian and post-European settlement.

A large Danish estate house, dating to the 1730s, sits on the property. That house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

At various points in its history, Castle Nugent Farm has been operated as a cotton plantation and a sugar cane plantation. Its current use as a cattle ranch involves raising unique Senepol cattle, a breed which is well suited to the climate and vegetation of the area.

H.R. 318 is a noncontroversial bill. Identical language, as we have heard, passed the House in the last Congress. The National Park Service has no objections to the legislation, and the property's owners not only support a park study of the site but are enthusiastic about the opportunity to preserve the natural and cultural resources of the farm.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the park study will provide the blueprint by which we can preserve and interpret this unique piece of island history and resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

I thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their support, and I strongly support the adoption of this bill by the House today.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 318.

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.

BOB HOPE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 323) to redesignate the Ellis Island Library on the third floor of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, located on Ellis Island in New York Harbor, as the ''Bob Hope Memorial Library''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 232

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

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION.

The Ellis Island Library on the third floor of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, located on Ellis Island in New York Harbor, shall be known and redesignated as the ''Bob Hope Memorial Library''.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Ellis Island Library on the third floor of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Bob Hope Memorial Library''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

H.R. 323, introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), designates the library on the third floor of the Ellis Island museum as the Bob Hope Memorial Library.

Bob Hope arrived as an immigrant to Ellis Island in 1908 at the age of 4. Later, he became one of the country's greatest entertainers and was sometimes referred to as ''America's most famous immigrant.''

H.R. 323 simply renames the library on the third floor of the immigration station museum. The Hope family is supportive of the effort to redesignate the library.

I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the majority has already explained pretty much the purpose of H.R. 323, which was introduced by our colleague from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

Bob Hope and his family immigrated to the United States in 1908, and like millions of other immigrants entered the United States through Ellis Island. As all of us know and many of us have had the opportunity to enjoy, Bob Hope went on to have an illustrious career as a comedic entertainer and is remembered by many for his work over nearly six decades traveling the globe to entertain American servicemen and -women.

Mr. Speaker, we wholeheartedly support H.R. 323 as a means to honor the contributions of a great entertainer and great American and urge the adoption of the legislation by the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to our colleague from New York (Mr. ENGEL), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands for yielding time to me, and I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado as well and I want to thank the Speaker for the opportunity to talk about H.R. 323, which is what was mentioned before, a bill which will name the third-floor library at Ellis Island in New York Harbor as the Bob Hope Memorial Library.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY) for his assistance and support of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, most Americans remember Bob Hope for his work in the entertainment business, as a comedian, actor, dancer, singer, as well as his work with American troops abroad; but what few know or remember about Bob Hope is that he was an immigrant from England.

The gentlewoman mentioned he came to the United States when he was only