

Major League Soccer Cup champions, as they won it just yesterday in front of thousands of soccer fans at Pizza Hut Park. The Houston Dynamo emerged victorious against the New England Revolution.

A bet was made with the mayor of the City of Houston and the mayor of Boston now has to pay up, legally. The win was with a score of 4-3 on penalty kicks after the team played to a 1-1 draw through regulation and extra time.

This is a young team that moved from San Jose, and we in Houston are enthusiastic and absolutely dynamic about the Dynamo. Congratulations to Kelly Gray, Stuart Holden, Dwayne De Rosario and Brian Ching who successfully converted from the penalty spot in the shoot-out. Brian Ching was recognized as the match's most valuable player.

This is the Dynamo's first season in Houston. They have surely made a warm welcome for themselves. The team is led by 2005 Major League Soccer Coach of the Year, Dominic Kinnear. Let me acknowledge Dynamo investor-operator Philip Anschutz for the time and commitment he has given to U.S. soccer and the City of Houston.

Let me also thank Oliver Luck and all of the management team family. I also congratulate the players and their families for making the transition from their other city to Houston, Texas. Let me also say that the Dynamo are great civic leaders and participants. I am delighted that they are going to be involved with our school districts in Houston, the North Forest Independent School District to be able to uplift those students and let them know that staying in school is the right thing to do.

Soccer, anyone? The Houston Dynamo, they are the Major League Soccer Cup winners of 2006. We are proud of them. I yield back knowing that we can play soccer in Houston, Texas.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning hour debate, thereafter to resume its session at 11 a.m.

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

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:20 p.m. today.

SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2006

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 409) to provide for the exchange of land within the Sierra National Forest, California, and for other purposes. The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Sierra National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2006".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the Sequoia Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term "Federal land" means the parcel of land comprising 160 acres and located in E½SW¼ and W½SE¼, sec. 30, T. 9 S., R. 25 E., Mt. Diablo Meridian, California.

(3) NON-FEDERAL LAND.—The term "non-Federal land" means a parcel of land comprising approximately 80 acres and located in N½NW¼, sec. 29, T. 8 S., R. 26 E., Mt. Diablo Meridian, California.

(4) PROJECT NO. 67.—The term "Project No. 67" means the hydroelectric project licensed pursuant to the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.) as Project No. 67.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 3. LAND EXCHANGE, SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST, CALIFORNIA.

(a) EXCHANGE AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If, during the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the owner of the non-Federal land offers to convey to the United States title to the non-Federal land and to make a cash equalization payment of \$50,000 to the United States, the Secretary shall convey to the owner of the non-Federal land, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land, except as provided in subsection (d), subject to valid existing rights, and under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may require.

(2) CORRECTION AND MODIFICATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the owner of the non-Federal land, may agree to make corrections to the legal descriptions of the Federal land and non-Federal land.

(B) MODIFICATIONS.—The Secretary and the owner of the non-Federal land may agree to make minor modifications to the legal descriptions if the modifications do not affect the overall value of the exchange by more than 5 percent.

(b) VALUATION OF LAND TO BE CONVEYED.—For purposes of this section, during the period referred to in subsection (a)(1)—

(1) the value of the non-Federal land shall be considered to be \$200,000; and

(2) the value of the Federal land shall be considered to be \$250,000.

(c) ADMINISTRATION OF LAND ACQUIRED BY UNITED STATES.—On acquisition by the Secretary, the Secretary shall manage the non-Federal land in accordance with—

(1) the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the "Weeks Act") (16 U.S.C. 480 et seq.); and

(2) any other laws (including regulations) applicable to the National Forest System.

(d) CONDITIONS ON CONVEYANCE OF FEDERAL LAND.—The conveyance by the Secretary under subsection (a) shall be subject to the conditions that—

(1) the recipient of the Federal land convey all 160 acres of the Federal land to the Council not later than 120 days after the date on which the recipient receives title to the Federal land;

(2) in accordance with section 4(a), the Secretary grant to the owner of Project No. 67 an easement; and

(3) in accordance with section 4(b), the owner of Project No. 67 has the right of first refusal regarding any reconveyance of the Federal land by the Council.

(e) DISPOSITION AND USE OF CASH EQUALIZATION FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall deposit the cash equalization payment received under subsection (a)(1) in the fund established by Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the "Sisk Act") (16 U.S.C. 484a).

(2) USE.—Amounts deposited under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Secretary until expended, without further appropriation, for the acquisition of land and any interests in land for the National Forest System in the State of California.

(f) COST COLLECTION FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner of the non-Federal land shall pay to the Secretary all direct costs associated with processing the land exchange under this section.

(2) COST COLLECTION ACCOUNT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any amounts received by the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in a cost collection account.

(B) USE.—Amounts deposited under subparagraph (A) shall be available to the Secretary until expended, without further appropriation, for the costs associated with the land exchange.

(C) REFUND.—The Secretary shall provide to the owner of the non-Federal land a refund of any amounts remaining in the cost collection account after completion of the land exchange that are not needed to cover expenses of the land exchange.

(g) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.—For purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), the boundaries of the Sierra National Forest shall be considered to be the boundaries of the Sierra National Forest as of January 1, 1965.

SEC. 4. GRANT OF EASEMENT AND RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.

In accordance with the agreement entered into by the Forest Service, the Council, and the owner of Project No. 67 entitled the "Agreement to Convey Grant of Easement and Right of First Refusal" and executed on April 17, 2006—

(1) the Secretary shall grant an easement to the owner of Project No. 67; and

(2) the Council shall grant a right of first refusal to the owner of Project No. 67.

SEC. 5. EXERCISE OF DISCRETION.

In exercising any discretion necessary to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall ensure that the public interest is well served.

SEC. 6. GRANTS TO IMPROVE THE COMMERCIAL VALUE OF FOREST BIOMASS FOR ELECTRIC ENERGY, USEFUL HEAT, TRANSPORTATION FUELS, AND OTHER COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

Section 210(d) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15855(d)) is amended by striking "\$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2016" and inserting "\$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2006 and \$35,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2016".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RADANOVICH. 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 gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 409 provides for the exchange of land within the Sierra National Forest in California. This bill originally passed the House of Representatives on September 20, 2005, but was recently amended by the Senate.

The land exchange portion of the bill remains unchanged and would exchange 160 acres of Forest Service property, of which only 15 acres is above water, for 80 acres of private land surrounded by national forest. The land owner has agreed to pay the difference of \$50,000 to the Forest Service to finalize the land transfer.

After the completion of the exchange, the land owner will then convey the property to the Sequoia Council Boy Scouts who have run a camp on the land under a special use permit for the last 30 years.

The Senate amendment reduces funding for a biomass grant program authorized by the Energy Policy Act of 1995 to pay, in part, for the funding authorized by the unrelated package of other energy and natural resource-related bills.

This biomass grant program was originally authorized at \$50 million per year, but only received \$4 million in funding this year. The Resources Committee has been very supportive of biomass funding to help reduce hazardous fuels and create valuable byproducts for otherwise unmerchantable woody debris.

And while the Senate's reduction in authorization funding is somewhat distressing, the Resources Committee agrees to pass this bill with the understanding that both the House and the Senate work together to increase the amount appropriated for biomass grants in the future. This would, in turn, reduce the cost of removing hazardous fuels from the forest and save taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

(Ms. HERSETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, as Mr. RADANOVICH explained, H.R. 409 directs the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange 160 acres of Federal land in the Sierra National Forest at Shaver Lake for an 80-acre inholding also in the Sierra National Forest.

H.R. 409 also requires that the owners of the non-Federal land make a \$50,000 cash equalization payment and convey the Federal land to the Sequoia Council of the Boy Scouts of America within 120 days of receiving it.

Furthermore, an amendment to H.R. 409 made by the other body makes

changes to the biomass grants under the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Mr. Speaker, we have no objections to H.R. 409.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 409.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds of those voting having responded in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRAIL OF TEARS STUDY ACT

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3085) to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability study originally prepared for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and provide for the inclusion of new trail segments, land components, and campgrounds associated with that trail, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

On page 3, strike lines 1 through 3 and insert the following:

“(iv) The related campgrounds located along the routes and land components described in clauses (i) through (iii).

“(D) No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subparagraph (C). The Secretary may accept donations for the Trail from private, nonprofit, or tribal organizations.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RADANOVICH. 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 gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3085, introduced by Congressman ZACH WAMP of Tennessee and amended by the Senate, would amend the National Trails System Act to update a feasibility study originally prepared for the Trail of Tears in 1987.

This new study would examine new trail segments, land components and

campgrounds associated with the trail, particularly Bell and Bengé Segments.

As my colleagues are aware, the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail encompasses the primary water route and northern land route used during the forced removal of the Cherokee Nation from its homelands in the southeast United States to Indian Territory, which is present-day Oklahoma.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

(Ms. HERSETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, the majority has already explained the purpose of H.R. 3085, which was introduced by our colleague from Tennessee, Representative ZACH WAMP. H.R. 3085 passed the Senate this past July and has been returned to us with an amendment from the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, while the amendment made to H.R. 3085 is, in our view, unnecessary, the overall bill is a good one and we have no objection to the adoption of the legislation by the House today.

□ 1415

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP).

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank Chairman POMBO, Chairman RADANOVICH, Ranking Member HERSETH, all of the staffs involved for their work through the Resources Committee and subcommittees on this bill. I would also like to thank my Senate cosponsors, Senator COBURN, Senator FRIST, and majority leader Senator ALEXANDER for their involvement as well. I am very proud to be the lead sponsor of H.R. 3085. Completing the story of the Cherokee removal is an important issue for Congress to address. I urge all of my colleagues to vote for it.

I understand we are going to have a recorded vote on this. We are under suspensions, and I am going to need the votes. I am going to ask everyone to come and vote for this.

It has been cosponsored by 20 of my colleagues, all from districts and States in which the additional components are located. I would also like to add that S. 1970, the Senate companion bill, was sponsored by COBURN, FRIST, and ALEXANDER.

As a consequence of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, a detachment led by John Bengé traveled 734 miles starting at Fort Payne, Alabama, continuing through Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma.

The treaty party group led by John A. Bell traveled 765 miles starting at Charleston, Tennessee, traveling through Arkansas, collectively passing through 10 counties in Tennessee eventually.