

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.

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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.