

but he was stymied time and time again from getting anything out of that committee. So for the last 10 years that committee has worked really hard, very hard, but they haven't had much to show for that work.

This package protects more than 1 million acres of landscapes. I was waiting in my office and Senator BENNET from Colorado came to my office. He had a great big poster with him. I asked: What is that? It was upside down. You could see immediately what it was when it was right side up. He was looking for time on the floor to show America what was in this bill for the State of Colorado. This beautiful vista he was showing me—and he showed the whole world last night—is something that is in this bill. It will be protected—a stunningly beautiful forest area in Colorado.

One million acres of landscape will be protected. Watersheds will be protected. Historic treasures will be protected. This protects over 140 miles of wild and scenic rivers throughout our country. These bills will create nearly 250,000 acres of wilderness in five States: Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Washington.

Additionally, the packages convey more than 100,000 acres to local communities for economic development. My friend the PRESIDING OFFICER understands how important that is, being able to convey to the private sector the ability to develop Federal lands. It has to be done carefully. It can't be done on a massive scale. If we did that, the rich people would wind up owning all the nice places. These are places I think should be shared by the American people. But 100,000 acres go to local communities for economic development.

The legislation continues our country's rich history, establishing national parks. It designates a number of new areas—for example, the Harriet Tubman Historic Park.

I read in a period of a month two books on Harriet Tubman. They both came out at about the same time. I can't imagine why a movie hasn't been made about this dynamic little 5-foot woman who did such remarkable things. What a story of this woman—this slave. She was a slave—bringing people out of the South into freedom in the North. She took them as far as Canada. She did it alone. So I hope some day someone will make a movie of this stunningly powerful woman. We are recognizing an area that will be named on her behalf.

The bundle of lands bills is good for America. It stretches literally from the shores of Alaska to the coast of Maine. It is especially important to Nevada, my State. It protects over 75,000 acres of wilderness in Humboldt and Lyon Counties in northern Nevada, the first new wilderness protections in the State since 2006.

One of those areas is named after a famous Indian, Wovoka. There was a man who was a famous Indian. He es-

tablished a dance that really brought Native Americans together. Even though it started in Nevada, it swept the country. This is going to be in Lyon County, it contains sage-grouse, bighorn sheep habitats, and some of the best fly fishing opportunities in Nevada and the Nation.

Now there is a pine forest wilderness in Humboldt County which has been championed by the local community. They have been working on this for years. We couldn't get it out of the House of Representatives. Over here, of course, it was a lost cause, and don't even think about getting it out of the energy committee.

Environmentalists, ranchers, hunters, anglers, and off-road vehicle enthusiasts came together to protect 20,000 acres of scenic lakes, amazing rock formations, and prime sage habitat.

But it also allows a mine there to have some more land from the Federal Government which they need from enlarging that land. It is a copper mine. It is extremely important that we develop copper and don't have to import it from South America and Russia.

Southern Nevada established the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument on the edge of North Las Vegas. This area is the largest deposit of ice age mammals in the United States. Imagine that basically in the middle of thousands of homes. People couldn't understand what they were digging up out there, ice age mammals that are so unbelievably large and preserved over these thousands of years. When the resources are developed, catalogued, and better understood, it will likely be the largest deposit in the entire country.

The package sells 10,000 acres of land to the city of Yerington. Lyon County was a county that probably suffered more from the economic shutdown. They had huge problems of unemployment, and now we have that mine there that will help. This will allow them to make even more jobs there.

The agreement also provides lands to the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Fernley, Carlin, allocates tracts for three universities and college campuses, and expands Nellis Air Force Base and the Fallon Naval Air Station.

This is good for Nevada. It is good for the country. This legislation promotes jobs, protects the environment, helps our Armed Forces, and gives Americans the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful landscapes this country has to offer.

It is not perfect legislation. No legislation is. But this is really good legislation. So I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these critical lands bills which are part of the defense authorization bill.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

Mr. REID. Mr. President, what is the business now?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the message to accompany H.R. 3979, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid amendment No. 3984 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3985 (to amendment No. 3984), of a perfecting nature.

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3986, to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3987 (to (the instructions) amendment No. 3986), of a perfecting nature.

Reid amendment No. 3988 (to Amendment No. 3987), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, in 1986 the people of South Dakota elected me to serve them in the 100th Session of the Congress in the House of Representatives. In 1996 they gave me the honor and privilege of being their junior Senator.

When I ran for the House in 1986, I told the people of South Dakota that neither party has all the answers, and that both parties have good ideas, as well as men and women of good will. My job, as I understood it, would be to work in a bipartisan manner, listening to all parties and reaching a good fit—also known as a compromise. That is what I still believe.

However, in each year of my 28 years of service this has become more difficult to achieve. Each party, rather than working cooperatively for the American people, is more and more focused on winning the next election. Today, days after the 2014 election, you can walk into the call center for either party and find Members dialing for dollars for 2016. Tonight there will be fundraisers across DC where Members will discuss policy not with their constituents but with organizations that contribute to their campaigns. We have lost our way.

My thoughts are not original. My colleague and dear friend from South Dakota, Senator Tom Daschle, in his farewell called for finding common ground that “will not be found on the