

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. YODER), the author of this bill.

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I really appreciate the comments of the gentleman from California, as well as the gentlewoman from Guam. To hear my community talked about so positively here on the floor of the House is a source of pride for me and the many who have worked so many years to have this moment come to fruition.

Today, the House of Representatives has the opportunity to grant long overdue recognition to a historical site in Kansas City, Kansas, that has its roots in our Nation's struggle for freedom and equality.

H.R. 5613, the Quindaro Townsite National Commemorative Site Act, is my bill to confer an important new designation to a historic site that has been, unfortunately, overlooked on the Federal level for too long. By passing this legislation, we can take an important step toward preserving our heritage and learning from our past.

The story of Quindaro is rooted in the same ideals and principles that helped build our Nation and make it great today. At one time, Quindaro was a boomtown, a central location in the Bleeding Kansas conflict, a stop on the Underground Railroad, and a shining example of integrated society in our country.

At its height in the years leading up to the Civil War, Quindaro was a beacon of hope on the border between Kansas and Missouri, directly on the front lines of the fight against slavery. The town was founded by Free Soilers for the stated purpose of shepherding anti-slavery activists and escaped slaves into Kansas. For many, Quindaro was a gateway that led from oppression into freedom.

In 1861, the question of slavery in Kansas was finally decided, and our great State was accepted into the Union as a free State. With its purpose having been served, the town of Quindaro soon faded away. However, families of freed slaves settled in the area, establishing the roots of a community that continues to this very day.

This confluence of history, with Bleeding Kansas, the Underground Railroad, and an enduring African American community, is a unique combination that is rare in our country.

In spite of Quindaro's notable history, today, the ruins of the town sit largely overlooked by those outside of the nearby community. The first mention of an effort to preserve this historic site is found in a local newspaper more than 90 years ago. Unfortunately, nine decades have passed without much significant investment in the site.

Local stakeholders have worked hard to protect the site and preserve its stories. I thank those who worked to elevate Quindaro. There are many who deserve recognition for that work, but I would especially like to thank Marvin

Robinson, the Allen Chapel AME Church, the Western University Association, the Wyandotte County Unified Government, and the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area, as well as Taylor Huhn in my office for his work to bring this bill to fruition.

I thank them for their years of dedication, for raising the historic site to my attention, and for educating me on its importance to community, State, and the Nation.

Today, we have an opportunity to bring meaningful Federal support to the folks who have dedicated their lives to Quindaro. The national commemorative site designation will be a crucial step toward spreading the story of Quindaro beyond the city limits of Kansas City to people around the Nation and will hopefully lead to their goal of becoming a national historic landmark.

Quindaro's legacy of people who were willing to lay down their lives in the name of freedom is the legacy of America. By preserving what remains of this town, we take a small but meaningful step toward preserving every good and noble thing that our great Nation stands for.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting our national heritage and pass this valuable legislation.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I wish to mention that I have enjoyed working with Mr. McCLINTOCK of California on these Natural Resources bills. It was a joy to have bipartisanship.

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

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her kind comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES).

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5613, to designate the Quindaro Townsite in Kansas City, Kansas, a national commemorative site.

Quindaro was founded in 1857 to provide a safe haven for antislavery activists moving into Kansas during the struggle to help make the territory a free State. Located on the banks of the Missouri River, the site quickly became a vital port and a stop on the Underground Railroad. Although the town dwindled after Kansas became a State, Quindaro's short but rich history is an important reminder of Kansas' role in our Nation's history.

Currently, the site sits on the National Register of Historic Places. However, designating Quindaro a national commemorative site would qualify the downtown for additional Federal assistance as Quindaro pursues the ultimate goal of being a national historic landmark.

H.R. 5613 is a great step forward in that process and will help preserve an important piece of Kansas and American history. I am proud to cosponsor this bill, and I thank Representative

KEVIN YODER for bringing it forward. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would again like to say what a great pleasure it has been for me to work with Ms. BORDALLO and the members of the Natural Resources Committee. It truly does work in a bipartisan manner, most of the time. And it is no coincidence that, most of the time, it is productive work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, 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. McCLINTOCK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5613, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the Quindaro Townsite in Kansas City, Kansas, as a National Commemorative Site."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2345, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 4881, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2018

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2345) to require the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.