

The Free Veterans from Fees Act has bipartisan support and has been endorsed by AMVETS, a veteran organization that represents 250,000 members nationwide.

I thank the House Committee on Natural Resources for holding a hearing on this bill and I am pleased to see it on the legislative calendar. You may also remember this bill was passed through the Committee and through suspension on the House floor last Congress, and we hope that we can get this bill passed under suspension this Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1702, 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 waive the application fee for any special use permit for veterans' special events at war memorials on land administered by the National Park Service in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

B-47 RIDGE DESIGNATION ACT

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 490) to designate a mountain ridge in the State of Montana as "B-47 Ridge".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 490

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "B-47 Ridge Designation Act".

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF B-47 RIDGE, MONTANA.

(a) DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The unnamed mountain ridge located at 45°14'40.89" N., 110°43'38.75" W. that runs south and west of Emigrant Peak in the Absaroka Range in the State of Montana, which is the approximate site of a crash of a B-47, shall be known and designated as "B-47 Ridge".

(2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the ridge described in paragraph (1) shall be deemed to be a reference to "B-47 Ridge".

(b) AUTHORIZATION FOR PLAQUE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the installation and maintenance of a plaque on B-47 Ridge that—

(A) memorializes the 1962 crash of the B-47 aircraft at the site; and

(B) may include the names of the victims of the crash.

(2) AUTHORIZED TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture may include any terms and conditions in the authorization for a plaque under paragraph (1) that the Secretary of Agriculture determines to be necessary.

(3) FUNDING.—No Federal funds may be used to design, procure, install, or maintain the plaque authorized under paragraph (1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 490 the B-47 Ridge Designation Act.

One of our priorities on the House Natural Resources Committee this Congress has been to enhance public lands access for veterans and service-members and that includes allowing our public lands to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

This bill would designate an unnamed mountain range near Emigrant Peak in the State of Montana as "B-47 Ridge" and allow the installation of a commemorative plaque at the site.

The name and plaque would memorialize the tragic end to a routine training flight on the night of July 23, 1962. Four U.S. Air Force servicemembers lost their lives when their B-47 strategic bomber crashed at 8,500 feet. Debris from the crash can still be seen on the ridge today.

This bill appropriately honors the memory and sacrifice of Captain Faulconer, Lieutenant Lloyd Sawyers, Lieutenant David Sutton, and Lieutenant Hixenbaugh.

I urge its immediate adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 490 designates the mountain ridge where an Air Force B-47 strategic bomber crashed while on a training mission in Montana in 1962 as the "B-47 Ridge."

This bill is the Senate companion to H.R. 1267, which our Congressman GIANFORTE led here in the House. Nearly 60 years have passed since that U.S. Air Force B-47 bomber left Texas and crashed into Montana's Emigrant Peak just north of Yellowstone National Park in the Paradise Valley. Debris remains on the ridge where the plane crashed. S. 490 will rename the area the "B-47 Ridge" to honor the four-man crew who perished in the wreck.

Those brave airmen who died that day on the southwestern slope of Emigrant Peak during a training mission were: Captain Bill Faulconer, Lieutenant Lloyd Sawyers, Lieutenant David Sutton, and Lieutenant Fred Hixenbaugh.

This legislation will also allow for the placement of a memorial plaque

which will be paid for by the crew's families and the local community.

This is a good and important bill honoring the sacrifice of those airmen and I applaud Congressman GIANFORTE and the entire Montana delegation for their efforts to get this lasting tribute signed into law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 490.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRIBAL SCHOOL FEDERAL INSURANCE PARITY ACT

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 895) to allow tribal grant schools to participate in the Federal Employee Health Benefits program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 895

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Tribal School Federal Insurance Parity Act".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT.

Section 409 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1647b) is amended by inserting "or the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.)" after "(25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 895, introduced by Representative DUSTY JOHNSON of South Dakota, authorizes Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations operating Tribally controlled schools the ability to access the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.