

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Without the necessary tools, healthcare professionals cannot administer lifesaving care to their patients. While it may not be immediately obvious, these tools include minerals and materials.

From the copper, gold, lithium, titanium, silver, and platinum used in antimicrobial touch surfaces, heart stents, pacemakers, surgical tools, antibiotics, and chemotherapy to the uranium byproducts and liquid helium used in cancer treatments and MRI scans that I mentioned earlier, our healthcare system is only as reliable as our supply chains.

The Energy Act of 2020 was crafted explicitly so USGS would consult with multiple agencies, each providing expertise within their prospective jurisdictions.

Adding HHS as one of these agencies, as H.R. 6395 aims to do, would ensure the mineral needs of the healthcare sector are fully considered as USGS crafts the critical minerals list going forward.

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6395.

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.

□ 1600

FISHERY IMPROVEMENT TO STREAMLINE UNTIMELY REGULATORY HURDLES POST EMERGENCY SITUATION ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5103) to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to approve or deny spend plans within a certain amount of time, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5103

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 "Fishery Improvement to Streamline untimely regulatory Hurdles post Emergency Situation Act" or the "FISHES Act".

SEC. 2. SPEND PLANS.

Section 312(a)(6) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861a(a)(6)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), to read as follows:

"(D) SPEND PLANS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—To receive an allocation from funds available under paragraph (9), a requester with an affirmative fishery resource disaster determination shall submit a spend plan to the Secretary, not more than 120 days after receiving notification that funds are available, that shall include the following information, if applicable:

"(I) Objectives and outcomes, with an emphasis on addressing the factors contributing to the fishery resource disaster and minimizing future uninsured losses, if applicable.

"(II) Statement of work.

"(III) Budget details.

"(ii) REVIEW.—

"(I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall review a spend plan submitted under clause (i) to determine if it is complete and provide notice within 10 days.

"(II) INCOMPLETE SPEND PLAN.—If the Secretary determines that a spend plan submitted under clause (i) is not complete, when providing the notice required by subclause (I), the Secretary shall provide a detailed description of the information that is necessary for the spend plan to be determined complete."; and

(2) in subparagraph (F)(i), to read as follows:

"(i) AVAILABILITY.—

"(I) TIMELINE.—Funds shall be made available to grantees not later than 90 days after the date the Secretary receives a complete spend plan.

"(II) REVIEW OF COMPLETED SPEND PLAN AND APPORTIONMENT OF FUNDS.—If so requested, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may review a completed spend plan concurrently with the Secretary. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget may not delay the timeline described in subclause (I)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5103, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5103, the Fishery Improvement to Streamline untimely regulatory Hurdles post Emergency Situation, or the FISHES, Act.

This legislation, sponsored by the gentleman from Florida, Congressman BYRON DONALDS, will protect States and fishing communities from unnecessary delays in the disaster recovery process.

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, States and communities affected by fishery disasters can petition for funding to assist in response and recovery efforts. However, affected States and communities have experienced delays in obtaining the approvals needed to access these funds. H.R. 5103 requires the Secretary of Commerce to review disaster spending plans submitted by requesters within 10 days.

Additionally, while the legislation allows the Office of Management and Budget to review spending plans, it makes it clear that they may not, and I repeat may not, delay the statutory timelines. This will ensure accountability and consistency in the fishery disaster response process, providing certainty to States and fishing communities in times of recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5103 would speed up the timelines for providing funding to communities affected by fishery disasters.

Coastal communities rely on fisheries for jobs and economic development. However, a fishery's health often depends on environmental conditions. Hurricanes, oil spills, and other disasters can severely impact fisheries and harm coastal economies.

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Congress can appropriate funds for disaster assistance, which the Department of Commerce can then provide in the form of a grant, cooperative agreement, loan, or contract.

After the Secretary of Commerce declares a fishery disaster and Congress appropriates disaster funding, the Office of Management and Budget must approve spend plans before any money can be distributed to recipients. These reviews can also be lengthy.

Delays in processing mean longer wait times for fishers, Tribes, and coastal communities needing relief.

Allowing the Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of Commerce to review spend plans concurrently, as this bill proposes, will increase efficiency and speed up the allocation of disaster relief funds, ensuring faster support for impacted communities and more efficient recovery efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DONALDS), who is the lead sponsor of the bill.

Mr. DONALDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bill, the FISHES Act.

I represent Florida's 19th Congressional District in southwest Florida, which has a significant coastal presence.

In southwest Florida, hurricanes are common, which often bring about significant damage to critical infrastructure, businesses, and communities alike.

When people think about disaster relief, FEMA and the SBA often come to mind. However, we must not forget about the critical disaster relief that NOAA provides in the aftermath of a federally declared fishery disaster.

For background, during the fishery disaster relief process, States must

submit a spend plan to NOAA which lays out how the State will spend disaster relief it receives from the Federal Government.

Currently, the Office of Management and Budget can voluntarily decide to insert itself into the Federal fishery disaster relief process, which it often does, to review a State's spend plan.

Unlike most other aspects of the process, OMB has no deadline to review a spend plan. Predictably this has led to unnecessary delay in allocating crucial Federal relief post disaster. For example, the State of Florida alone has requested fishery disaster relief on seven different occasions since 2012, however, for each occasion, over 2 years had lapsed from the time of approval to when fishery disaster relief funds were ultimately made available. This is simply unacceptable.

We must throw coastal communities and businesses a life raft to help them stay afloat post disaster. As we saw firsthand in southwest Florida, time is of the essence once a disaster hits.

We, as legislators, must continue to find ways to cut self-induced red tape and streamline the disbursement of relief to communities devastated by a natural disaster.

That is where the FISHERIES Act comes in.

This simple bill expedites the allocation of Federal fishery disaster relief by requiring OMB to review a State spend plan concurrently with NOAA, while also requiring that funds be distributed to grantees within 90 days after a complete spend plan is received. Time is of the essence when it comes to disbursing relief post disaster.

This isn't just a Florida issue. It is a nationwide issue. This fact is illustrated by the diverse coalition of nationwide organizations that endorse the FISHERIES Act, along with the vast number of bipartisan Members across the country who have decided to co-sponsor this bill.

Specifically, the FISHERIES Act is co-sponsored by 48 of my colleagues, and this bill is currently endorsed by 107 organizations of all kinds representing the environmental community, fishing community, boaters, hospitality industry, retail and restaurant industries, and so on.

The overwhelming support my bill has received speaks for itself, and it really highlights how vital it is for the FISHERIES Act to be signed into law as soon as possible.

Time is of the essence once a disaster hits, and we as Congress have the ability to expedite the disbursement of Federal relief to communities in need.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this commonsense bill and pass the FISHERIES Act.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. In closing, Mr. Speaker, many times in recent years this body has taken steps to help com-

munities recover in the wake of natural disasters. Programs designed to help communities recover from these disasters must work effectively and help communities to recover in a timely manner. Too often government bureaucracy can act as an impediment to recovery efforts.

We can improve this process by ensuring the Office of Management and Budget does not unnecessarily delay it.

Once again, I thank Congressman BYRON DONALDS for his work on this issue and the many Members and stakeholders who have supported this effort.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CLINE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5103, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

UTAH STATE PARKS ADJUSTMENT ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7332) to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain Federal land to the State of Utah for inclusion in certain State parks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7332

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 "Utah State Parks Adjustment Act".

SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND TO THE STATE OF UTAH.

(a) ANTELOPE ISLAND STATE PARK CONVEYANCE.—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall convey, subject to valid existing rights, without consideration, and by quitclaim deed, to the State of Utah (referred to in this section as the "State"), for inclusion in Antelope Island State Park, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Bureau of Land Management land depicted on the map entitled "Antelope Island State Park Proposal: Utah State Park Additions" and dated February 28, 2023, that is identified as land proposed for conveyance on that map.

(2) *COSTS.*—Any costs relating to the conveyance under paragraph (1), including costs for surveys and other administrative costs, shall be paid by the State.

(b) WASATCH MOUNTAIN STATE PARK CONVEYANCE.—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall convey, subject to valid existing rights, without consideration, and by quitclaim deed, to the State, for inclusion in Wasatch Mountain State Park, all right, title, and inter-

est of the United States in and to the Bureau of Land Management land depicted on the map entitled "Wasatch Mountain State Park Proposal Utah State Park Additions" and dated May 3, 2024, that is identified as land proposed for conveyance on that map.

(2) *COSTS.*—Any costs relating to the conveyance under paragraph (1), including costs for surveys and other administrative costs, shall be paid by the State.

(c) FREMONT INDIAN STATE PARK CONVEYANCE.—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey, subject to valid existing rights, without consideration, and by quitclaim deed, to the State, for inclusion in Fremont Indian State Park, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to—

(A) the National Forest System land depicted on the map entitled "S. 2136—Utah State Parks Adjustment Act" and dated September 12, 2023, that is identified as an area selected for land transfer on that map; and

(B) any improvements to the National Forest System land described in subparagraph (A).

(2) *EASEMENTS.*—As a condition of the conveyance under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Agriculture shall reserve easements to the conveyed land for all National Forest System roads and trails that originate at, terminate at, or traverse the conveyed land.

(3) *WATER RIGHTS.*—As a condition of the conveyance under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey to the State only those water rights held by the United States identified as 63–44, 63–1607, and 63–2817 in the water rights database of the Utah State Engineer that provide water to the Castle Rock Campground and the Belknap Historic Guard Station interpretive site.

(4) *SURVEY.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—If determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be necessary, the exact acreage and legal description of the National Forest System land to be conveyed under paragraph (1) shall be determined by a survey approved by the Secretary of Agriculture.

(B) *COSTS.*—As a condition of the conveyance under paragraph (1), the State shall pay the reasonable survey costs associated with the survey under subparagraph (A).

(5) *ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—The Secretary of Agriculture may enter into an agreement with the State with respect to additional terms and conditions applicable to the conveyance under paragraph (1), including—

(A) the management and maintenance of the Belknap Historic Guard Station interpretive site;

(B) the use and maintenance of roads and trails on the conveyed parcel of National Forest System land;

(C) the continued use of permitted livestock grazing on the conveyed parcel of National Forest System land;

(D) continued Forest Service access to, and use and maintenance of, any water rights retained by the United States in the area of the conveyed parcel of National Forest System land; and

(E) any other terms and conditions necessary to clarify management and maintenance of the parcel of National Forest System land after the date of conveyance.

(d) *MODIFICATIONS TO MAPS.*—For the purposes of a conveyance required by this section, the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable, may make minor modifications to the applicable map described in subsection (a), (b), or (c)(1)(A), including changes reflecting any applicable surveys conducted under this section.

(e) *USE OF CONVEYED LAND.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The State shall use any Federal land conveyed under this section for public purposes, including parks, campgrounds, recreation, and permitted livestock grazing.