

committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule. The Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Resources.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

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

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I shall not object, we have been advised that the Democratic leadership has been consulted and has no objection to the request.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 6 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 6 p.m.

□ 1803

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) at 6:03 p.m.

PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1977, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the de novo vote on the passage of House Resolution 189, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

(For text of House Resolution 189, as amended, see prior proceedings of the House of today.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution, as amended.

The resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1977, which we are about to consider, and that I may be permitted to include tables, charts, and other materials.

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

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 187 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1977.

□ 1804

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1977) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, with Mr. SHAYS (Chairman pro tempore) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, July 12, 1995, title II was open for amendment at any point.

Pursuant to House Resolution 189, further consideration of the bill for amendment shall proceed without intervening motion except amendments beginning in title II printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD before July 14, 1995; motions that the committee rise offered by the majority leader or his designee, and motions that the committee rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted offered a preferential under clause 2(d) of rule XXI.

Each further amendment to the bill may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed, is considered read, is debatable for either 10 or 20 minutes, as the case may be, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent of the amendment, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment.

The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may reduce to not less than 5 minutes the time for voting by electronic device on any postponed question that immediately follows another vote by electronic device without intervening business, provided that the time for voting by electronic device on the first in any series of questions shall not be less than 15 minutes.

Are there any amendments to title II?

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BASS

Mr. BASS. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BASS: Page 47, line 25, insert before the period the following:

“: Provided: That the Forest Service shall make a priority emergency purchase of the Bretton Woods tract within the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire.”

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 189, the gentleman from New Hampshire [Mr. BASS] will be recognized for 5 minutes, and a Member opposed will be recognized for 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Hampshire [Mr. BASS].

Mr. BASS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I understand that this amendment is subject to a point of order and I plan to withdraw it shortly. However, I would like to enter into a very brief colloquy with the chairman of the Subcommittee on the Interior of the Committee on Appropriations.

Is this acceptable to the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will yield, yes, it is. We do object to the amendment, but I think the colloquy will clear that up.

Mr. BASS. I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that certain funds will be available in this bill for emergency land acquisitions. These acquisitions include tracts of land which are surrounded by existing national forest land and are imminently threatened by development. It is my further understanding that the Bretton Woods tract in the White Mountain National Forest is the type of acquisition that might qualify for funding.

Is this also the understanding of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. REGULA. If the gentleman will yield further, yes, it is. I would point out, as the gentleman did earlier, that the money in here only applies in the event of an emergency. This is the type of thing that might qualify.

Mr. BASS. Very well. I thank my colleague for his courtesy.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my strong support for the acquisition of the Bretton Woods tract and its incorporation into the White Mountain National Forest. Historically, aesthetically, and recreationally, this 480-acre tract is invaluable to New Hampshire's North Country. This expanse is one of the last remaining undeveloped private ownerships that lies within the panorama of the historic Mt. Washington Hotel where the Bretton Woods Treaty was signed 50 years ago. The property contains over 10 miles of trails that provide the area's many visitors with outstanding recreational opportunities, including hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.

The Forest Service has informed me that this tract's acquisition would qualify as an emergency. The land is surrounded on three sides by the national forest. While the land is zoned for development, the owner is ready to sell the parcel to the Forest Service. However,