

land into a separate area called Innovative Park. Additionally, this bill authorizes the sale of several other small tracts of land which are close to I-64 and which have lost their natural forest characteristics. The proceeds from the sale will be used for the acquisition of other lands in Virginia that still have forest characteristics.

The George Washington National Forest, the Jefferson National Forest and the U.S. Forest Service have expressed their support for this legislation. I strongly support the measure and urge its passage by the House.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume simply to thank my colleague from my neighboring district for his support for this legislation, which hopefully will also yield some benefits further across the State to his district as well. This is something that is responsible use of National Forest Service land and good for economic development in Virginia, it is something that has the strong support of the National Forest Service, and I urge my colleagues to adopt this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3226.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. 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. 3226, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

CORRECTIONS CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is the day for the call of the Corrections Calendar.

The Clerk will call the bill on the Corrections Calendar.

CORRECTING A PROVISION RELATING TO TERMINATION OF BENEFITS FOR CONVICTED PERSONS

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 3096) to correct a provision relating to termination of benefits for convicted persons.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 3096

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

SECTION 1. CORRECTION.

Section 8148(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking "a receipt" and inserting "or receipt".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) each will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD).

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

The subject of H.R. 3096 is the Federal Employees Compensation Act. The Federal Employees Compensation Act is a good statute, it is an important one, it makes sure that when Federal employees are injured in the line of work that their lost wages are made up by the Federal Government and that their medical bills are paid for. It is a program that has been in place for a long time and it is one that we need to have, of course.

There are some problems with this program in my view. We are now spending \$1.9 billion a year to pay for the costs of 270,000 Federal workers. There are some changes that I will propose at a future date. We had a hearing on those changes this morning. But today, for Corrections Day, we are considering H.R. 3096, which unlike some of the other more controversial changes that I will propose, is noncontroversial and enjoys bipartisan support.

The loophole that we are trying to close with this Corrections Day Calendar has to do with the following:

Under the current law, if an individual files a valid claim for an injury during the course of Federal employment and then subsequently files a false claim or false follow-up information and is convicted and may even go to jail, under that scenario that individual can still, believe it or not, receive every 4 weeks a Federal workers' compensation check from the very funds supported by the taxpayers that that individual has defrauded.

We are going to simply change one word, change the word "a" to "or" so that we make sure that an individual will be ineligible to receive workers' compensation funds whether they had committed the initial fraud at the first claim or any subsequent fraud thereafter.

It is a good bill, it is an important thing to do to make the system have a bit more integrity. It has bipartisan support. It is supported by the Department of Labor and the Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General, and I would urge an aye vote.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD), the sponsor of H.R. 3096, and the Inspector General of the Department of Labor who recommended that we make this correction to the

statute. The statute as presently drafted and the parallel language in the Federal Criminal Code differ, creating a discrepancy in the law which could have been interpreted to allow persons to receive FECA benefits on the basis of fraudulent information. The legislation before us makes a minor technical correction, changing an "a" to an "or." This will ensure that persons who commit fraud and the receipt of FECA benefits would lose their entitlements to such benefits.

I am pleased to support this legislation and again I commend the sponsor, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD), for bringing it before us.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Corrections Advisory Group, I rise today in full support of the legislation of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD), H.R. 3096. This is truly a technical correction, and it is fitting for the bill to be considered on the Corrections Calendar.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's laws are complex and sometimes confusing, and when someone interprets the law, one word can make a difference. In this case, the inconsistent use of one word and the thousands of words that make up our laws called into question the law's application to certain individuals.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD) recognized this inconsistency and quickly acted to make a change. He contacted the Corrections Advisory Group, which moved to correct the problem. The bill ensures that no Federal employee can lie on a benefit application or any subsequent request for information and get away with it.

The Corrections Calendar was created to fix small, technical corrections such as this, and I am pleased the bill has made its way to the House floor so quickly.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for introducing this bill and for utilizing the Corrections Advisory Group, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) for his bipartisan support of this legislation. I want to thank the full committee chairman, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), and the Subcommittee on Workforce Protection chairman, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), for their support of H.R. 3096 and for moving it so quickly through the committee. I would also like to again express my appreciation to the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), as well as the Members on both sides of the aisle and, as well, the Corrections Day committee for their support of H.R. 3096.