

We tried to balance the film industry's need for certainty with the Interior's need for flexibility, and I think we have struck that balance. The film industry wants a certainty. They do not want an arbitrary kind of thing where they never know. And, in fact, if there is an arbitrary approach to it, more and more they will go offshore somewhere. They will go to Australia. They will go other places. There are other pretty places in the world they can go to film movies. They will go somewhere else to do it if they do not have a degree of certainty.

I will not pretend this bill is a cure-all for all of our public land needs but it is a start. It will help. It is an equity thing. Even the film industry thinks that it should pay a reasonable fee for using the public lands.

So this is one of those rare bills where I think everyone has the chance to come out a winner and, therefore, I urge its adoption. I do not believe there is any objection to this. I think we have worked out the kinks and I think it will work very well for us. Again, I would repeat, Mr. Speaker, I urge its adoption.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2993, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2933, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

#### SALE, LEASE OR EXCHANGE OF IDAHO SCHOOL LAND

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4166) to amend the Idaho Admission Act regarding the sale or lease of school land.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4166

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

#### SECTION 1. SALE, LEASE, OR EXCHANGE OF IDAHO SCHOOL LAND.

The Act of July 3, 1890 (commonly known as the "Idaho Admission Act") (26 Stat. 215,

chapter 656), is amended by striking section 5 and inserting the following:

#### "SEC. 5. SALE, LEASE, OR EXCHANGE OF SCHOOL LAND.

"(a) SALE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c), all land granted under this Act for educational purposes shall be sold only at public sale.

"(2) USE OF PROCEEDS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Proceeds of the sale of school land—

"(i) except as provided in clause (ii), shall be deposited in the public school permanent endowment fund and expended only for the support of public schools; and

"(ii) (I) may be deposited in a land bank fund to be used to acquire, in accordance with State law, other land in the State for the benefit of the beneficiaries of the public school permanent endowment fund; or

"(II) if the proceeds are not used to acquire other land in the State within a period specified by State law, shall be transferred to the public school permanent endowment fund.

"(B) EARNINGS RESERVE FUND.—Earnings on amounts in the public school permanent endowment fund shall be deposited in an earnings reserve fund to be used for the support of public schools of the State in accordance with State law.

"(b) LEASE.—Land granted under this Act for educational purposes may be leased in accordance with State law.

"(c) EXCHANGE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Land granted for educational purposes under this Act may be exchanged for other public or private land.

"(2) VALUATION.—The values of exchanged lands shall be approximately equal, or, if the values are not approximately equal, the values shall be equalized by the payment of funds by the appropriate party.

"(3) EXCHANGES WITH THE UNITED STATES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A land exchange with the United States shall be limited to Federal land within the State that is subject to exchange under the law governing the administration of the Federal land.

"(B) PREVIOUS EXCHANGES.—All land exchanges made with the United States before the date of enactment of this paragraph are approved.

"(d) RESERVATION FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES.—Land granted for educational purposes, whether surveyed or unsurveyed, shall not be subject to preemption, homestead entry, or any other form of entry under the land laws of the United States, but shall be reserved for school purposes only."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation that is very important to the State of Idaho. H.R. 4166, introduced by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), would amend the Idaho Admissions Act regarding the sale or lease of school land.

Mr. Speaker, when Idaho was granted statehood back in 1890, the U.S. Government designated millions of acres of land within the State as an endowment to Idaho's schoolchildren. This was a common practice at the time, and

many other western States, including my own State of Utah, has similar provisions in their statehood act.

These State school lands are, by law, to be managed to provide revenue for the schools. When the lands are sold or leased or whatever, the money goes into a trust fund that produces a stream of income for the schools. This money is very important to the schoolchildren of Idaho.

The people of the State of Idaho have been working on ways to get more revenue from these lands and have found ways to ensure that their trust funds provide a better stream of income. Some of these reforms have been implemented. However, some cannot be implemented until we amend the Idaho Admissions Act to give them the authority to make these changes.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4166 would amend the Idaho Admissions Act to give the State of Idaho the flexibility they need to make these changes. The legislation is in everyone's best interest and is in particularly the best interest of Idaho's schoolchildren. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Utah, the chairman of our Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands of the Committee on Resources, for his management of this legislation, and certainly the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) for his sponsorship of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, as introduced by the gentleman from Idaho, would amend the Idaho Admissions Act to make certain changes regarding the sale and exchange or lease of lands granted to the State of Idaho for the benefit of schools.

The purpose of the exchanges, as I understand them, is to generate additional income for Idaho's permanent endowment fund. The State of Idaho has already modified State law in order to implement these changes; however, the Idaho Admissions Act must also be amended in order to conform to these changes.

Simple as that, Mr. Speaker. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the author of the bill.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very important bill for Idaho, as has already been said, but it is an interesting opportunity. This is an opportunity for us to generate increased revenues for Idaho public schools, with no tax increase and

with simply a reformed management of our public lands.

Before I go further, I want to give my sincere thanks to my colleague, the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. HELEN CHENOWETH) for her strong support and advocacy not only for this legislation but for the young people of Idaho, as we have fought here to make sure our policies in Washington give us the best opportunity for our children in Idaho.

H.R. 4166 is going to provide the State of Idaho the ability to increase funding for public education by at least \$20 million, if not much more, annually, by restructuring the management of our endowment lands.

In 1890, when Idaho was made a State, about 3½ million acres of land as a permanent endowment were given to the State to help the children throughout this century and beyond. Today, that endowment has a value of about \$2.7 billion, with an accompanying endowment fund worth about another \$700 million, a total value of about \$3.4 billion. And yet, after evaluation, our Governor found its return was only about 3.3 percent, just barely keeping up with the rate of inflation. If that rate of performance could be increased by just 1 percent, it could generate as much as \$30 million of extra dollars for Idaho schoolchildren.

Because of that, Idaho's Governor Phil Batt appointed a Governor's Committee on Endowment Fund Investment Reform to look into what could be done. And that committee, chaired by Doug Dorn, reviewed the current structure of our endowment lands and evaluated what simple commonsense approaches we could find to improve the performance for our school children without raising taxes.

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H.R. 4166 is one of the reforms that this committee has suggested. I again have to give credit to Governor Batt, to the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) and to the others who have worked so hard to make this legislation a reality today. The changes that are proposed allow Idaho to manage its resources in a more effective way that will benefit the school children of Idaho and give us the ability to more clearly strengthen our future.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be the sponsor of this legislation. I encourage all of my colleagues here in the House to support this legislation.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH).

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding time, and I want to thank my colleague from Idaho for his outstanding leadership on this issue that is very, very important to our

State. As my colleague from Idaho moves to other endeavors this next year, we will miss his leadership in this body.

I rise right now in wholehearted support for H.R. 4166, a bill to amend the Idaho Admission Act. The most important commodity that we have, Mr. Speaker, is our Nation's children. By providing our children with the best possible education, we provide our Nation with a future that will allow it to continue to be a leader, the leader of the free world. But that future rests on our children and the kind of work that we can do for them today. H.R. 4166 takes a positive step in that direction in our State.

H.R. 4166 amends the 1890 Idaho Admission Act so that Idaho can better invest the funds gained from the leasing of the State's 2.5 million acres of endowment lands. This change could provide as much as \$30 million more for Idaho schools, for construction, for hiring new teachers or wiring classrooms for the Internet without raising new taxes.

As my colleague from Idaho has previously stated, this proposal has been thoroughly debated by all parties and passed nearly unanimously in the Idaho legislature. This bipartisan effort will give education in Idaho a boost without raising taxes. Clearly Idaho's children are the winners here.

I wish to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) as well as the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER), the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) for agreeing to allow this bill to come to the floor in an expedited manner. Most importantly I would like to thank Governor Batt for his diligent efforts on behalf of Idaho's children. Without his vision on how to gain more money for Idaho's schools and without raising taxes on the State's taxpayers, we would not be here.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this very valuable piece of legislation, valuable to our State.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4166.

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. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the legislation just passed.

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

There was no objection.

#### MEMORIAL TO HONOR MAHATMA GANDHI

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4284) to authorize the Government of India to establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi in the District of Columbia.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4284

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

#### SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH MEMORIAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Government of India may establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi on the Federal land in the District of Columbia.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of the Interior or any other head of a Federal agency may enter into cooperative agreements with the Government of India to maintain features associated with the memorial.

(c) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the memorial shall be in accordance with the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), except that sections 2(c) and 6(b) of that Act shall not apply with respect to the memorial.

(d) LIMITATION ON PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—The Government of the United States shall not pay any expense of the establishment of the memorial or its maintenance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. H.R. 4284 is a bill introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM). The gentleman from Florida is to be commended for working very hard to craft a bill that will recognize and memorialize one of the great world leaders of our time. H.R. 4284 would authorize the Government of India to establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi on Federal property in the District of Columbia and would be in basic accordance with the Commemorative Works Act. The memorial is to be a gift to the people of the United States as a part of the celebration of India's 50 years of freedom.

Mahatma Gandhi was born in India in 1869. He was best known for his civil disobedience that took shape in non-violence and passive resistance and was instrumental in helping India achieve its independence from England. He is revered by millions throughout the world for his unending fight for personal freedom and human rights. H.R. 4284 would allow the country of India to create the Mahatma's memorial within the District of Columbia to