

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,  
Clerk of the House.

PERIODIC REPORT ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS PAYMENTS MADE TO CUBA PURSUANT TO TREASURY DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC LICENSES—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6), as amended by section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, Public Law 104-114, 110 Stat. 785, I transmit herewith a semiannual report "detailing payments made to Cuba . . . as a result of the provision of telecommunications services" pursuant to Department of the Treasury specific licenses.

WILLIAMS J. CLINTON,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 2000.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions may be taken after debate is concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 6 p.m. today.

SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY INITIATIVE

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 910) to authorize the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers and in coordination with other Federal agency heads, to participate in the funding and implementation of a balanced, long-term solution to the problems of groundwater contamination, water supply, and reliability affecting the San Gabriel groundwater basin in California, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 910

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 "San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Initiative".

SEC. 2. SAN GABRIEL BASIN RESTORATION.

(a) SAN GABRIEL BASIN RESTORATION.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND.—There shall be established within the Treasury of the United States an interest bearing account to be known as the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund (in this section referred to as the "Restoration Fund").

(2) ADMINISTRATION OF FUND.—The Restoration Fund shall be administered by the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers (in this Act referred to as the "Secretary"). The Secretary shall administer the Fund in cooperation with the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority, or its successor agency.

(3) PURPOSES OF FUND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the amounts in the Restoration Fund, including interest accrued, shall be utilized by the Secretary—

(i) to design and construct water quality projects to be administered by the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority and the Central Basin Water Quality Project to be administered by the Central Basin Municipal Water District; and

(ii) to operate and maintain any project constructed under this section for such period as the Secretary determines, but not to exceed 10 years, following the initial date of operation of the project.

(B) COST-SHARING LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not obligate any funds appropriated to the Restoration Fund in a fiscal year until the Secretary has deposited in the Fund an amount provided by non-Federal interests sufficient to ensure that at least 35 percent of any funds obligated by the Secretary are from funds provided to the Secretary by the non-Federal interests. The San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority shall be responsible for providing the non-Federal amount required by the preceding sentence. The State of California, local government agencies, and private entities may provide all or any portion of such amount.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW.—In carrying out the activities described in this section, the Secretary shall comply with any applicable Federal and State laws.

(c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ACTIVITIES.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect other Federal or State authorities that are being used or may be used to facilitate the cleanup and protection of the San Gabriel and Central groundwater basins. In carrying out the activities described in this section, the Secretary shall integrate such activities with ongoing Federal and State projects and activities. None of the funds made available for such activities pursuant to this section shall be counted against any Federal authorization ceiling established for any previously authorized Federal projects or activities.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Restoration Fund established under subsection (a) \$85,000,000. Such funds shall remain available until expended.

(2) SET-ASIDE.—Of the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1), no more than \$10,000,000 shall be available to carry out the Central Basin Water Quality Project.

SEC. 3. PERCHLORATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with Federal, State, and local government agencies, is authorized to participate in studies and other investigative activities and in the planning and design of projects determined by the Secretary to offer a long-term solution to the problem of groundwater contamination caused by perchlorates.

(b) INVESTIGATIONS AND PROJECTS.—

(1) BOSQUE AND LEON RIVERS.—The Secretary, in coordination with other Federal agencies and the Brazos River Authority, shall participate under subsection (a) in investigations and projects in the Bosque and Leon River watersheds in Texas to assess the impact of the per-

chlorate associated with the former Naval "Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant" at McGregor, Texas.

(2) CADDO LAKE.—The Secretary, in coordination with other Federal agencies and the Northeast Texas Municipal Water District, shall participate under subsection (a) in investigations and projects relating to perchlorate contamination in Caddo Lake, Texas.

(3) EASTERN SANTA CLARA BASIN.—The Secretary, in coordination with other Federal, State, and local government agencies, shall participate under subsection (a) in investigations and projects related to sites that are sources of perchlorates and that are located in the city of Santa Clarita, California.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purposes of carrying out the activities authorized in this section, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$25,000,000, of which not to exceed \$8,000,000 shall be available to carry out subsection (b)(1), not to exceed \$3,000,000 shall be available to carry out subsection (b)(2), and not to exceed \$7,000,000 shall be available to carry out subsection (b)(3).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BORSKI) each will control 20 minutes.

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

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules, who is the principal author of this legislation and the driving force behind it.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by saying first, I serve on the Committee on Rules, and it is a great thrill to stand here suspending the rules for consideration of this very important legislation.

I want to congratulate the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, my very good friend, whom I supported in his quest for Whip 2 decades ago; and also the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT), the very distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment; along with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BORSKI), the ranking minority member of the subcommittee.

Also, I would like to point to several of my colleagues from the San Gabriel Valley, the gentleman from California (Mr. MARTINEZ), who is here and who, in fact, reminded me of an event out in California that they came to him and talked to him about introducing this legislation, and I am very pleased that he has played a key role in helping to make this possible; our colleague, the gentleman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO), who joined in cosponsoring; and also a very important driving force behind this legislation has been my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROGAN), with whom I share representation of the City of Pasadena, which is in the San Gabriel Valley.

We are here for consideration of some legislation that is very, very important not just for Southern California; but, in fact, for the rest of the Nation.