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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 30, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROBERT B. ADERHOLT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1954. An act to extend the authorities of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 until 2006, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1218. An act to extend the authorities of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 until 2006.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2001, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties with each party limited to 30 minutes, and each Member, other than the majority or minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) for 5 minutes.

FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1071, a bill to increase authorization for the National Sea Grant College Program. The idea of the Sea Grant College Program was originally suggested by Mr. Athelstan Spilhaus. In a 1964 editorial he wrote, ''Establishment of the land grant colleges was one of the best investments this Nation ever made. That same kind of imagination and foresight should be applied to exploitation of the sea.''

In 1965, Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island introduced legislation to establish sea grant colleges on campuses nationwide as centers of excellence in marine and coastal studies. With the adoption in 1966 of the National Sea Grant College Act Program, Congress established an academic industry government partnership intended to enhance the Nation's education, economy and environment in the 21st century.

Today, Mr. Speaker, more than 54 percent of our Nation's population lives along the coast. But funding for the National Sea Grant College Program is only 3 percent of the equivalent Federal funding for the Land Grant College Program.

Like many Members of Congress, I am fully supportive of the Land Grant Program. But the point to be made is that the Land Grant receives $900 million a year in Federal funding for this program. The Sea Grant receives approximately only $60 million. Is it not time for us to consider this disparity and increase funding for the National Sea Grant College Program?

Mr. Speaker, in support of increasing funding, I ask my colleagues to consider these facts. Since 1960, the square mileage of coastal urban lands has increased by over 130 percent. Between 1996 and 2015, U.S. coastal population is expected to increase by the equivalent of 5 major cities or 25 million people. Every day approximately 1,300 acres of coastal lands are developed into urban lands. Every week there are more than 14,000 new housing starts in the coastal areas of our Nation. Every year more than 180 million people visit the Nation's coasts, affecting coastal infrastructure and resources.

Simply put, the Nation's investment in coastal science has lagged behind coastal population and development. Simply put, the Federal Government cannot by itself meet the tremendous demand for environmental knowledge and services, nor can it maintain expensive in-house staff, facilities or technologies. Universities are critical to the development of the scientific and human resources base needed to address coastal issues.

The National Sea Grant College Program engages the Nation's top universities through a network of some 30 Sea Grant programs and 200 affiliated institutions located in coastal and Great Lakes States and Puerto Rico. Sea Grant taps the talents of the preeminent university scientists who conduct mission-critical research and development in state of the art laboratories and facilities. Sea Grant utilizes a highly effective network of extension and communications professionals to transfer research results to users. Sea Grant has a 30-year track record of success and relevance. Sea Grant is nonregulatory and maintains a reputation for objectivity and credibility in its research and outreach.

There is no other Federal program that has the combination of university-based capabilities, outreach structure, flexibility, cost-effectiveness and emphasis on coastal resource management. Given the importance of the coast to the Nation's economic and social well-being, it is for this reason I am introducing H.R. 1071, a bill to increase authorization for the National Sea Grant College Program from a

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