

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Majority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Colorado Congressional Delegation.

DOUG DEAN

*Speaker of the House
of Representatives.*

ED PERLMUTTER,

*President Pro Tempore
of the Senate.*

JUDITH RODRIGUE,

*Chief Clerk of the
House of Represent-
atives.*

KAREN GOLDMAN,

*Secretary of the Sen-
ate.*

INTRODUCING THE GREAT PLAINS HISTORIC GRASSLAND WILDER- NESS AREA ACT

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Native American Caucus to introduce the Great Plains Historic Grassland Wilderness Area Act and urge my colleagues to co-sponsor and vote for this legislation. This bill will ensure that the last remaining pristine grasslands are protected.

While ninety-nine percent of the original grasslands have been altered from their natural states for corporate interests, such as mining coal, oil and gas, one percent remains in pristine form. I believe this one percent must be protected.

Though humans continue to transform and extract "resources" from the natural environment, our earth maintains the ability to revitalize itself. In spite of this revitalization process, numerous species and natural environments have been destroyed because of our decisions.

While most of the remaining pristine grasslands are located on federal lands throughout the plains region, a small portion are on tribal government lands. I believe that the federal government, in conjunction with tribal governments of this region, should work together to ensure the continuance of these unique environments. Such efforts would provide these areas of the earth the time to replenish through natural processes.

In 1964, Congress vowed, "to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring source of wilderness." I believe this promise has not been met and am introducing this legislation to reinforce Congress' commitment to protect these lands.

Once this bill is signed into law, federal lands that contain pristine grasslands would be protected and enhanced for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. In addition, tribal governments which own such pristine grasslands or have such land held in trust by the federal government, could choose to participate in the benefits and programs provided under this bill.

Participating tribal governments would receive financial and technical assistance for their complete participation in the processes to manage, protect, and restore these natural environments with the federal government. I believe that these governments should have a greater role in managing federal grassland wilderness areas using their proven methods of environmental sustainability.

Tribal governments administer hospitals, law enforcement and public safety agencies, research centers, childcare facilities, primary and secondary schools, colleges, court systems, environmental protection agencies and carry out numerous other governmental functions.

As a result of such tribal governmental administration activity, Indian tribes provide major contributions to the local, regional and national economy by providing both revenue and employment opportunities to both Indian and non-Indian people of America. Clearly, such governments can effectively assist the federal government in managing federal grassland wilderness areas.

Tribal colleges of this region would be contracted to initiate and complete a study of the grasslands wilderness area to determine the original plant and animal species inhabiting the grasslands, their present condition and the steps necessary to restore such species to self-sustaining levels.

These administrative and research activities would be carried out through the Office of Native American Wilderness Management in the Department of the Interior. The Office would be headed by a Director, selected by the Secretary in consultation with tribal governments from the plains region.

I would like to thank all of the tribal government leaders who participated in the consultation sessions to design this bill. I would especially like to thank Ms. Charmaine White Face for her dedication and consistency to assisting in bringing this bill to fruition.

COMMENDING THE UNITED FILI- PINO STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF GUAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, student activism is strong and commonplace on my home island of Guam. Historically, Guam students have joined organizations to gain a sense of comradery and to seize upon an opportunity to engage in noble charitable and civic activities that benefit the community. One particular organization that stands out among the rest for their service and dedicated membership is the United Filipino Student Association (UFSA).

The UFSA, comprised of University of Guam students and students from each of the four public high schools on Guam, provides a social environment that promotes the culture and unity of Filipino students on the island. The UFSA is also very civic-minded, adding to the membership's ability to recognize, understand and take action on issues relevant to their everyday experiences. Promoting the knowledge of the historical, political, social and economic conditions of Filipino people

outside of the Philippines, the UFSA serves as a dependable resource and information source for issues affecting Filipino youth and community on Guam.

On September 30, 2002, this very prominent student organization will be swearing in its newly elected officers, marking another chapter in its already rich history, which spans over two decades. The first UFSA on Guam was founded at the University Of Guam in 1972, and after an eight year period of dormancy, the association was revived in 1993. The officers spearheading its renewed presence then were Patrick S. Luces, Marelito Calimlim, Leila Orden, Buena Fernandez, Analisa Retumban, Norman Analista, and Lawrence S. Luces.

In 1998, Mark Galang, Mike Cabral, and Kendrick De Vera succeeded in integrating UOG UFSA with UFSA of George Washington High School, John F. Kennedy High School, and Simon Sanchez High School. This organizational merging proved to empower the membership base and rejuvenate their work. In 2001, Southern High UFSA was chartered and joined the overall UFSA organization. This year, expansion efforts continue with the Guam Community College (GCC). Filipino Students at GCC are currently in the process of establishing an UFSA organization in their school.

Through the years, UFSA has reached out island-wide and touched an entire community. The Filipino youth of Guam, who worked so diligently to build the UFSA today are to be commended for their leadership and example. The UFSA has strengthened the education of so many, supplementing their classroom experiences with valuable civic commitment. The organization has served as a medium through which students have demonstrated the highest levels of citizenship. I commend the UFSA for their work and encourage their newly elected leadership to carry this torch of success for the future. I thank the outgoing President, Patrick Quitugua, and congratulate the incoming President, Andrew T. Solidum. I also congratulate Diane Reyes, the first Vice President who will serve an additional term, and Riza Marquez, the second Vice President who will also serve another term. Finally, I thank Lea' Beth Naholowaa, their advisor. With their leadership, I know many more good things for UFSA and Guam are to come.

HONORING THE 165TH ANNIVER- SARY OF ALL SAINTS EPIS- COPAL CHURCH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating All Saints Church upon celebrating 165 years of worship, fellowship and outreach in Pontiac, Michigan.

All Saints Episcopal Church was started in 1837 as a mission. Reverend Algernon Hollister, of nearby St. John's Parish in Troy, first organized the parish to serve the one thousand persons living in the Pontiac area at that time. Initially called Zion Church, its first liturgy was celebrated on September 24 with 16 persons receiving the Eucharist that Sunday morning. The parish moved quickly to build a