

structure north of the Truman Farm House in Independence, Missouri, for inclusion in the Harry S Truman National Historic Site. This addition would modify the current boundary by approximately five acres, to include the acquired lands.

The Truman family purchased the land that now makes up the Truman Farm Home in 1840. Harry Truman farmed it from 1906–1917. In 1980, due to speculation that financial difficulties would force the sale of the land, a group of concerned citizens formed the Harry S Truman Farm Foundation, which received a grant to purchase the land. The Foundation turned the land over to Jackson County, Missouri, in 1991, which transferred the farm to the National Park Service in 1994.

This measure has the support of local landowners and will preserve the viewshed and the historical character of the farm area. The purchase will include a retail paint store that the Park Service will convert into a visitors' center, providing rest room facilities and a paved parking area. I expect the Interior Department will seek appropriations in fiscal year 2006, or see, private donations to pay for implementation of the legislation. The 5.2 acres in question is the only undeveloped land remaining that borders the Site. Over the past six years, the Site has averaged over 5000 vehicles driving through each year. With the improvements planned under H.R. 4579, the Park Service expects an increase in the number of visitors, due to the addition of a visitors' center and paved parking.

I commend my fellow Kansas City Representative, from the other side of State Line Road, KAREN MCCARTHY, for the leadership she has taken in moving this important measure forward, in concert with Senator TALENT, who has introduced a companion bill, S. 2499.

Mr. Speaker, the preservation and expansion of the Truman Farm Home is an important way to preserve and enhance the legacy of our great 33rd President. As he once said, "Do your duty and history will do you justice."

The late President Truman left an extensive record of quoted wisdom. In conclusion, I would like to share with you, Mr. Speaker, four comments of Harry S Truman's—which are as relevant today as they were when he said them several decades ago—that I came across when preparing these remarks: "I have always defined politics to mean the science of government, perhaps the most important science, because it involves the art and ability of people to live together." "I've always believed that religion is something to live by and not talk about." "No government is perfect. One of the chief virtues of a democracy, however, is that its defects are always visible and under democratic processes can be pointed out and corrected."

And finally, "The greatest orators have been the men who understood what they wanted to say, said it in short sentences and said it quickly and then got out of there before people fell asleep."

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4579, the Truman Farm Home Expansion Act. This bill would allow the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately five acres of land surrounding the Truman Farm Home in Grandview, Missouri, preserving an historic site enjoyed by more than five thousand families each year.

Built in 1894, the Truman Home sits on 5.25 acres of the family's former 600-acre farm

where President Truman lived and worked from 1906 to 1917. Acquisition of the five additional acres will prevent future commercial development and save the farm's original setting and character. The National Park Service plans to utilize the land to plant vegetation shielding the home from surrounding buildings, in addition to converting one building presently on the property into a visitor's center. These much needed improvements will increase the site's accessibility and secure its authenticity, attracting more visitors to the former President's Grandview home.

By adopting H.R. 4579, we will not only protect a significant part of our history, but will honor a great President who faithfully served America during a time of international unrest. Similar to today's global war against terrorism, President Truman stood firm in the face of an enemy which sought to deter democracy. Out of honor to President Truman and with great appreciation for the historical importance of his Grandview home, I fully support passage of the Truman Farm Home Expansion Act.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4579.

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.

EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAND TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4596) to amend Public Law 97-435 to extend the authorization for the Secretary of the Interior to release certain conditions contained in a patent concerning certain land conveyed by the United States to Eastern Washington University until December 31, 2009, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4596

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

SECTION 1. EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAND TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION.

The first section of Public Law 97-435 (96 Stat. 2281) is amended in subsection (c) by striking "five years after the enactment of this Act" and inserting "on December 31, 2009".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

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

H.R. 4596, introduced by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT), simply amends Public Law 97-435 to extend the authorization for the Secretary of the Interior to permit Eastern Washington University to release certain lands in order to acquire other lands more suitable for educational or recreational purposes.

I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to the consideration of this measure, H.R. 4596.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4596, 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.

GULLAH/GEECHEE CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4683) to enhance the preservation and interpretation of the Gullah/Geechee cultural heritage, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4683

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 "Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act".

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are to—

(1) recognize the important contributions made to American culture and history by African-Americans known as the Gullah/Geechee who settled in the coastal counties of South Carolina and Georgia;

(2) assist State and local governments and public and private entities in the South Carolina and Georgia in interpreting the story of the Gullah/Geechee and preserving Gullah/Geechee folklore, arts, crafts, and music; and

(3) assist in identifying and preserving sites, historical data, artifacts, and objects associated with the Gullah/Geechee for the benefit and education of the public.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission established under this Act.

(2) HERITAGE CORRIDOR.—The term "Heritage Corridor" means the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor established by this Act.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.