

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the issue we hear of regularly is national security, from Tehran to Turkey, back to the local community: How does it impact me? That is what our constituents are asking. They are concerned about security from the national and the local level. I think many of them are frustrated that those of us in Congress haven't done anything to address the criminal illegal alien situation.

I want to let the body know last week the Board of Supervisors in Prince William County, Virginia, took a stand by unanimously approving a tough local crackdown on illegal immigrants. They are doing it to make their community a safer place. It denies some county services to illegal immigrants and adds to enforcement powers already available to cops on the beat.

We can do the same thing at the Federal level with the bipartisan CLEAR Act, which I introduced last month. It would get dangerous criminal aliens off the streets and require the Department of Homeland Security to pick them up within 48 hours.

It is H.R. 3494, the CLEAR Act. I would encourage my colleagues to cosponsor this bill and do what the Prince William supervisors have done: put citizen safety first.

SCHIP—POOR KIDS FIRST

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I call on the Speaker to open up a positive dialogue with Republicans to find SCHIP solutions that put poor kids first. House Democrats have wrapped their expansion of bureaucratic Washington-run health care in so much deception and political theater that they have lost focus of what SCHIP is really all about, helping underprivileged kids. But as a recent Gallup poll has shown, American people now see through this insincere ploy and support keeping SCHIP rightfully focused on poor children.

It is unacceptable for the majority to continue exploiting the neediest of children in pursuit of an ideological agenda controlling health care decisions. This charade has gone on long enough, and the American people want solutions, not these political games. If Democrat leaders truly want to help needy children, now is the time to support a plan that reflects the original bipartisan intent of the program and the views of the American people. A positive solution will put poor kids first and promote the purchase of personal health care for all Americans. H.R. 3888 is such a bill.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions 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.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

PATERSON GREAT FALLS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ACT OF 2007

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 189) to establish the Paterson Great Falls National Park in the State of New Jersey, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 189

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 "Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
(1) The Great Falls Historic District in Paterson, New Jersey, is the site that Alexander Hamilton selected to implement his vision of American economic independence and transform a rural agrarian society based on slavery into a global economy based on freedom.

(2) The Great Falls Historic District was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1976 and President Gerald Ford declared it "a symbol of the industrial might which helps to make America the most powerful nation in the world".

(3) Section 510 of Public Law 104-333 established the Great Falls Historic District to recognize the contribution to our national heritage of certain historical, cultural, and natural resources of the historic district.

(4) Exceptional natural and cultural resources make the Great Falls Historic District America's only National Historic District that contains both a National Historic Landmark and a National Natural Landmark.

(5) Pierre L'Enfant's water power system at the Great Falls and the buildings erected around it over two centuries constitute the finest and most extensive remaining example of engineering, planning and architectural works that span the entire period of America's growth into an industrial power.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—
(1) to establish a unit of the National Park System in Paterson, New Jersey, consisting of the Great Falls Historic District; and

(2) to foster activities among Federal, State, and local governments, non-profit organizations, and private donors to preserve, enhance, interpret, and promote the cultural sites, historic structures, and natural beauty of the Great Falls Historic District for the benefit of present and future generations.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

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

(1) PARK.—The term "park" means the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park established in section 4.

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

(3) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park Commission established in section 7.

SEC. 4. PATERSON GREAT FALLS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—In order to preserve and interpret for the benefit of present and future

generations certain historical, cultural, and natural resources associated with the Great Falls National Historic District, there is established in the city of Paterson in the county of Passaic in the State of New Jersey the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park as a unit of the National Park System.

(b) BOUNDARIES.—The park shall consist of approximately 109 acres as generally depicted on the map titled "Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park—Proposed Boundary", numbered T03/80,000, and dated June 2007. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service and the city of Paterson.

SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The park shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with this Act and the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Act of August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1-4) and the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461-467).

(b) STATE AND LOCAL JURISDICTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to diminish, enlarge, or modify any right of the State of New Jersey or any political subdivision thereof, to exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction or to carry out State laws, rules, and regulations within the park.

(c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In furtherance of the purposes of this Act, the Secretary is authorized, after consultation with the Commission, to enter into cooperative agreements with the owners of properties of natural, historical, or cultural significance within the park, pursuant to which agreements the Secretary may mark, interpret, restore, and provide technical assistance for the preservation of such properties and pursuant to which the Secretary may provide assistance, including management services and program implementation.

(2) RIGHT OF ACCESS.—Each cooperative agreement shall provide that the Secretary, through the National Park Service, shall have the right of access at all reasonable times to all public portions of the property covered by the agreement for the purpose of conducting visitors through such properties and interpreting them to the public.

(3) ALTERATION OF PROPERTIES.—Each cooperative agreement shall provide that no changes or alterations shall be made in the property covered by the agreement except by mutual agreement between the Secretary and the other party to the agreement.

(d) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) CONVERSION, USE, OR DISPOSAL OF PROJECTS.—Any payment made by the Secretary pursuant to a cooperative agreement under this section shall be subject to an agreement that conversion, use, or disposal of a project so assisted for purposes contrary to the purposes of this Act, as determined by the Secretary, shall result in the right of the United States to reimbursement of all funds made available to the project or the portion of the increased value of the project attributable to such funds as determined at the time of such conversion, use, or disposal, whichever is greater.

(2) MATCHING FUNDS.—As a condition of expending any funds appropriated to the Secretary for the purposes of cooperative agreements under this section, the Secretary shall require that such expenditure must be matched by expenditure of an equal amount of funds provided by non-Federal sources.

(3) DONATIONS.—With the approval of the Secretary, any donation of property, goods, or services from a non-Federal source may be considered as a contribution of funds from a non-federal source for purposes of this section.

SEC. 6. GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Not later than 3 complete fiscal years after the date funds are made available for this purpose, the Secretary shall prepare, in consultation

with the Commission, and transmit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a general management plan for the park in accordance with the provisions of section 12(b) of the Act of August 18, 1970 (16 U.S.C. 1a-7(b)), popularly known as the National Park System General Authorities Act, and other applicable law.

SEC. 7. PATERSON GREAT FALLS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK COMMISSION.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park Commission whose purpose shall be to assist and advise the Secretary in the development and implementation of the general management plan for the park.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENTS.**—The Commission shall be composed of 9 members appointed by the Secretary, of whom—

(A) 4 members shall be from nominees submitted by the Governor of the State of New Jersey;

(B) 2 members shall be from nominees submitted by the City Council of Paterson;

(C) 1 member shall be from nominees submitted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Passaic County, New Jersey; and

(D) 2 members shall be qualified to serve on the Commission because of their familiarity with national parks and historic preservation.

(2) **CHAIRPERSON; VICE CHAIRPERSON.**—The Commission shall elect one of its members as Chairperson and one as Vice Chairperson. The Vice Chairperson shall serve as chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

(3) **VACANCIES.**—A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(4) **TERMS.**—Terms of service are as follows:

(A) The term of office of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall be one year.

(B) Members of the Commission shall serve for terms of 3 years and may be reappointed not more than once.

(C) A member may serve after the expiration of his or her term until a successor has been appointed.

(5) **TIMELINE FOR APPOINTMENTS.**—The Secretary shall appoint the first members of the Commission not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary has received all of the recommendations for appointment pursuant to paragraph (1).

(c) **COMPENSATION.**—Members of the Commission shall serve without pay, but while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, members shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) **MEETINGS.**—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairperson or a majority of its members.

(e) **QUORUM.**—A majority of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

(f) **STAFF.**—The Secretary shall provide the Commission with such staff and technical assistance as the Secretary, after consultation with the Commission, considers appropriate to enable the Commission to carry out its duties. The Secretary may accept the services of personnel detailed from the State of New Jersey, any political subdivision of the State or any entity represented on the Commission.

(g) **EXEMPTION.**—Section 14(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Commission.

(h) **TERMINATION.**—The Commission shall terminate 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. ACQUISITION OF LAND.

(a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may acquire land or interests in land within the

boundaries of the park from willing sellers only by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(b) **STATE PROPERTY.**—Land or interests in land owned by the State of New Jersey or any political subdivision of the State may be acquired only by donation.

SEC. 9. HINCHLIFFE STADIUM.

Not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete a study regarding the preservation and interpretation of Hinchliffe Stadium as listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The study shall include an assessment of the potential for listing as a National Historic Landmark as well as options for maintaining the historic integrity of the stadium.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, soon after the Revolutionary War, Alexander Hamilton selected the area around the Great Falls of the Passaic River as a site for the first planned industrial center in America. Hamilton, then Secretary of the Treasury, invited Pierre L'Enfant to design the city in 1791. The result was the City of Paterson, New Jersey, which became one of the most important manufacturing centers in America during the Industrial Revolution. President Gerald Ford designated the Great Falls Historic District as a national historic landmark in 1976. The 104th Congress established an historic district and authorized the restoration, preservation, and interpretive program for the area.

H.R. 189, sponsored by our colleague, Representative BILL PASCRELL, the former mayor of Paterson, designates the historic district as a National Historic Park and a unit of the National Park System. This bill contains standard management language for NPS units.

This is a unique area and will make an excellent addition to our National Park System. Representative PASCRELL is to be commended for his tireless efforts on behalf of the legislation and the city and the people of Paterson. We urge the adoption of this bill by the House today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, while H.R. 189 went through both a hearing and a full com-

mittee, but not subcommittee, markup, several issues have gone unresolved. The National Park Service conducted a study as requested by this body to determine whether the Great Falls Historic District in Paterson, New Jersey, should become a national park. The study concluded that the area did not meet the criteria for inclusion in the National Park System.

Now, if we entrust the National Park Service with the management of our own crown jewels, then why are we ignoring their expert judgment that this should not be a national park? I remind my colleagues that we requested the park service to tell us what should be done here.

I recognize also it is our responsibility and our right as the legislative branch to decide what will become a national park regardless of what the park service tells us. There are times when it is necessary to disagree with them. However, in this case, we do not even know what the costs are. We don't know, nor does the park service have any idea, how it would manage the area. That is what we asked them to tell us and they are not in a position to do that at this time.

Now, the park service has already got a full plate and a billion dollar maintenance backlog. They are not even keeping up with and taking care of the parks that have been entrusted to them. So is this really the time to add another park that doesn't meet the criteria to add to this burden with this designation?

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

□ 1415

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as he may consume to the gentlemen from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today in strong support of the passage of the Paterson Great Falls National Park Act, H.R. 189. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the Speaker, Chairman RAHALL and Chairman GRIJALVA for their tireless work in bringing this worthy legislation to the floor. I want to thank all the members of the New Jersey delegation, Democrats and Republicans. All of them endorsed this legislation.

As a lifelong Paterson resident, as the city's former mayor, I fought for many years to bring recognition to this site that has played such a seminal role in American history. The National Historic Park is the only way to properly showcase the significant cultural and historic landmarks and natural beauty that the Great Falls Historic Park District has to offer. This legislation ensures that it will get the recognition and support that it richly deserves.

Mr. Speaker, 15 miles west of New York City, the Great Falls was the second largest waterfall in Colonial America. At the Great Falls, Alexander

Hamilton conceived a plan to harness the force of water to power the new industries that would secure our economic independence. He told the Congress of the United States and the American people that at the Great Falls he would begin to implement his ambitious strategy to transform an agricultural society, dependent upon slavery, into a modern economy based on freedom.

How dare anyone imply that this is not significant. It was the power of the Great Falls. True to Hamilton's vision, Paterson became a great manufacturing city. It produced the Colt Revolver; the first submarine, John Holland, 1878; the aircraft engine for the first transatlantic flight; more locomotives than any city in the United States; more silk than any city in the world. This is not significant, Mr. Speaker? Cotton sails for the U.S. Navy early in the 19th century.

Mr. Speaker, scholars have concluded that Pierre L'Enfant's innovative water power system in Paterson and many factories built later constitute the finest remaining collection of engineering and architectural structures representing each stage of America's progress from a weak agrarian society to the leader in the global economy.

The Great Falls Historic District is the only national historic district that includes both a national natural resource and a national landmark, the only one in the entire Nation.

In a special bicentennial speech in Paterson, with the spectacular national beauty of the falls behind it, the President of the United States, the late Gerald Ford, in 1976, and I had the honor as a Democrat to introduce him that day, Mr. Speaker, said this: "We can see the Great Falls as a symbol of the industrial might which helps to make America the most powerful Nation in the world." Now, so many years later, we are that much closer to making the dream of a national park in Paterson a reality.

I do not see facts and figures here, Mr. Speaker. I see the faces of hard-working people from all over the world, who came to Paterson, came to the falls and worked in those factories. We are talking about human beings. We are talking about people who came here and made this country the greatest country in the world, who asked nothing, who didn't get a real living wage until years later. I am talking about those people who are not faceless, who do have names, who worked hard to give their children a better opportunity, a better place.

That was Alexander Hamilton's dream, to bring economic superiority to the United States, so that we would not pretend to be an agrarian society for the rest of our history. He introduced the Industrial Revolution; and then, secondly, to give equal opportunity to each person regardless of where he came from, what he looked like, how he cooked his food, how he spoke.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation enjoys bipartisan and widespread support. It is cosponsored by every member of the New Jersey congressional delegation. National conservation and historic organizations, our Nation's most renowned Hamiltonian scholars and distinguished professors throughout America have documented that this historic district is worthy of National Historic Park designation. When the park service says it is not worthy because we have other places, they were even against Lowell, Massachusetts. They didn't support Lowell, Massachusetts either.

This has to do with urban parks. This has to do with how we became the country we are today. Editorial boards, Federal, State, local officials and community groups have also endorsed the campaign to create a National Park Service unit. Today, on page 3, U.S. News, a full page on the Paterson Falls and two other places in the United States, where that historic district, where the park service was able to in partnership with the locality, with the State, to bring economic opportunity.

It is important to note, Mr. Speaker, that this park will be run as a partnership between the State of New Jersey and the Federal Government, as they already have a State park designated at the site. The National Park Service has a long history of Federal and State cooperation, from the Lowell National Historic Park to the Redwood National State Parks in California. It is park service policy to foster State and Federal partnerships to fund and manage parks. Great Falls will be no different.

Mr. Speaker, if the Great Falls District were added to the park system, Federal resources could be leveraged to revitalize the falls, the entire city, the entire area. Through this Federal partnership, the Great Falls will be transformed into an attraction for visitors and Patersonians alike that can lead to the economic revitalization of this entire area, be a living reminder of our Nation's rich industrial history with so many of our star places where we put purple ropes around them, "don't touch." That is not what we are talking about here. We are talking about living history.

Congress must act now to pass this vital piece of legislation, so that we may fully recognize these cultural and historic landmarks that have played such a decisive role in America's history. Today, Mr. Speaker, we have that opportunity. I hope we will all come together and support that opportunity.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I do need to address the question, and it may have been rhetorical, how dare anyone imply that this area is not significant? I haven't heard anybody imply such a thing. It is truly significant. That is not the issue. The issue is priorities.

We have been hearing for the last week how important it is for poor children to have health care insurance. There are so many priorities; yet there

are thousands and thousands of wonderfully historic significant pieces of property. No one, I would hope, would dare say that this area was not significant. It is quite significant.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my friend from Georgia (Mr. PRICE).

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank my friend from Texas for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the passion of the gentleman from New Jersey. I share his passion for national parks, and I am sure that this area is a beautiful and a wonderful area. As such, it has already been designated as a National Historic District, which makes it eligible for about \$3 million in funding.

I would point out, as my friend from Texas said, that it is the National Park Service that said it didn't meet the criteria, not us. I am pleased, though, to hear from my friend from New Jersey that, in fact, the partnership with the State will be ongoing. I had understood that the State of New Jersey had not agreed to provide matching funds. I wonder if the gentleman might be able to clarify that.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PASCRELL. Yes, the State of New Jersey has designated this as a State park. It has committed \$10 million to the project in true partnership. The municipality has also done the same thing.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate that. That is information I had not had. My concern is kind of rising to the 30,000- or 40,000-foot view for the National Park Service.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the Sixth District of Georgia, which is on the northern side of the City of Atlanta, and through my district runs the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, a 48-mile long linear park, the longest linear park in our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, we have been trying to get accurate communication from the National Park Service about how they determine how much of their resources, their finite resources that they have, come to the various national parks across this Nation.

We asked that because, as my friend from Texas mentioned, the National Park Service appears to be at least \$1 billion, if not more, in arrears on their maintenance and operations budget. So the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area has trails that are, in fact, a danger to those that visit this beautiful park. It is unable to patrol the park, again, a 48-mile linear park. It doesn't have the number of full-time equivalent employees that ought be there for this size park. When we look at other parks around the Nation, we see that parks of equivalent visitation, the same number of folks visiting each year, get a significantly greater budget. So as we try to drill down and find

out why that is, it appears that that is all political. For example, there is a park that a former Speaker of the House of Representatives had in his district, and that park gets four or five times the amount of funding that parks with the same visitation across this Nation get.

So we asked the National Park Service, what is your formula? How do you determine how much of your budget goes to various national parks and national recreation areas. Of course, we haven't been able to get that answer. It hasn't been just a week or two, Mr. Speaker; it has been years, years, that we have been trying to get that answer.

So I rise with great concern about the political nature of the relationship of the National Park Service and the priorities that they set. And as my friend from Texas raised, there may be some concerns about this bill that we have on the floor today about that matter as well.

So I raise a greater concern, a concern that I believe would be appropriate, to pull back this resolution and find out from the National Park Service the answer to those pivotal questions that Americans want to know, and that is is there any rationale to how you are spending your money. Where is the accountability in how you spend your money.

I appreciate the gentleman from New Jersey and his passion for this area. I am sure it is a beautiful and wonderful area, and I look forward to visiting it at some point in the future. But I believe we have got challenges and problems within the National Park Service. I hope we address those first.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I would say to the gentleman from Georgia, if I am not mistaken, the original designation for the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area was also not supported by National Park Service, and I know that the people of Georgia are glad that this Congress used its legislative prerogative to create that designation.

With that, let me yield such additional time as he may consume to the sponsor of the legislation, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. I want to address some of the cogent points that have been presented by the other side.

We are not talking about hundreds of square miles here. We are talking about 110 acres of land. We are talking about in the middle of that property the second largest falls in the East. We are talking about what Alexander Hamilton said in 1774, before the establishment of the Society of Useful Manufacturers, before America decided that it was going to go that industrial route so that we would have a multifaceted economy, he discerned that at that falls that water power would bring tremendous job growth and tremendous facilitation to economic growth and industrial growth.

He was right. He was absolutely right. No other industrial city, no

other city that brought the technology and science from England and from other parts of Europe had the success that Paterson had. There were seven or eight major areas, and I pointed them out and I am not going to do it again. I am going to tell you, there is no other area, and all powered by the falls.

Today, when we talk about alternative energy sources, and both sides of the aisle have been talking about it, and talking and talking and talking and talking, it was really at the falls that we had the beginnings of hydroelectric power.

□ 1430

I think the significance is not to be simply caught up in how beautiful the place is. We are not talking about aesthetics; we are talking about what the meaning of this place is, where all races and all creeds and all nationalities worked during what we call the Industrial Revolution.

This is a national landmark and a national natural landmark, and there is no other place in the United States that meets that criteria. Isn't that interesting. So while the park system opposed Lowell and opposed a lot of things, it is the Congress that will determine in the Constitution, the Congress will determine what is a park system and what is not. That is our authority; that is our responsibility. And today I hope, with your good sense, we will have bipartisan support of this legislation.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, but I understand, and I have not had the privilege of visiting the Great Falls area, it is supposed to be one of the most beautiful areas and I am greatly appreciative of that. As I understand, this area is expected to include a microbrewery, a climbing wall, and an apartment complex is what was brought to my attention. And these of course raise other issues of liability. When we look around the country at all of the parks that are struggling right now to take care of their needs because the park service is a billion dollars in arrears as far as taking care of their current obligations, it should cause us to look carefully and go slowly in absorbing other land until we have the wherewithal to do so and the park service is able to work with Congress to come up with a solid plan to care for the park.

There are also other issues when you bring in these other things like a microbrewery, a climbing wall, and an apartment complex regarding liabilities that may arise. There are so many questions still out there yet to be resolved.

I have to say with regard to the Resources Committee, I am well pleased there are so many things that are completely bipartisan, and we have a number of them today. But because of the issues involved here, we will be asking our colleagues to vote "no" until we have a better plan.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, let me just in closing say this legislation, H.R. 189, this designation goes beyond a simple designation. It speaks to the strengthening of our independence as this Nation develops. It speaks to a beautiful natural resource that needs to be protected and designated, and it speaks to an historic legacy about people and industrial advancement that needs to be preserved and enhanced and designated for the whole Nation to appreciate. I want to thank the sponsor of the legislation and urge my colleagues to exercise the wisdom of Congress and approve H.R. 189.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H.R. 189, the Paterson Great Falls National Park Act of 2007. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation along with the New Jersey Congressional delegation. I also want to thank my colleague, Mr. PASCRELL, a Paterson native and former mayor, for his hard work in drafting this bill and bringing it to the floor.

H.R. 189 will establish a National Park in Paterson, NJ, encompassing 118 acres of the Great Falls National Historic District and the adjacent Hinchliffe Stadium. These sites are of great historical significance to New Jersey and to the Nation at large.

In 1791, Alexander Hamilton created the Society for the Establishment of Useful Manufactures, a public-private corporation, to fulfill his vision of transforming the United States from an agrarian society into an industrial power. The society, in turn, established Paterson 1 year later as America's first planned industrial city.

Located 15 miles west of New York City, the centerpiece of Hamilton's industrial city is the Great Falls, a 77-foot waterfall on the Passaic River. After implementing engineer Pierre Charles L'Enfant's water power system, dozens of mills and manufacturing buildings were built on the banks of the Passaic, harnessing the hydropower made available by the Great Falls.

Paterson was the heart of the industrial revolution in the United States, with dozens of mills producing paper, cotton, and enough silk for Paterson to earn the nickname "Silk City." As one of the earliest centers of manufacturing in the United States, Paterson was also home to historic inventions such as Samuel Colt's first repeating revolver and inventor John Holland's early submarine prototypes.

Paterson's Great Falls is also the site of historic Hinchliffe Stadium, which served as the homefield for the New York Black Yankees of the Negro Leagues during America's Jim Crow era. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004, Hinchliffe Stadium is one of a handful of remaining stadiums used by Negro League baseball teams. Hinchliffe stadium hosted baseball legends such as Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, and Larry Doby, who became the first African American to integrate the American League. The stadium is a poignant reminder of a bygone era of our country's national pastime.

With the passage of this bill, Members of the House will create a unique national park that protects a striking natural resource along with cultural and historical sites that tell the stories of our Founding Fathers, America's

economic rise and of the African American experience. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 189, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND ALASKA RAILROAD EXCHANGE ACT OF 2007

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 830) to authorize the exchange of certain lands in Denali National Park in the State of Alaska, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 830

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 "Denali National Park and Alaska Railroad Exchange Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CORPORATION.—The term "Corporation" means the Alaska Railroad Corporation owned by the State of Alaska.

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

SEC. 3. EXCHANGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) EASEMENT EXPANDED.—The Secretary is authorized to grant to the Alaska Railroad Corporation an exclusive-use easement on land that is identified by the Secretary within Denali National Park for the purpose of providing a location to the Corporation for construction, maintenance, and on-going operation of track and associated support facilities for turning railroad trains around near Denali Park Station.

(2) EASEMENT RELINQUISHED.—In exchange for the easement granted in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall require the relinquishment of certain portions of the Corporation's existing exclusive use easement within the boundary of Denali National Park.

(b) CONDITIONS OF THE EXCHANGE.—

(1) EQUAL EXCHANGE.—The exchange of easements under this section shall be on an approximately equal-acre basis.

(2) TOTAL ACRES.—The easement granted under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 acres.

(3) INTERESTS CONVEYED.—The easement conveyed to the Alaska Railroad Corporation by the Secretary under this section shall be under the same terms as the exclusive use easement granted to the Railroad in Denali National Park in the Deed for Exclusive Use Easement and Railroad Related Improvements filed in Book 33, pages 985–994 of the Nenana Recording District,

Alaska, pursuant to the Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982 (45 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.). The easement relinquished by the Alaska Railroad Corporation to the United States under this section shall, with respect to the portion being exchanged, be the full title and interest received by the Alaska Railroad in the Deed for Exclusive Use Easement and Railroad Related Improvements filed in Book 33, pages 985–994 of the Nenana Recording District, Alaska, pursuant to the Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982 (45 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.).

(4) COSTS.—The Alaska Railroad shall pay all costs associated with the exchange under this section, including the costs of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the costs of any surveys, and other reasonable costs.

(5) LAND TO BE PART OF WILDERNESS.—The lands underlying any easement relinquished to the United States under this section that are adjacent to designated wilderness are hereby designated as wilderness and added to the Denali Wilderness, the boundaries of which are modified accordingly, and shall be managed in accordance with applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 892) and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (94 Stat. 2371).

(6) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary shall require any additional terms and conditions under this section that the Secretary determines to be appropriate to protect the interests of the United States and of Denali National Park.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 830 was introduced by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG). The legislation would authorize an exchange of easements on land along the Alaska Railroad track inside the Denali National Park.

The exchange would make it possible for the railroad to build a turnaround track near the Denali Park station, helping to accommodate the increasing popularity of rail travel in the park.

Mr. Speaker, this is an exchange of easements only. No park land will change hands. The railroad has an existing easement along its entire track, granted as a result of the 1982 Alaska Railroad Transfer Act. But the easement will not accommodate the turnaround.

H.R. 830 would allow the Secretary of the Interior to grant a new easement for the turnaround. In exchange, the railroad will relinquish its existing easement on an approximate equal number of acres elsewhere along the current track.

Mr. Speaker, we support H.R. 830, as amended, and recommend its adoption by the House today.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. YOUNG of Alaska asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the full committee and the chairman of the subcommittee for allowing this legislation to come to the floor of the House.

As a sponsor of H.R. 830 and of the Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982, I am pleased we are considering this legislation today. Although it is small, the land exchange provided by H.R. 830 will improve the ability of the Alaska Railroad Corporation to serve its customers who wish to visit Denali National Park. The construction of a turnaround track will increase scheduling frequency and flexibility. This not only reduces overcrowding of Denali at any one time, it makes the Park Service's job of managing visitation much smoother.

This is a noncontroversial bill and enjoys the support of the National Park Service, the State of Alaska which owns the railroad, and the National Parks Conservation Association.

For anyone who has not traveled on the Alaska Railroad, it is a journey you should not miss. For those who have had an opportunity to enjoy the splendor of Alaska's scenery aboard the train, I am sure you will agree it is a first-class experience.

You may not know, but Alaska Railroad was once owned by the Federal Government; but Congress in its wisdom passed bipartisan legislation in 1982 to transfer the railroad to the State of Alaska. As Congress faces immense backlogs in caring for Federal assets, perhaps there is a lesson to be learned here. We might consider transferring more of these assets to the States. Alaska has proven it can take a Federal asset like the Alaska Railroad and manage it for the benefit of everyone who uses it. I believe this is a fine piece of legislation.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 830, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the exchange of certain interests in land in Denali National Park in the State of Alaska."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.