

However, today, I think we can see the legacy of their lives in this room. We have made strides in promoting campus fire safety because of their moving stories, and we will continue to improve campus fire safety to prevent other families from sharing in this tragic experience.

Today, I'm here to pay that favor forward.

□ 1530

I add my voice to those here today to pay tribute to Representative Tubbs Jones' courageous efforts and say that I am committed to the issue of campus fire safety.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, we're pleased to join our colleagues on the other side of the aisle in paying this tribute to our colleague.

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, we come on the floor once again to honor the life and work of the late Stephanie Tubbs Jones, and we do that with this bill, very important bill, H.R. 642, the College Fire Prevention Act. I'm delighted that Mr. CLYBURN was able to be here and to continue her legacy in this way.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 642, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BROUN 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.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 642

Mr. CLYBURN (during consideration of H.R. 642). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 642, a bill originally introduced by Representative Tubbs Jones of Ohio, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

OREGON SURPLUS FEDERAL LAND ACT OF 2008

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6370) to transfer excess Federal property administered by the Coast

Guard to the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6370

*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 "Oregon Surplus Federal Land Act of 2008".

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) **COMMANDANT.**—The term "Commandant" means the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(2) **LIGHT STATION.**—The term "Light Station" means the Cape Arago Light Station on Chief's Island in the State of Oregon.

(3) **MAPS.**—The term "maps" means the maps filed under section 3(d).

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

(5) **TRIBES.**—The Term "Tribes" means the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians in the State of Oregon.

**SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable, but not later than 5 years, after the date of enactment of this Act and subject to subsection (c), the Commandant shall transfer to the Secretary, to hold in trust for the benefit of the Tribes, administrative jurisdiction over the Federal land described in subsection (b).

(b) **DESCRIPTION OF LAND.**—The Federal land referred to in subsection (a) consists of the parcels of Coast Guard land (including any improvements to the land) comprising approximately 24 acres, located in Coos County, Oregon, in the areas commonly know as "Gregory Point" and "Chief's Island", as depicted on the maps.

(c) **CONDITIONS.**—

(1) **COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW.**—Before completing the transfer of administrative jurisdiction under subsection (a), the Commandant shall execute any actions required to comply with applicable environmental and cultural resources laws.

(2) **TRUST STATUS.**—On transfer of administrative jurisdiction over the land under subsection (a), the land transferred to the Secretary shall be—

(A) held in trust by the United States for the Tribes; and

(B) included in the reservation of the Tribes.

(3) **MAINTENANCE OF CAPE ARAGO LIGHT STATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The transfer of administrative jurisdiction over the Light Station under subsection (a) shall be subject to the conditions that the Tribes—

(i) shall—

(I) use, and make reasonable efforts to maintain, the Light Station in accordance with—

(aa) the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.);

(bb) the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties under part 68 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations; and

(cc) any other applicable laws; and

(II) submit any proposed changes to the Light Station for review and approval by the Secretary, in consultation with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer, if the Secretary determines that the changes are consistent with—

(aa) section 800.5(a)(2)(vii) of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations; and

(bb) the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation under section 67.7 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations;

(ii) shall make the Light Station available to the general public for educational, park, recreational, cultural, or historic preservation purposes at times and under conditions determined to be reasonable by the Secretary;

(iii) shall not—

(I) sell, convey, assign, exchange, or encumber the Cape Arago Light Station (or any part of the Light Station) or any associated historic artifact conveyed in conjunction with the transfer under subsection (a), unless the sale, conveyance, assignment, exchange, or encumbrance is approved by Secretary; or

(II) conduct any commercial activities at the Cape Arago Light Station (or any part of the Light Station) or in connection with any historic artifact conveyed in conjunction with the transfer under subsection (a) in any manner, unless the commercial activities are approved by the Secretary; and

(iv) shall allow the United States, at any time, to enter the Light Station without notice, for purposes of ensuring compliance with this section, to the extent that it is not practicable to provide advance notice.

(B) **REVERSION.**—If the Tribes fail to meet any condition described in subparagraph (A), the Light Station, or any associated historic artifact conveyed in conjunction with the transfer under subsection (a), shall, at the option of the Secretary—

(i) revert to the United States; and

(ii) be placed under the administrative control of the Secretary.

(d) **MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall file the maps entitled "Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Land Transfer Maps" and legal descriptions of the parcels to be transferred under subsection (a) with—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives; and

(C) the Secretary.

(2) **FORCE OF LAW.**—The maps and legal descriptions filed under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Commandant may correct any errors in the maps and legal descriptions.

(3) **AVAILABILITY.**—Each map and legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate office of the Department of the Interior.

(e) **EASEMENTS.**—The Coast Guard may retain easements on, or other property interests as may be necessary in, the land described in subsection (b) to operate, maintain, relocate, install, improve, replace, or remove any aid to navigation located on the land as may be required by the Coast Guard.

(f) **TRIBAL FISHING RIGHTS.**—No fishing rights of the Tribes that are in existence on the date of enactment of this Act shall be enlarged, impaired, or otherwise affected by the transfer of administrative jurisdiction under subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6370.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Oregon Surplus Federal Land Act requires the Commandant of the Coast Guard to transfer the Cape Arago Light Station and the surrounding area in Coos County, Oregon, in my congressional district, to the Secretary of the Interior to hold in trust for the benefit of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians.

Under this bill, the Confederated Tribes will assume responsibility for maintenance of the light station and must provide reasonable public access.

I would also like to point out that H.R. 6370 leaves it to the Secretary of the Interior and the Commandant of the Coast Guard to determine the exact amount of land that will be transferred and to develop the appropriate maps. This body has passed similar bills in the past.

H.R. 6370 clearly leaves all authority of the transfer and trust with the relevant agencies. The Coast Guard and the Coos County Commissioners support the transfer. And this bill will put an historic piece of land to good use while protecting and preserving its cultural significance.

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

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

I support the bill's purpose to transfer administrative jurisdiction over a light station and approximately 24 acres of public land in the State of Oregon from the Coast Guard to the Secretary of the Interior. The land and structures will be held in trust for a federally recognized tribe and would be available for tribal and public interests that were approved by the Secretary of the Interior. Lastly, the bill would prohibit the use of the land for any commercial activity that is not expressly approved by the Secretary.

However, I am disappointed that the bill is being brought to the floor without a map specifically detailing the location and amount of land which is to be transferred under the bill.

The land has not been surveyed, and there is a question between the Department of the Interior and Coast Guard on the boundaries of this land that is proposed for transfer.

I support the bill, but I do have reservations about the lack of a precise description of the land to be transferred. I hope that the majority, under Mr. DEFAZIO's leadership, will work with our side to ensure that the land is surveyed promptly and that the final transfer should be delayed until such maps are available.

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

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

I thought that we could have this issue resolved before we came to the floor. Unfortunately, the Coast Guard has to actually contract for a survey, which, through the Federal procurement process, takes a while. But I can assure the gentleman that there are a number of other bills I'm familiar with, mostly under the jurisdiction of the Resources Committee, that have had similar problems, and these issues were resolved before the interagency transfer was finalized and took place. That just is sort of logical; they need to know what they're transferring, and they need to have a legal description and map. So I assure the gentleman, to the best of my ability as a member of the legislative branch, that the administrative branch will fulfill their duties in this matter.

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

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6370, the "Oregon Surplus Federal Land Act of 2008", introduced by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

H.R. 6370 transfers 24 acres of federally owned land, which includes the Cape Arago Light Station, in Coos County, Oregon, from the Coast Guard to the Secretary of the Interior to be held in trust for the benefit of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians. The Commandant shall transfer the Light Station within 5 years of the date of enactment of this Act.

The Cape Arago Light Station no longer functions as an aid to navigation since the light has been extinguished. Over the past decade, the Coast Guard has been disposing of its lighthouses and has determined it no longer needs the property at Cape Arago. This is beneficial to the Confederated Tribes and they are eager to manage the land since it once served as a burial site and is sacred to them.

Under the bill, the Confederated Tribes are prohibited from selling, conveying, assigning, exchanging or encumbering the property in the future without the approval of the Secretary. The Tribes are also prohibited from conducting any commercial activities on the property without the approval of the Secretary. The property with the Light Station is to be made available to the general public for educational, park, recreational, cultural, or historic preservation purposes.

The Committee attempted to obtain maps of the actual property that is being transferred from the Coast Guard to the Secretary of the Interior. However, the Coast Guard has been unable to develop formal maps of the area yet. Therefore, the Coast Guard and the Secretary will have to develop maps depicting the property being transferred. This has been done numerous times before—such as in the conveyance of Sentinel Light Station in Alaska in the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (P.L. 108–293) and the conveyance of the Naval Reserve Pier in Portland, Oregon, Slip Point Light Station in Callam County, Washington, and Point Pinos Light in Monterey County, California, in the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (P.L. 107–295).

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6370.

Finally, I insert in the RECORD an exchange of letters between Chairman NICK J. RAHALL, II, Chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources, and me.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,  
Washington, DC, September 22, 2008.

Hon. JAMES OBERSTAR,  
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.

DEAR JIM: Thank you for the opportunity to work with you on H.R. 6370, the Oregon Surplus Federal Land Act of 2008, concerning provisions regarding a Native American tribe and the Secretary of the Interior which are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Natural Resources.

Because of the continued cooperation and consideration that you have afforded me and my staff in developing these provisions, I will not seek a sequential referral of H.R. 6370. Of course, this waiver is not intended to prejudice any future jurisdictional claims over these provisions or similar language. I also reserve the right to seek to have conferees named from the Committee on Natural Resources on these provisions, and request your support if such a request is made.

Please place this letter into the committee report on H.R. 6370 and into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor.

With warm regards, I am  
Sincerely,

NICK J. RAHALL, II,  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COM-  
MITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE,  
Washington, DC, September 22, 2008.

Hon. NICK J. RAHALL, II  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN RAHALL: Thank you for your September 22, 2008 letter regarding H.R. 6370, the "Oregon Surplus Federal Land Act of 2008". Your support for this legislation and your assistance in ensuring its timely consideration are greatly appreciated.

I agree that provisions in the bill are of jurisdictional interest to the Committee on Natural Resources. I acknowledge that by forgoing a sequential referral, your Committee is not relinquishing its jurisdiction and I will fully support your request to be represented in a House-Senate conference on those provisions over which the Committee on Natural Resources has jurisdiction in H.R. 6370.

This exchange of letters will be placed in the Committee Report on H.R. 6370 and inserted in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of this legislation in the House. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

I look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. OBERSTAR, M.C.,  
Chairman.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, again, I support H.R. 6370, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. 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 Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6370.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**AUTHORIZING GSA ACTIONS IN EASTLAKE, OHIO, AND KOOCHICHING COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6524) to authorize the Administrator of General Services to take certain actions with respect to parcels of real property located in Eastlake, Ohio, and Koochiching County, Minnesota, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6524

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

**SECTION 1. EASTLAKE, OHIO.**

(a) **RELEASE OF RESTRICTIONS.**—Subject to the requirements of this section, the Administrator of General Services is authorized to release the restrictions contained in the deed that conveyed to the city of Eastlake, Ohio, the parcel of real property described in subsection (b).

(b) **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION.**—The parcel of real property referred to in subsection (a) is the site of the John F. Kennedy Senior Center located at 33505 Curtis Boulevard, city of Eastlake, Ohio, on 10.873 acres more or less as conveyed by the deed from the General Services Administration dated July 20, 1964, and recorded in the Lake County Ohio Recorder's Office in volume 601 at pages 40–47.

(c) **CONSIDERATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The city of Eastlake shall pay to the Administrator \$30,000 as consideration for executing the release under subsection (a).

(2) **DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.**—The Administrator shall deposit any funds received under paragraph (1) into the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code.

(3) **AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS DEPOSITED.**—To the extent provided in appropriations Acts, amounts deposited into the Federal Buildings Fund under paragraph (2) shall be available for the uses described in section 592(b) of title 40, United States Code.

(d) **FILING OF INSTRUMENTS TO EXECUTE RELEASE.**—The Administrator shall execute and file in the appropriate office or offices a deed of release, amended deed, or other appropriate instrument effectuating the release under subsection (a).

**SEC. 2. KOOCHICHING COUNTY, MINNESOTA.**

(a) **CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.**—Subject to the requirements of this section, the Administrator of General Services shall convey to Koochiching County, Minnesota, the parcel of real property described in subsection (b), including any improvements thereon.

(b) **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION.**—The parcel of real property referred to in subsection (a) is the approximately 5.84 acre parcel located at 1804 3rd Avenue in International Falls, Minnesota, which is the former site of the Koochiching Army Reserve Training Center.

(c) **QUITCLAIM DEED.**—The conveyance of real property under subsection (a) shall be made through a quit claim deed.

(d) **CONSIDERATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Koochiching County shall pay to the Administrator \$30,000 as consideration for a conveyance of real property under subsection (a).

(2) **DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.**—The Administrator shall deposit any funds received under paragraph (1) (less expenses of the conveyance) into a special account in the Treasury established under section 572(b)(5)(A) of title 40, United States Code.

(3) **AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS DEPOSITED.**—To the extent provided in appropriations Acts, amounts deposited into a special account under paragraph (2) shall be available to the Secretary of the Army in accordance with section 572(b)(5)(B) of title 40, United States Code.

(e) **REVERSION.**—The conveyance of real property under subsection (a) shall be made on the condition that the property will revert to the United States, at the option of the United States, without any obligation for repayment of the purchase price for the property, if the property ceases to be held in public ownership or ceases to be used for a public purpose.

(f) **OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—The conveyance of real property under subsection (a) shall be made subject to such other terms and conditions as the Administrator considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(g) **DEADLINE.**—The conveyance of real property under subsection (a) shall be made not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6524.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6524, a bill to authorize the administrator of General Services to transfer a parcel of real property in Eastlake, Ohio, to the city of Eastlake. Further, the bill authorizes the transfer of real property in the Koochiching Army Reserve Training Center in Koochiching County, Minnesota, to the County of Koochiching.

The city of Eastlake will compensate the General Services \$30,000 for the real property transfer and the County of Koochiching also will compensate the General Services \$30,000 for the real property transfer. The General Services Administration will forward to the Secretary of the Army the net proceeds for the transfer.

The parcel of real property in Eastlake is an approximate 10-acre site, which includes the John F. Kennedy Senior Citizen Center. In 1964, the city of Eastlake purchased the property and, consistent with the deed restriction, used the site for recreational uses for over 40 years. The bill will lift the deed restrictions and thus allow the city to use the property for economic

development purposes. The senior center has been moved to a better location. Further, the city has purchased over 17 acres for parks and recreational uses, increasing the overall acreage devoted to open space and parkland.

The first parcel in Minnesota is 5½ acres, which includes the U.S. Army Armory Building, which will pay to have the roof replaced, install a new boiler and heating system, and make extensive repairs to the ceiling. The Army reported the property excess in January 2006 and GSA accepted the report of excess in February 2006. GSA screened the property with other Federal agencies, but there were no expressions of interest. Likewise, no expressions of interest from homeless shelter providers were received by GSA.

Mr. Speaker, I commend both Chairman OBERSTAR and my colleague, Congressman LATOURETTE, for working on these essential pieces of legislation and for ensuring compensation will be made to the General Services, and the Federal taxpayers will be fully protected.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6524. This legislation will allow the General Services Administration to remove the public use deed restriction on a former National Park property in the community of Eastlake, Ohio, and dispose of a surplus property in Koochiching County, Minnesota.

Since its transfer to Eastlake, Ohio, in 1964, the former National Park Service property has met its public use requirements by serving as a senior center. Because the community has built a new center to replace the aging John F. Kennedy Senior Citizen, Eastlake desires to make use of the property for other purposes. The city of Eastlake would pay the General Services Administration \$30,000 for removal of the restrictions on the use of the property.

For more than 40 years, the real estate has served the purpose intended in the initial agreement. And this bill will allow the property to be repurposed to continue to serve the community.

The community of Koochiching County, Minnesota, has similar plans for a parcel of property that has for years served as a military training facility. The changing needs of the U.S. Army Reserve and the community now mean that the property can serve the public interests better by housing several local government agencies.

The conveyance of property in Koochiching has restrictions that will ensure that the property continue to serve the community. GSA does not oppose either of those provisions. In fact, in conversations with staff, GSA indicated that if GSA had the authority, it would remove the deed restriction on the property and convey the Minnesota property at no cost because GSA believes the public interest has been and