

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE
SENATE

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

H.R. 5001. An act to authorize the Administrator of General Services to provide for the redevelopment of the Old Post Office Building located in the District of Columbia.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2631. An act to strengthen efforts in the Department of Homeland Security to develop nuclear forensics capabilities to permit attribution of the source of nuclear material, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2963. An act to transfer certain land in Riverside County, California, and San Diego County, California, from the Bureau of Land Management to the United States to be held in trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5350. An act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange certain National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration property located in Norfolk, Virginia, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5618. An act to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 906 An act to prohibit the sale, distribution, transfer, and export of elemental mercury, and for other purposes.

S. 1492. An act to improve the quality of Federal and State data regarding the availability and quality of broadband services and to promote the deployment of affordable broadband services to all parts of the Nation.

S. 1582. An act to reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2913. An act to provide a limitation on judicial remedies in copyright infringement cases involving orphan works.

S. 3109. An act to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system.

S. 3192. An act to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to authorize the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians of Oregon, the Coquille Tribe of Oregon, and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Reservation, Oregon, to obtain 99-year lease authority for trust land, and to authorize the Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians of the Morongo Reservation, California, to obtain 50-year lease authority for trust land.

S. 3477. An act to amend title 44, United States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence.

S. 3536. An act to amend section 5402 of title 39, United States Code, to modify the authority relating to United States Postal Service air transportation contracts, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 496) "An Act to reauthorize and improve the program authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965."

GREAT LAKES LEGACY
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 6460) to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for the remediation of sediment contamination in areas of concern, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike section 3(f) and all that follows and insert the following:

(f) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 118(c)(12)(H) of such Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(12)(H)) is amended—*

(1) *by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:*

"(i) *IN GENERAL.—In addition to other amounts authorized under this section, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2010.*"; and

(2) *by adding at the end the following:*

"(iii) *ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Not more than 20 percent of the funds appropriated pursuant to clause (i) for a fiscal year may be used to carry out subparagraph (F).*"

(g) *PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM.—Section 118(c)(13)(B) of such Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(13)(B)) is amended by striking "2008" and inserting "2010".*

SEC. 4. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

Section 106(b) of the Great Lakes Legacy Act of 2002 (33 U.S.C. 1271a(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

"(1) *IN GENERAL.—In addition to any amounts authorized under other provisions of law, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2010.*"

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 6460.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Finally, we are here with essentially a conference report on the Great Lakes Legacy Reauthorization Act of 2008. This great and extraordinary body of water, the Great Lakes, represents one-fifth of all the fresh water, not frozen, on the face of the Earth and is a treasure for all of America, not just for the nearly 40 million people who reside on or near or within 100 miles of those Great Lakes. It's a treasure for all of America and for the world. It is our responsibility. And only us humans can protect that water.

Only Lake Baikal rivals the volume of water in Lake Superior. Lake Baikal

is deeper. It's almost 1 mile deep, not as much surface, enormously deep water. Next is Lake Victoria in Africa. But all are standing in line in significance, in volume and in quality of water to the Great Lakes.

The gentleman from Michigan, for whom I have enormous admiration, Mr. EHLERS, has been a relentless champion since entering the service of Congress, bringing his splendid scientific mind to the challenges of the Great Lakes, of invasive species, of water quality, of bottom sediments in the 45 toxic hotspots of the Great Lakes, principally the harbors throughout the lakes, the need to study, to understand the causes, but then for the need to implement an action program to deal with this. It is not enough just to verify in scientific test tubes that pollution exists and invasive species are present, but to get to the causes and then to roll back that pollution, to roll back those invasive species and to prevent their further or future entry into this waterway.

The Great Lakes Legacy Act gives us the opportunity to do that. It is the culmination of a great deal of effort on both sides of the aisle in both bodies of the Congress.

I must stop for a reflective moment and go back to 1955 when my predecessor, John Blatnik, assumed the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Rivers and Harbors. John Blatnik was also a scientist, a biochemist. He served in the OSS in World War II behind Nazi lines in northern Yugoslavia in what is Slovenia today, rescuing American airmen shot down on returning bombing runs over the Ploesti oil fields in Romania. And John Blatnik started his service as an educator in the Civilian Conservation Corps after graduating from college. There weren't any jobs. He became camp educational adviser in the Superior National Forest, later a chemistry teacher in our hometown of Chisholm, and then later, as I mentioned a moment ago, with the OSS and working with the junior chamber of commerce on resource use conservation.

When he came to Congress, he brought his scientific mind to bear on the problems of the country. And in 1955 he took the chairmanship of the Rivers and Harbors Subcommittee and traveled down the Mississippi River to understand the work of the Corps of Engineers. What became more important for him was to see, as he described it, the raw phenols, the raw sewage that came in to the Mississippi River from its tributaries and from the cities that lie along the banks of those 2,000 miles as the river courses from Upper Leech Lake down to the Gulf of Mexico. He said that by the time we got to New Orleans, there were raw phenols bubbling in the water. It was toxic. It was a soup of chemicals. And he realized that more important than the locks and the navigation channels was to clean up the Mississippi.

And then he turned his attention as well to the Great Lakes. These were