

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LARSEN of Washington) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

O Lord our God, send forth Your light and Your truth. Let these be our guide. Lead this Congress and this Nation to the heights of Your holy mountain and to all the places You choose to dwell. We will come before You filled with joy and offer thanksgiving to You, our Redeemer.

So why do we seem downcast at times? Hope in God. Hope in God as our Savior. There is always a reason to praise the Lord. Again and again He will prove Himself our mighty God, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BORDALLO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

HEALTH CARE REFORM OR SMALL BUSINESS DISASTER?

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it's going to be a rough time to be a small business owner if the Democrat health care reform plan becomes law. Their government takeover of health care hits taxpayers with more than \$820 billion in tax hikes. This plan also includes a new \$540 billion tax on the so-called "rich" to bankroll this health care scheme.

The problem? According to IRS data, more than half of those who will be hit with this new tax are small business owners. Small businesses are our economy's engine for job growth. In fact, in the past, they have created 72 percent of all new jobs. If you're like me, you would like to see more job growth right now, not less. But small businesses will be hit hard by the new taxes in this plan, severely hampering

their ability to create jobs and help us emerge from this economic downturn.

This doesn't sound like health care reform. It sounds like a disaster.

RAISING THE STATUTORY LIMIT ON THE NATIONAL DEBT IS BAD POLICY

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern for raising the national debt limit.

Last week, the U.S. Department of the Treasury reported that 2009 was the worst fiscal year in our country's history. This shouldn't be a surprise considering the amount of hard-earned taxpayer dollars that Washington has been spending at a record-setting pace. The massive stimulus bill that I opposed in February increased the national debt by \$925 billion to \$12.1 trillion.

I am extremely troubled by the recent media reports that show leaders of the majority party saying that the national debt limit has to be raised again, and soon. Mr. Speaker, we cannot spend and borrow our way to prosperity.

I have heard the anger of the American people and my constituents, and they aren't supportive of any more debt increases. I voted against this earlier this year, and I remain opposed to increasing the debt limit. If anything, Washington needs to decrease the debt limit and practice fiscal responsibility now.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 29, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, The Capitol, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 23, 2009, at 1:21 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1209.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 26.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

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

NATIONAL LAND REMOTE SENSING OUTREACH ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2489) to authorize a comprehensive national cooperative geospatial imagery mapping program through the United States Geological Survey, to promote use of the program for education, workforce training and development, and applied research, and to support Federal, State, tribal, and local government programs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2489

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 "National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) PROGRAM.—*The term "Program" means the National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Program established in section 3.*

(2) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—*The term "educational institution" means any public or private elementary or secondary school, or any institution of vocational, professional, or higher education (including a junior college or teachers' college).*

(3) GEOSPATIAL IMAGERY.—*The term "geospatial imagery"—*

(A) *means satellite land remote sensing image data registered to map or other spatial coordinates derived from features on the ground; and*

(B) *includes a wide range of graphical products that convey information about natural phenomena and human activities occurring on Earth's surface.*

(4) IMAGE DATA.—*The term "image data" means the raw, unprocessed form of data captured from a sensing instrument.*

(5) LAND REMOTE SENSING.—*The term "land remote sensing" means image data of land, coastal areas, or islands and reefs acquired from above the surface of the Earth by instruments on satellite platforms.*

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

(7) STATE.—*The term "State" means—*

(A) *each of the several States of the United States;*

(B) *the District of Columbia;*

(C) *the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;*

(D) *Guam;*

(E) *American Samoa;*

(F) *the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and*

(G) *the United States Virgin Islands.*

(8) INDIAN TRIBE.—*The term "Indian tribe" has the same meaning given that term in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)).*

SEC. 3. NATIONAL LAND REMOTE SENSING OUTREACH PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—*The Secretary shall establish and maintain a national land remote sensing outreach program within the U.S. Geological Survey to advance the availability, timely distribution, and widespread use of geospatial imagery for education, research, assessment, and monitoring purposes in each State and the lands of an Indian tribe.*

(b) PURPOSES.—*The purposes of the program are—*

(1) to increase accessibility to, and expand the use of, remote sensing data in a standard, easy-to-use format by Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, communities, educational institutions, and the commercial sector; and

(2) to assist each participating State and Indian tribe in establishing the cooperative infrastructure necessary to increase access to geospatial imagery for research and educational purposes.

(c) ACTIVITIES.—

(1) NATIONAL LAND REMOTE SENSING OUTREACH PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall—

(A) support geospatial imagery sharing, applied research, and educational programs of each participating State and Indian tribe;

(B) identify new geospatial imagery needs and infrastructure;

(C) share and cooperate in the development of geospatial imagery applications, education, and training infrastructure in each participating State and the lands of an Indian tribe;

(D) cooperate with participating States and Indian tribes to encourage the expansion of geospatial imagery mapping courses taught at appropriate educational institutions;

(E) encourage expansion of geospatial imagery research at appropriate educational institutions;

(F) encourage expansion of the knowledge and use of geospatial imagery products in the workforce through outreach programs, workshops, and other training opportunities;

(G) encourage participating States and Indian tribes to build partnerships with local governments to identify unique research and development needs and geospatial imagery application pilot programs;

(H) promote cooperation and sharing of expertise regarding geospatial imagery applications among participating States and Indian tribes; and

(I) provide a mechanism to enable the States and Indian tribes to transfer geospatial imagery and applications to the U.S. Geological Survey as appropriate.

(2) GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to provide grants to qualified educational institutions, or to State, local, and tribal governments, or to consortia of these entities, on a competitive basis to—

(i) advance the interest of the Federal Government in promoting the use of imagery by educational institutions, States, localities, and Indian tribes; and

(ii) achieve the purposes of the Program described in section 3(b).

(B) MATCHING FUNDS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the cost of each program for which a grant is made under this Act may not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of the program.

(ii) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—In providing the non-Federal contribution required under this paragraph, a grantee—

(I) shall provide for such share through a payment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment, technology, or services; and

(II) may provide for such share through State sources or local sources, including private funds or donated services.

(iii) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirements of subparagraph (B), in whole or in part, with respect to any program if the Secretary determines that the grantee has made a good faith effort to obtain the non-Federal contribution at the local level but is unable to do so.

(3) FEDERAL PARTNER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and maintain a committee to advise the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey regarding the Program.

(B) MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT.—The advisory committee under subparagraph (A) shall be chaired by the U.S. Geological Survey and composed of such representatives of Federal and

State agencies, tribal governments, and educational institutions as the Secretary may designate.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$10,000,000 to carry out this Act for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2019.

SEC. 5. SUNSET DATE.

This Act is repealed on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which 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 gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2489 would authorize a nationwide program sponsored by the U.S. Geological Survey to help States, communities, and universities use satellite imagery for research and education.

I would like to commend the sponsor of this legislation, Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, for championing valuable uses of satellite imagery and for her work with the minority to improve the pending measure.

So I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2489, which will facilitate remote sensing outreach partnerships in all 50 States and territories.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume on H.R. 2489.

The National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Act builds on a series of earmarks directed to the United States Geological Survey for nearly a decade. This program originally started out as "Ohio View" and has since expanded to more than 35 States, with hundreds of active member groups. This effort has been successful in increasing access to and uses of our Nation's Earth observation satellite assets for education, research, hazardous monitoring, and natural resource management.

This legislation will finally move this program from one funded through earmarks without any oversight from Congress to an authorized Federal program with increased accountability, oversight, and taxpayer protections.

The final version of this legislation the House will consider today includes a number of improvements over the original introduced text. Specifically, this bill places a cap on the annual authorization for this program. This bill also now has a sunset date and requires a cost share from the partners who will work with the U.S. Geological Survey.

These are responsible, necessary changes. Congress should at all times seek to ensure taxpayer protections and oversight of government spending.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

Mr. LATOURETTE. I thank my friend from Alaska for yielding.

I want to commend our good friend and colleague, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, from South Dakota, for her hard work in bringing this bill to the floor today. I understand she has been delayed by travel difficulties, but I am honored to be the lead Republican on this particular bill.

I am also pleased to indicate that the lead sponsor in the 110th Congress was Ralph Regula, Representative Ralph Regula. It was his vision that really started this program as "Ohio View" in 1998. It began as a pilot program through a partnership between the United States Geological Survey and several universities in the State of Ohio.

Originally called "Ohio View," the program expanded nationwide beginning in 2000 and is currently active in 35 States across the country. The AmericaView program helps States and territories access the Federal Government's nonclassified satellite and airborne imagery. It provides remote sensing data to communities in order to manage resources, plan for natural disasters, and respond to security threats.

The National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Act will maintain a nationwide AmericaView program and advance the availability of distribution and use of remote sensing data in each State. This bill will also expand remote sensing education as well as award grants to educational institutions and State and local governments to develop these programs.

There is a growing need for geospatial technology professionals, and this funding will bring remote sensing into K-12 classrooms across the country, strengthening students' science skills.

The AmericaView program has been valuable to communities across the Nation. I believe it is an effective use of taxpayer money.

Again, I want to thank Congresswoman HERSETH SANDLIN for introducing the bill again this Congress, and I appreciate very much the work of the Natural Resources Committee in improving the legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge support of H.R. 2489, the National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Act, bipartisan legislation that I introduced with my colleague STEVE LATOURETTE, that would authorize a program at the U.S. Geological Survey enhancing the use of satellite remote sensing data for research and education.

For almost a decade, the USGS has partnered with a nonprofit organization called AmericaView to help citizens, researchers, and public agencies solve real world problems using satellite imagery. Over these years, the USGS has provided satellite data and grants to AmericaView. AmericaView, in turn, has supported a network of university partners now in a total of 36 states: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Thanks to this outreach program, a great trove of satellite data and information, which is archived at the USGS Earth Resources Observation Data Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is put to work throughout our country. Each state program tailors its efforts to each state's needs, applying the data for use in a range of useful activities, including science education projects, the calculation of drought effects, designing irrigation protocols, or planning flood response. In short, USGS is enabling an amazing and varied array of remote sensing data applications through these ongoing outreach efforts and partnerships.

Despite receiving appropriations in past fiscal years, the USGS geospatial imagery outreach program has never formally been authorized. Passing this legislation today will officially authorize the USGS' existing outreach activities, helping to boost the program's recognition, expand the program to additional states and territories, and provide for Congressional direction and oversight.

The legislation before us today was amended in Committee to reflect input from the Department of Interior and colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and I'd like to thank the Administration and my colleagues for their willingness to work together on this bill. I'd also like to recognize the contributions of our former colleague, Representative Ralph Regula of Ohio, who introduced this legislation in the previous Congress.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2489, the National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Act.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2489, 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. 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.

JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE BOUNDARY EXPANSION

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1471) to expand the boundary of the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, to redesignate the unit as a National Historical Park, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1471

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

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY EXPANSION.

Section 1 of Public Law 100-206 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (3) and inserting:

“(3) preserve and interpret a southern agricultural-based rural community during the early to middle years of the 20th century.”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “map entitled ‘Jimmy Carter National Historic Site and Preservation District Boundary Map’, numbered NHS-JC-80000, and dated April 1987” and inserting “map titled ‘Jimmy Carter National Historical Park and Preservation District, Proposed Boundary Map’, numbered 330/80,019, and dated September 2009”;

(3) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by striking “and described more particularly as follows—” and inserting “or is needed to enhance the visitor experience, and includes—”;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “15” and inserting “18”;

(C) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking “Carter.” and inserting “Carter, and properties in the vicinity of the residence along West Church Street that are needed for administrative and visitor uses and to protect scenic values, not to exceed 10 acres;”;

(E) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(G) the Billy Carter Service Station at 104 West Church Street, consisting of less than one acre;

“(H) the property at 147 Old Plains Highway, known locally as the ‘Haunted House’, where Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter resided from 1956 to 1961, consisting of approximately one acre;

“(I) the Georgia Welcome Center on State Route 280/27, consisting of approximately 18 acres; and

“(J) two corridors of land no wider than 50 feet each between the Georgia Welcome Center and the President Carter boyhood home for the purpose of establishing walking and biking trails while using, to the greatest extent practicable, the right-of-way for the Shoreline Excursion Train.”;

(4) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) after subparagraph (B), insert the following:

“(C) by donation only, other lands and interests in lands in the environs of Plains containing natural, cultural, or historic resources consistent with the purposes of the national historical park which, upon acquisition, shall be included in and administered as part of the national historical park.”; and

(5) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “, the Georgia Welcome Center (referred to in sub-

section (b)(2)(I)),” after “subsection (b)(2)(A))”.

SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION AS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—Public Law 100-206 is amended—

(1) by striking “National Historic Site” each place it appears and inserting “National Historical Park”;

(2) by striking “historic site” each place it appears and inserting “national historical park”;

(3) in the section heading of section 1, by striking “NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK”;

(4) in the subsection heading of section 1(b), by striking “NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK”; and

(5) in the section heading of section 3, by striking “HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the “Jimmy Carter National Historic Site” shall be deemed a reference to the “Jimmy Carter National Historical Park”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Public Law 100-206 is further amended by striking section 7.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which 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 gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in Plains, Georgia, was established in 1987 to preserve the boyhood home and current residence of our 39th President. The former President and his wife have a lifetime tenancy in their home and are actively involved in the work of the park.

The pending measure would expand the current boyhood homesite from 15 acres to 18 acres and allow the National Park Service to acquire several additional properties. The bill would also redesignate the park from a national historic site to a national historical park.

Mr. Speaker, the sponsor of this legislation, Representative SANFORD BISHOP, is to be commended for his commitment to preserving this important piece of Presidential history. This is an excellent piece of legislation, and I urge Members to support it.

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.)