His victory in this case opened doors that the University of Mississippi citizens had to walk through quite boldly, and I think that he doesn’t get the credit that he deserves, Mr. Speaker. It is important to note that, while with the NAACP’s Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Mr. Brown played a major role in fighting racial discrimination in the areas of transportation and other public accommodations. I support this legislation, Mr. Speaker. I urge my colleagues to help me pass H.R. 172.

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

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Brown was a courageous American who stood and fought for what was right. He is deserving to have this courthouse named after him. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Brown was a courageous American who stood and fought for what was right. He is deserving to have this courthouse named after him. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Brown was a courageous American who stood and fought for what was right. He is deserving to have this courthouse named after him. I yield back the balance of my time.
Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to re-vise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the request of the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentle-woman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSON-GAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HECK), whose bill we are discussing, to introduce the bill.

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member of the House Natural Resources Committee for working with me in a bipartisan manner to bring H.R. 373, the Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act, to the floor.

H.R. 373 tears down bureaucratic roadblocks that are preventing families from achieving closure when their loved ones go missing on Federal land. This issue was first brought to my attention by the separate but similarly tragic cases of Las Vegas taxi driver Keith Goldberg and Air Force Staff Sergeant Antonio Tucker.

Mr. Goldberg and Staff Sergeant Tucker were presumed dead, and their remains were never recovered to be resting somewhere within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. In both cases, local, experienced search and recovery groups volunteered their time and resources to help locate the remains of these missing individuals.

Unfortunately, due to unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles from the Federal Government, the group volunteering to help locate and recover Mr. Goldberg’s remains was denied access to Park Service land to conduct its search for 15 months. The group volunteering to help locate the remains of Staff Sergeant Tucker was denied access for 10 months, needlessly delaying the closure these families sought.

This is unacceptable and must change. My bill does just that. Once these bureaucratic hurdles were finally cleared and these Good Samaritan search and recovery groups were allowed access to Park Service land, Mr. Goldberg’s remains were recovered in less than 2 hours and the remains of Staff Sergeant Tucker were recovered in less than 2 days.

As a former member of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department’s search and rescue team, I introduced this bill because unnecessary red tape simply must not continue to get in the way of providing closure for families faced with similar tragic circumstances.

A similar bill, H.R. 2166, passed the House in the 113th Congress with a unanimous vote of 394-0, showing real bipartisan support. Unfortunately, the Senate failed to take action on the measure.

We must pass this bill so that future families won’t have to suffer the mental anguish that the families of Keith Goldberg and Antonio Tucker did.

Again, I thank the chairman and the ranking member of the House Natural Resources Committee for diligently working with me on H.R. 373.

I urge its adoption.

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

Mr. Speaker, in January 2012, when Keith Goldberg went missing, finding him was all we wanted. Investigators presumed that he had been murdered and that his remains were somewhere in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, a unit administered by the National Park Service.

After several months, local law enforcement was unable to recover Mr. Goldberg’s remains, and they gave up the search. His family, wanting what any family would want, reached out to a private, nonprofit search and rescue outfit for assistance.

Unfortunately, it took 15 months for the professional search and rescue company to acquire the permits and insurance required to conduct this search. Within 2 hours of receiving the necessary credentials, Mr. Goldberg’s body was recovered.

H.R. 373 will help speed up the process for granting private search and rescue companies access to Federal lands.

The bill strikes a fair balance between necessary credentials, Mr. Goldberg’s body was recovered.

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The bill strikes a fair balance between necessary credentials, Mr. Goldberg’s body was recovered.
Within months of their ability to go in there, once again, they found the body.

The bill that Mr. HCK is presenting to you is nothing more than common sense. This is the way all agencies should behave, and it is sad that we actually need legislation to get our land agency to do what they should be doing in the first place.

Sometimes we are criticized here in Congress for having a lack of common sense, but it is sad that it is up to Congress to try to insist that our land agencies actually use common sense. The most important issue should be the issue with how we can actually help people; that is our first responsibility. In these two situations, it was an utter failure to actually realize that people are the most important element and, if we do have Federal lands, they better be used to help people or we shouldn’t have them in the first place.

That is why this bill is not just a simple bill. This is a significant piece of legislation that should set the standard for how agencies deal with people in the future.

I commend the good gentleman from Nevada for bringing this back up and giving it to us again, and I promise that we will continue to pass this bill until it becomes reality, until it becomes a standard by which people are treated by the Federal land agencies we have here in this Nation. I urge its adoption, and I urge its passage.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rules, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAAS) may have 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the negative, the ayes have it.

The question was taken.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 984) to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 984
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatitives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY.

Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end of the following:

'(46) CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—'

'(A) IN GENERAL.—The Chief Standing Bear Trail, extending approximately 550 miles from Niobrara, Nebraska, to Ponca City, Oklahoma, which follows the route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people during Federal Indian removal, and approximately 550 miles from Ponca City, Oklahoma, through Omaha, Nebraska, to Niobrara, Nebraska, which follows the return route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people, as generally depicted on the map entitled 'Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail Feasibility Study', numbered 903:125,630, and dated November 2014.

'(B) AVAILABLE.—The map described in subparagraph (A) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Department of the Interior.

'(C) COMPONENTS.—The feasibility study conducted under subparagraph (A) shall include a determination on whether the Chief Standing Bear Trail meets the criteria described in subsection (b) for designation as a national historic trail.

'(D) CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the feasibility study under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of the Interior shall consider input from owners of private land within or adjacent to the study area.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the request of the gentleman from Utah.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the request of the gentleman from Utah.

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), the chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources, and the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA), who is the ranking member on the committee, as well as the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK), the chairman of the Federal Lands Subcommittee, and the distinguished gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAAS), the ranking member on the subcommittee, for their outstanding work and help to me in bringing this legislation to the floor.

This is important. This legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study for the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail.

Now, Chief Standing Bear holds a very special place in Native American and U.S. history. Naming a trail in his name would be an outstanding way to recognize his contributions to our great land. I would like to provide some additional background on this extraordinary individual, who prevailed in one of the most important court cases for Native Americans in our country’s history.

Chief Standing Bear was a Ponca chief who in the 1870s made his home in the Niobrara River Valley area of Nebraska. In 1877, the United States Government forcibly pressured the Poncas from that homel and, compelling them to move to the Indian territory in Oklahoma. Not wishing to subject his people to a confrontation with the government, Standing Bear obliged and led them from their homes on a perilous journey to the territory of Oklahoma. That journey was harsh and the new land was inhospitable. Nearly a third of the tribe died along the way from starvation, malaria, and other diseases, including Chief Standing Bear’s little girl and, later, his son, Bear Shield.

Before Bear Shield died, however, Standing Bear stated that he would bury him in their native land in the Niobrara River Valley. So Standing Bear embarked on the trip in the winter of 1878 to return to the homeland to bury his son, leading a group of about 600 Poncas. After reaching the Omaha reservation, the United States Army stopped Standing Bear and arrested him for leaving Oklahoma without their permission. He was taken to Fort Omaha and held there until trial.

In the meantime, Standing Bear’s plight attracted media attention, first in the Omaha Daily Herald, which was the forerunner of the present-day Omaha World-Herald, and the story became well-publicized nationally.

At the conclusion of his 2-day trial, Standing Bear was allowed to speak for himself. And then he raised his hand and he said this: “That hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce my hand, you will feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. God made us both.”

With these profound words in that late spring day of 1879, I believe Chief Standing Bear expressed the most American of sentiments: the belief in the inherent dignity and rights of all persons, no matter their color, no matter their ethnicity. Judge Elmer Dundy concurred, and he ruled that Native Americans are recognized as persons within the full meaning of the law.

The story of the Ponca chief is a story of strength and grace and determination. I think it is a story that we need to tell over and over again so that it is understood and cherished by all Americans of future generations.

Mr. Speaker, establishment of the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail would honor both the courage of this man and the great contribution to the freedom and the civil liberties of