

Mr. Speaker, under DAV's existing congressional charter, an individual generally is eligible for membership in the organization if he or she was wounded, gassed, injured or disabled in the line of duty during time of war while serving in the U.S. military.

DAV works to ensure that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them and advocates for the interests of America's injured heroes and their families.

Most important, DAV educates the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

On the battlefield, the military pledges to leave no soldier behind.

As a nation, let it be our pledge that when they return home, we leave no veteran behind.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 1755 because it is an important affirmation of our commitment to honor the service of disabled veterans with actions that fulfill our commitment to them and their families, and which are worthy of a grateful nation.

This is also the reason that I co-sponsored the H.R. 333, the Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act, which increases veteran's pay and disability compensation and maintains secure, dependable and reliable veterans' programs, especially for disabled veterans is very important.

And it is why I also strongly supported and voted to pass H.R. 3202, the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, which expands access to health care for veterans, addresses the shortage of health professionals in the VA, ensures access to care for rural veterans, and provided funding to establish 27 new VA clinics, including a new research facility in Houston.

And it is why as Chair of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security, I championed the Helping Heroes Fly Act (H.R. 1344), which improves airport security screening for wounded and severely disabled service members and veterans by ensuring personal privacy and consistent application of efficient screening procedures so that our selfless disabled veterans never again have to face lengthy, invasive, and even humiliating screening procedures at our airports.

I urge all Members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 1755.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1755, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF USE RESTRICTION ON CERTAIN LAND TRANSFERRED TO ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2288) to remove the use restrictions on certain land transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2288

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

SECTION 1. REMOVAL OF USE RESTRICTION.

Public Law 101-479 (104 Stat. 1158) is amended—

(1) by striking section 2(d); and

(2) by adding the following new section at the end:

“SEC. 4. REMOVAL OF USE RESTRICTION.

“(a) The approximately 1-acre portion of the land referred to in section 3 that is used for purposes of a child care center, as authorized by this Act, shall not be subject to the use restriction imposed in the deed referred to in section 3.

“(b) Upon enactment of this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall execute an instrument to carry out subsection (a).”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 2288 removes a use restriction from the deed of an approximately 1-acre portion of land. The property was transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, in 1989 to construct a child care facility.

H.R. 2288 would remove the restrictions on the land so that any necessary upgrades may be made to the Plains Area Daycare Center in Broadway, Virginia, which provides child care for families who otherwise could not afford it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

H.R. 2288 removes the use restriction on a 1-acre parcel of Federal land provided to Rockingham County, Virginia.

As was stated, in 1989, Congress authorized Rockingham County to use a 3-acre parcel of Federal land for the purpose of establishing a child care center under the condition that the land continues to be used for this purpose. If the county no longer needs the land for a child care center, the land reverts back to ownership by the United States or the county has the option to purchase it at fair market value.

The Federal Government has a long tradition of providing public land to State, county, and local governments. The fair use of Federal land and a fair return to the American taxpayer has to be at the forefront of these transactions. Removing public-purpose requirements and use restrictions should

only be done when it is deemed appropriate and necessary.

In this particular case, the sponsor of this legislation has worked with the National Park Service to develop legislation that is both fair and transparent.

The land provided to Rockingham County includes a garage that was previously used by the National Park Service that the county has determined could benefit the Plains Area Daycare Center. The Park Service no longer needs the garage, and removing the use restriction on 1 of the 3 acres will allow this child care provider to access financial assistance in order to upgrade and rehabilitate the garage so it is suitable for its needs.

This is a worthy goal. We support the adoption of H.R. 2288 and congratulate the sponsor of the legislation for it.

I reserve the balance of my time.
Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE).

Mr. GOODLATTE. I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time.

And I thank the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP), for moving this legislation through the Natural Resources Committee and to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the passage of H.R. 2288. This bill simply removes 20-year-old deed use restrictions on 1 acre of land.

For over 25 years, a little over 3 acres of land and its associated buildings, which were previously wholly held by the Federal Government, have been maintained by Rockingham County and the Plains Area Daycare Center in my congressional district, the Sixth District of Virginia.

In 1989, the Federal Government deeded these 3 acres of land, with restriction, to Rockingham County. But even prior to this official declaration, Rockingham County had already been faithfully maintaining the property, which the Federal Government no longer utilized. The property had previously been used as a garage and maintenance facility for the United States Forest Service.

When the government transferred this land to Rockingham County in 1989, the condition was that this property was to be used for public purposes. The county decided that the nonprofit Plains Area Daycare Center in Broadway, Virginia, which provides child care on a sliding scale to many families who otherwise could not afford child care, would benefit from the use of the old garage. Therefore, Congress enacted Public Law 101-479, which allowed the deed to be changed from public use to the particular use of the child care center.

Donations by the community, totaling \$75,000, turned the garage building into a nursery, a daycare, and an after-school care facility. Additionally, the creation of the daycare center provided

for the creation of a playground that the center supports and is open for public use.

To be clear, the center and the playground are the sole reasons that this previously abandoned government land is being used by the community.

I have visited the Plains Area Daycare Center on many occasions and have seen the immeasurable investments this center is making in the community by providing high-quality child care. Since opening in 1991, the center has always been at capacity and is the only facility of its kind in the community.

However, after two decades of consistent use, the facility is in desperate need of repair. Unfortunately, because of the narrow way Public Law 101-479 was drafted and because of the terms of the deed, the daycare center has been unable to get a loan to complete the much-needed renovations.

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To solve this issue, my legislation would remove the deed use restrictions from the 1 acre of property on which the building resides. While I would like to have seen the entire 3 acres released, this legislation is the result of a compromise that has been endorsed by the National Park Service and Rockingham County.

By passing this legislation and allowing Rockingham County and, in return, the Plains Area Daycare Center more authority over the land, it will ensure that more children and more of the community will be served by this land.

This bill is the result of hard work over the past two Congresses. The House passed related legislation in the 113th Congress. However, the Senate did not act. This Congress, my staff and I have worked closely with Rockingham County and the Natural Resources Committee to see H.R. 2288 brought before the House. I am hopeful that the Senate will take action this time.

Mr. Speaker, while my legislation today is simply a formality, it is of great importance to those being served by this daycare center in the community. For 25 years, the land has been deeded to Rockingham County, but with overbearing restrictions.

Since it is clear the Federal Government no longer has a vested interest in the land, it is time to lift those restrictions to allow the Plains Area Daycare Center to reach its full potential.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. LAMALFA. I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Twenty years ago Congress made its intention clear that a daycare facility was to have use of the property, and I am pleased to lead the charge in fixing the law.

I urge passage of H.R. 2288 to simply remove the deed restrictions on 1 acre of land so that the necessary upgrades

may be made to the childcare center and this community investment can continue to thrive.

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

Mr. LAMALFA. 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 California (Mr. LAMALFA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2288, 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. LAMALFA. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PRESERVATION RESEARCH AT INSTITUTIONS SERVING MINORITIES ACT

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1541) to amend title 54, United States Code, to make Hispanic-serving institutions eligible for technical and financial assistance for the establishment of preservation training and degree programs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1541

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 "Preservation Research at Institutions Serving Minorities Act" or the "PRISM Act".

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS AND ASIAN AMERICAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER-SERVING INSTITUTIONS FOR ASSISTANCE FOR PRESERVATION EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.

Section 303903(3) of title 54, United States Code, is amended by inserting "to Hispanic-serving institutions (as defined in section 502(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a))) and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions (as defined in section 320(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059g(b)))" after "universities,".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 1541 provides colleges and universities with a high enrollment of Hispanic, Asian American, and Native American Pacific Islander students access to a grant program that encourages student involvement in historic and cultural projects.

This grant program already includes Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and nontribal colleges with a high enrollment of Native Americans or Native Hawaiians. H.R. 1541 will ensure that historically underrepresented groups are eligible for technical and financial assistance to establish preservation training and degree programs.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

In March of this year, I introduced this legislation, the Preservation Research at Institutions Serving Minorities, the PRISM Act, to ensure that over 400 Hispanic-serving institutions have access to a competitive grant program for historic preservation education and for training programs. HSIs are colleges and universities where at least 25 percent of the student enrollment is comprised of Hispanic students.

Current law provides, as was stated by the gentleman, preservation education and training grants for HBCUs, tribal and Hawaiian Native education institutions. My legislation would add HSIs to the list.

HSIs represent about 12 percent of all higher education institutions in the U.S. They educate over 3 million Hispanic students that are enrolled in those universities and colleges.

At the markup, the committee adopted an amendment offered by my good friend, Congresswoman BORDALLO of Guam. Ms. BORDALLO's amendment adds universities and colleges that are designated as Asian American, Native American Pacific Islanders-serving institutions to the list of institutions eligible for historic preservation education and training programs. I commend the gentlewoman from Guam for bringing this issue up. Her amendment makes the bill more inclusive and better.

I urge my colleagues to support its adoption. The bill is designed to enhance the educational experience of students at HSIs and contribute to the preservation of Hispanic history, as it is being preserved for all Americans under this program.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I appreciate the efforts of my colleague from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA).

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1541, the Preservation Research at Institutions Serving Minorities, or PRISM, Act. H.R. 1541 would make Hispanic serving institutions and