

**SEC. 2. FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT, GEORGIA.**

(a) **MAXIMUM ACREAGE.**—The first section of the Act of May 26, 1936 (16 U.S.C. 433g), is amended by striking “two hundred and fifty acres” and inserting “305 acres”.

**(b) BOUNDARY EXPANSION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The boundary of the Fort Frederica National Monument in the State of Georgia is modified to include the land generally depicted as “Proposed Acquisition Areas” on the map entitled “Fort Frederica National Monument Proposed Boundary Expansion”, numbered 369/132,469, and dated April 2016.

(2) **AVAILABILITY OF MAP.**—The map described in paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(3) **ACQUISITION OF LAND.**—The Secretary of the Interior may acquire the land and interests in land described in paragraph (1) by donation or purchase with donated or appropriated funds from willing sellers only.

(4) **WRITTEN CONSENT OF OWNER.**—No non-Federal property may be included in the Fort Frederica National Monument without the written consent of the owner.

(5) **NO USE OF CONDEMNATION OR EMINENT DOMAIN.**—The Secretary of the Interior may not acquire by condemnation or eminent domain any land or interests in land under this Act or for the purposes of this Act.

(6) **NO BUFFER ZONE CREATED.**—Nothing in this Act, the establishment of the Fort Frederica National Monument, or the management plan for the Fort Frederica National Monument shall be construed to create buffer zones outside of the Monument. That activities or uses can be seen, heard, or detected from areas within the Fort Frederica National Monument shall not preclude, limit, control, regulate, or determine the conduct or management of activities or uses outside of the Monument.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. 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 Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Fort Frederica National Monument, located on St. Simons Island, Georgia, preserves the archaeological remnants of a fort established in 1736 by James Oglethorpe. Oglethorpe constructed the fort to protect the colony of Georgia from attack from the Spanish. The fort successfully fended off a Spanish attack in 1742 and confirmed Georgia as a British territory.

H.R. 3480, introduced by Congressman BUDDY CARTER of Georgia, expands Fort Frederica by 21 acres. The St. Simons Land Trust currently owns the additional acreage and will steward the land until the National Park Service can acquire the property. This bipartisan bill is cosponsored by the entire

Georgia delegation, and Congressman CARTER worked closely with Chairman BISHOP to modify the bill before markup.

I urge the adoption of the bill.

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

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

As the chairman has said, this bill expands the Fort Frederica National Monument to include a 20-acre property, known as the North Marsh, which is currently owned by the St. Simons Land Trust. The National Park Service evaluated the property in a 2014 study and determined that its acquisition would provide additional opportunities to protect and interpret resources that are associated with the site.

Fort Frederica, located on St. Simons Island, Georgia, was built by James Oglethorpe in 1736 to protect the colony of Georgia from Spanish Florida. The fort has been managed by the National Park Service since 1936, when President Franklin Roosevelt used the Antiquities Act to designate the site as a national monument.

As a quick aside, I climbed Mount Katahdin last week, which is Maine's highest mountain, and I was in Maine when Secretary Jewell arrived to celebrate President Obama's use of the Antiquities Act to accept a gift of 87,000 acres in order to create the new Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument—some of the most beautiful country I have ever seen.

This bill is an important reminder of how a decision to protect and elevate our shared heritage resonates for generations. Eighty years after President Roosevelt made the decision to establish a national monument, we are looking at opportunities to expand it and increase the resources it protects. By using money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund—a Federal program that was not around in FDR's time but that is one, I am sure, he would have supported—we can continue this important legacy.

I thank the majority and my friend from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for advancing this bill. I look forward to working with them to advance similar legislation that is designed to expand and enhance our public lands.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), the author of bill.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the First Congressional District of Georgia is home to many natural and historic treasures, including the Fort Frederica National Monument. Fort Frederica was built on St. Simons Island in 1736 by James Oglethorpe, the founder of Georgia, to protect the new British colony from the Spanish. The fort's strategic location ensured a decisive victory for Oglethorpe in 1742 at the Battle of

Bloody Marsh, which ended further Spanish attempts to claim Georgia as their own.

Today, the Fort Frederica National Monument is a popular destination in Glynn County that features portions of the original fort, a museum, and extensive hiking trails. H.R. 3480 would authorize the National Park Service to obtain adjacent land that likely contains artifacts from prehistoric human settlements, adding more to the rich history of this site.

I thank the chairman for his consideration of this bill as well as to thank the entire Georgia delegation for supporting and cosponsoring this legislation. I also thank the Natural Resources Committee staff for their work and dedication to this bill.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3480, 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.

**FORT ONTARIO STUDY ACT**

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4202) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in the State of New York, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4202

*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 “Fort Ontario Study Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) From 1755 until 1814, Fort Ontario and three previous fortifications built on the site of the Fort in Oswego, New York, on the shore of Lake Ontario were used as military installations during the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War, and the War of 1812.

(2) The original fort, erected by the British in 1755, was destroyed by French forces in 1756. The fort was rebuilt and subsequently destroyed during both the American Revolution and the War of 1812. The star-shaped fort was constructed on the site of the original fortifications in the 1840s, with improvements made from 1863 through 1872.

(3) The United States Armed Forces began expanding Fort Ontario in the early 20th century and by 1941, approximately 125 buildings stood at the fort.

(4) On June 9, 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced that Fort Ontario would serve as the Nation's only Emergency

Refugee Camp during World War II. From August of 1944 until February 1946, nearly 1,000 refugees were sheltered at Fort Ontario.

(5) Fort Ontario was conveyed from the Federal Government to the State of New York in 1946; it was used to house World War II veterans and their families and then converted to a State historic site in 1953.

(6) A post cemetery containing the graves of 77 officers, soldiers, women, and children who served at Fort Ontario in war and peace is situated on the grounds of the fort.

(7) In 1970, Fort Ontario was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**SEC. 3. FORT ONTARIO SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

(a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall, subject to appropriations, conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in Oswego, New York.

(b) **CONTENTS.**—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of the site;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the site as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the lands by Federal, State, or local governmental entities, or private and nonprofit organizations;

(4) consult with interested Federal, State, or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit organizations or any other interested individuals;

(5) determine the effect of the designation of the site as a unit of the National Park System on existing commercial and recreational uses and the effect on State and local governments to manage those activities;

(6) identify any authorities, including condemnation, that may compel or allow the Secretary to influence or participate in local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal land if the site is designated a unit of the National Park System; and

(7) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives.

(c) **APPLICABLE LAW.**—The study authorized under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available for the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

(1) the findings of the study; and

(2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. 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 Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Fort Ontario is a military installation, located on the mouth of the Oswego River in New York, that was used during the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War, and the War of 1812. The fort has a rich history of over 200 years of active military use and was destroyed and rebuilt on three separate occasions. At various points in history, it also served as a training post, as a hospital camp, and as an emergency refugee shelter.

H.R. 4202, which was introduced by Congressman JOHN KATKO of New York, authorizes a special resource study to evaluate Fort Ontario's national significance and determine the suitability and feasibility of designating it as a unit of the National Park System.

I urge the adoption of this bill.

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

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

This bill authorizes the National Park Service to conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in Oswego, New York. Fort Ontario was a military installation that was used during the French and Indian War, which was later used to house refugees who fled the Nazi Holocaust during World War II.

Refugees were allowed into the United States as guests of President Franklin Roosevelt's. Many Americans remember our Nation's role in World War II through events like the Invasion of Normandy or the Battle of Iwo Jima, which have been re-imagined in film and memorialized in stone, but the story of Fort Ontario is also an important component of our historical legacy. Providing refuge from persecution says as much about our national character as the bravery and sacrifice of the millions of Americans who were deployed overseas. The site has been managed as a New York State Historic Site since 1949 and has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1970.

The special resource study authorized by this bill will look into the best available options for the continued preservation and management of Fort Ontario, including the possibility of turning it into a unit of the National Park System. Fort Ontario has had many uses throughout our Nation's history, and it has had a particularly relevant place in the story of Jewish Americans. As we work to ensure that our public lands tell the story of all Americans, Fort Ontario and its unique story will be a fitting addition.

I thank Representative KATKO, the sponsor of this bill, for bringing the story of Fort Ontario to our attention.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO), the author of this legislation.

Mr. KATKO. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Fort Ontario has stood on the shores of Lake Ontario in Oswego, New York, since 1755. For the past 63 years, the fort has been preserved as a New York State Historic Site, serving as a cultural and historic landmark for Oswego County and the entire region.

I am proud to stand here today in support of this legislation which would take the crucial step towards ensuring this historic site receives the national recognition it deserves. The Fort Ontario Study Act would commission a special resource study of Fort Ontario to evaluate the site's national significance and determine the suitability of its designation as a part of the National Park System.

The history of Fort Ontario is truly unique within the National Park System and within our Nation as a whole. The fort has been involved in nearly every major American war from the French and Indian War to World War II. From 1944 to 1946, under a declaration by President Franklin Roosevelt, the fort served as the Nation's only emergency refugee camp, providing shelter to over 900 refugees who fled the Holocaust—a truly unique designation. The site now hosts the Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum, which preserves the stories of these refugees, the tragedies they faced, and, eventually, the freedom and safety they gained right here in the United States.

Fort Ontario has become an important tourist attraction in central New York, drawing visitors from across the State, the country, and, indeed, throughout the world. Preserving this location as a national park will not only better preserve the history of the fort, but there will also be the potential to grow tourism and boost our regional economy.

I am very honored to introduce this legislation that recognizes the important history of the fort and to credit this important step to the local champions who have worked tirelessly to preserve the history of the site, including the Friends of Fort Ontario, Paul Lear with New York State Parks, the board of the Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum—a great group of individuals—and the many volunteers who give their time to this cause.

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I want to thank fellow New York Representatives, Congressman HANNA and Congresswoman SLAUGHTER, who have worked with me in the House to support this effort, as well as the chairman of the committee for working to move this important legislation.

I ask all my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank Mr. KATKO for his leadership on this piece

of legislation and for bringing this to our attention and bringing this process to the floor. I urge its support.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4202, 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.

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**EXEMPTING IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF SEA URCHINS AND SEA CUCUMBERS FROM ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT LICENSING REQUIREMENTS**

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4245) to exempt importation and exportation of sea urchins and sea cucumbers from licensing requirements under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4245

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

**SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF EXPORTATION OF CERTAIN ECHINODERMS AND MOLLUSKS FROM PERMISSION AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) *EXEMPTION.*—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall amend section 14.92 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, to clarify that—

(1) fish or wildlife described in subsection (b) are fishery products exempt from the export permission requirements of section 9(d)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1538(d)(1)); and

(2) any person may engage in business as an exporter of such fish or wildlife without procuring permission under such section of that Act or an export license under subpart I of part 14 of such title.

(b) *COVERED FISH OR WILDLIFE.*—The fish or wildlife referred to in subsection (a) are members of the phylum Echinodermata that are commonly known as sea urchins and sea cucumbers, and members of the phylum Mollusca that are commonly known as squid, octopus, and cuttlefish, including products thereof, that—

(1) do not require a permit under part 16, 17, or 23 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations;

(2) are harvested in waters under the jurisdiction of the United States or are processed in the United States; and

(3) are—

(A) exported for purposes of human or animal consumption; or

(B) taken in waters under the jurisdiction of the United States or on the high seas for recreational purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent

that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4245, introduced by our Maine colleagues, CHELLIE PINGREE and BRUCE POLQUIN, makes a common-sense adjustment to the Federal law to eliminate regulatory duplication.

This bipartisan bill, as reported, protects fishermen, small businesses, and their fresh, domestically harvested seafood destined for export by exempting them from the duplicative U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service inspections and permits.

During the legislative hearing on H.R. 4245, both sides of the aisle expressed concerns over these inspections, especially on sea urchin. In fact, one of our minority colleagues said it best when he called the inspections dramatic overkill. In addition, one witness discussed how Federal inspection delays have spoiled shipments that cost businesses thousands of dollars. This bill removes that Federal delay.

I commend our Maine colleagues for working on a bipartisan basis to address this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an exchange of letters with the chairmen of the House Ways and Means and the Foreign Affairs Committees regarding this bill. We thank them for agreeing to help expedite consideration on this bill today.

I urge the adoption of this common-sense measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,  
Washington, DC, July 7, 2016.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,  
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On December 10, 2015, the Committee on Natural Resources favorably reported as amended H.R. 4245, to exempt exportation of certain echinoderms and mollusks from licensing requirements under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. This bill was referred primarily to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means and Foreign Affairs. My staff has forwarded the reported text to your committee for review.

Based on this text, I ask that you allow the Committee on Ways and Means to be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may be scheduled by the Majority Leader. This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Ways and Means represented on the conference committee. Finally, I would be pleased to include this letter and any response in the bill report filed by the Committee on Natural Resources to memorialize our understanding, as well as in the Congressional Record.

Thank you for your consideration of my request, and I look forward to further opportunities to work with you this Congress.

Sincerely,

ROB BISHOP,  
Chairman,  
Committee on Natural Resources.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COM-  
MITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,  
Washington, DC, July 7, 2016.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BISHOP: Thank you for your letter concerning H.R. 4245, to exempt the importation and exportation of sea urchins and sea cucumbers from licensing requirements under the Endangered Species Act. As you note, the Committee on Ways and Means was granted an additional referral.

I appreciate your willingness to work with my Committee on this legislation. In order to allow H.R. 4245 to move expeditiously to the House floor, I agree to waive formal consideration of this bill. The Committee on Ways and Means takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration on H.R. 4245 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would request that you include a copy of this letter and your response in the Congressional Record during the floor consideration of this bill. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,  
Chairman.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,  
Washington, DC, August 30, 2016.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Wash-  
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On December 10, 2015, the Committee on Natural Resources favorably reported as amended H.R. 4245, to exempt exportation of certain echinoderms and mollusks from licensing requirements under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. This bill was referred primarily to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Ways and Means. My staff has forwarded the reported text to your committee for review.

Based on this text, I ask that you allow the Committee on Foreign Affairs to be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may be scheduled by the Majority Leader. This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Foreign Affairs represented on the conference committee. Finally, I would be pleased to include this letter and any response in the bill report filed by the Committee on Natural Resources to memorialize our understanding, as well as in the Congressional Record.