

it is dependent on a third party making available lands that the National Park Service wants. I have no objection to this particular exchange, with the understanding that it is one that the National Park Service supports and that it can and will be carried out properly.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 826 will facilitate the acquisition of lands within the Big Thicket National Preserve that have significant environmental and recreational values. This is a worthy effort that Representative WILSON has been working on for years. I support the bill, as amended, and urge its adoption by the House.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, today the House will consider H.R. 826, a bill to extend the deadline for the completion of certain land exchanges involving the Big Thicket National Preserve in Texas.

As you know, under the Big Thicket National Preserve Addition Act of 1993, Public Law 103-46, Congress increased the size of the Big Thicket National Preserve through certain authorized land exchanges.

Unfortunately, the land exchanges were not consummated by the July 1, 1995 deadline as required by law, hence the need for my bill H.R. 826. This legislation merely extends the original deadline to July 1, 1998, thus providing the appropriate congressional authorization.

Assurances have been given by officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the private landowners involved, that the land exchanges will be successfully completed by July 1, 1998.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 826, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to extend the deadline for the completion of certain land exchanges involving the Big Thicket National Preserve in Texas, and for other purposes".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 826, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

AMENDING THE DOUG BARNARD, JR.—1996 ATLANTA CENTENNIAL OLYMPIC GAMES COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2336) to amend the Doug Barnard, Jr.—1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2336

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

SECTION 1. CHANGES IN COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

Section 102 of the Doug Barnard, Jr.—1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act (91 U.S.C. 5112 note) is amended—

(1) in the table at the end of subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "Not more than 175,000 each of 2 coins of different designs" and inserting "2 coins of different designs, in quantities not to exceed 175,000 of each design"; and

(B) by striking "Not more than 300,000 each of 2 coins of different designs" and inserting "2 coins of different designs, in quantities not to exceed 100,000 of the first design and not to exceed 150,000 of the second design";

(2) in the table at the end of subsection (b)—

(A) by striking "Not more than 750,000 each of 4 coins of different designs" and inserting "4 coins of different designs, in quantities not to exceed 750,000 of each design"; and

(B) by striking "Not more than 1,000,000 each of 4 coins of different designs" and inserting "4 coins of different designs, in quantities not to exceed 350,000 of each of the first 2 designs, and not to exceed 500,000 of each of the remaining 2 designs"; and

(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

"(c) HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—

"(1) SPECIFICATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue not more than 8,000,000 half dollar coins, each of which shall—

"(A) weight 11.34 grams;

"(B) have a diameter of 30.61 millimeters;

"(C) be minted to the specifications for half dollar coins under section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code; and

"(D) contain an inscription of the year '1995' or '1996', as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

"(2) DESIGNS.—Coins issued under paragraph (1) shall be of 4 designs selected in accordance with this Act in such quantities as the Secretary determines to be appropriate."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from New York [Mr. FLAKE] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE].

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2336, a measure that lowers the minting levels of the Atlanta Olympia commemorative coins. I am grateful to enjoy the support of Representative JAMES A. LEACH, chairman of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services. On the other side of the aisle, Representative GONZALEZ, former committee chairman; Representative

FLAKE, the ranking member of the subcommittee; and Representative FRANK of Massachusetts have provided their strong support for this legislation, and I am very appreciative of their efforts. I must also acknowledge the valued input and support of Representatives BARR, LUCAS, and METCALF of the subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, the Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy of the House Banking and Financial Services Committee has primary jurisdiction over the commemorative coin programs of the U.S. Mint. This legislation is supported by the Atlanta Committee, the U.S. Mint, the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee [CCCAC], and the Georgia congressional delegation.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2336 amends the mintage levels in section 102 of the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act. The maximum 1996 minting of the two gold coins, previously authorized for 600,000 for both, is reduced to a total of 250,000. The 1996 minting of \$1 silver coins is reduced from 4 million total of four designs to a sum total of 1.7 million. Half-dollar coins, originally slated for a minting of 10 million, are reduced to 8 million over 2 years. These reductions are necessary for the success of the program.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is supported by the people and groups that will be directly affected; namely, the Atlanta Committee, the people of Georgia, and the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee. They realize that unless the rate of sales are increased, the Atlanta Olympic commemorative coin program will not achieve its potential. By lowering the mintage levels, collector interest should be stimulated, and the overall program would be enhanced. This bill is necessary for the success of the Atlanta Olympic coin program, and I urge its immediate adoption.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2336, a measure to amend the Doug Barnard, Jr. 1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act. The Georgia delegation, in bipartisan cooperation, has sponsored this bill which will protect the integrity of the commemorative process. More importantly, however, the bill will ensure the integrity of the Atlanta games next summer.

Mr. Speaker, the Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games will be a milestone for both peace and sport. The games represent the largest peacetime event in world history, and in the tradition of Olympic competition, the games will become the beacon of 100 years of goodwill and sportsmanship.

Currently, Olympic coin sales are lagging, and to put it bluntly, Congress has authorized too many coins. Today, however, we will allow the American public to contribute to the success of

this event by encouraging collectors to purchase United States 1996 Olympic coins.

Purchases of Olympic coins provide the public its best chance to display support for the U.S. Olympic team and the Atlanta centennial Olympic games. In return for its support, the American public gets valuable, historic, and sentimental mementos.

Mr. Speaker, by purchasing Olympic coins, we will allow our athletes to go for the gold. To support that goal, four official coins are now available as follows:

First, a gold \$5 coin;

Second, two silver dollars; and

Third, and one nonprecious half-dollar.

These are the first of 16 various coins to be issued by the Mint in support of the 1996 games. The attractive coins will capture the grace of gymnastics, the speed and strength of track and field, and the certain excitement of dream team 2 as the United States reaches for gold in basketball. I therefore encourage the American public, and my colleagues, to embrace this opportunity, and to cherish these symbols of peace and sportsmanship. I encourage unanimous support for this bill, and I strongly support our Olympic effort in Atlanta next summer.

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

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR].

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to thank Mr. CASTLE, the chairman of the Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy and his staff for working with me and my staff in moving this important legislation to consideration by the full House. I would like to recognize the efforts of Mr. FLAKE and Mr. FRANK in support of this bill, and would also like to commend the Atlanta Committee on the Olympic Games [ACOG] for their hard work on the Olympic Commemorative Coin Program and the Olympic games as a whole. ACOG has done the State of Georgia proud, in fact the entire country should be proud of their efforts and we look forward to the fruits of their labor next summer. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2336 is critical to the continued success of the 1996 Olympic Commemorative Coin Program.

As we consider this legislation, I want to make it clear at the outset: This legislation does not create a new commemorative coin program. Instead it reduces the mintage of an existing program, and provides flexibility to the mint to print a greater ratio of the more popular general sale coins. When this program was initiated the mintage level was set to conduct the most aggressive Olympic Coin Program ever. With the reduction in mintage, the program will still be aggressive, however we are allowing a greater potential for success.

H.R. 2336 is supported by the Atlanta Committee on the Olympic Games

[ACOG], the United States Mint, and the numismatic community. In fact, by lowering the mintage on the gold and silver coins, ACOG and the U.S. Mint have responded to those in the numismatic community who have said that the mintage levels are too high. They believe that by lowering the mintage levels, the value of the coins will increase and the numismatics will take a second look at purchasing these coins.

In addition, H.R. 2336 would lower the mintage levels for the 1995 and 1996 clad coins from 10,000,000 to 8,000,000, and would provide the mint the flexibility to mint more of the popular clad coins, for example bassetball and baseball.

I believe that with this flexibility the general public sales will also increase.

It is important to recognize the 1996 Olympic Coin Program is not in trouble or faltering. Sales for the 1995 Olympic coins are strong especially in the international community. Unfortunately Olympic coin sales to the U.S. numismatic community have not been as good as anticipated. With this legislation we expect to build on the well-established success of the Olympic Coin Program.

As seen by other legislation before the House this Congress is in the process of reigning in and reforming commemorative coin programs. H.R. 2336 is consistent with those efforts. A successful coin program is good for the Federal budget and good for the American taxpayer.

Again, Mr. Speaker, this legislation makes changes to the Atlanta Centennial Olympic Coin Program, and does not create a new commemorative coin program. This is very simply a technical change to an already existing program.

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

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GONZALEZ], the ranking member of the full Committee on Banking and Financial Services, who has spent a great deal of time in giving not only support to, but helping to shape this piece of legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, let me just add that the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR] has been tremendously helpful in the formulation of this legislation and watching over it very carefully. The gentleman calls me constantly on it, and I appreciate that. He kept us on the straight and narrow.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. NORWOOD], who has been concerned about this legislation.

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I feel strongly that we should pass H.R. 2336. The 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta is a great event for both my State and this Nation, but with this legislation I want to

also acknowledge the original author of this act, one of my predecessors from Georgia's 10th District, Representative Doug Barnard.

My friend Doug Barnard was first elected in 1978 and served until 1992 and was a consistent voice for fiscal restraint. He was a boll weevil Democrat who served his district and his country well. He supports the action that I hope the House will take today in passing this legislation.

All of us in Georgia look forward to hosting the world in 1996 and are pleased that there will be U.S.-minted coins to commemorate this historic event. I thank my friend Mr. BARR for his diligent work on this legislation and I urge its adoption.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE], the chairman of the committee, for the means by which he has brought this bill forward. I think all of us know that the Olympics are not only important for America, but they are important for world peace.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR]. He has driven this process extremely well. I thank the gentleman for the kind of cooperation that all of our staffs have shared in making sure that this particular commemorative coin legislation not only will get to the floor, but out of the House.

More importantly, I think all of us are focused on the Olympics in 1996, knowing that this is one of the places where we can remove all the walls and barriers that separates us, and come together with the spirit of peace and love, a spirit of sharing and caring for one another.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1445

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to echo the words of the distinguished ranking member of this committee, the gentleman from New York [Mr. FLAKE]. He has been a tremendous pleasure to work with throughout my tenure as the chairman of this subcommittee. Hopefully, we will have as much peace in the world as we have had in our subcommittee in terms of getting things done.

The gentleman has been very helpful in resolving problems. There was a problem here, as was pointed out to us by the two speakers from Georgia and other individuals, with the Atlanta Olympic Committee, and we recognized it. The sales are strong, but with some changes in tailoring in what we were doing, it was felt that we could move ahead. We were able to address that, and we did it in a way that will be beneficial to everybody, and I am pleased to have the opportunity to be here to help present that.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague from Georgia for

the work he has done on this bill. As he has said, it is a simple, noncontroversial bill to help the 1996 Olympic games.

I am proud to represent the city of Atlanta, which will host the 1996 games. I know many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have supported this effort. I would like to thank all my colleagues for their hard work and their support. I believe that the 1996 Olympics, when we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the games, will be the best Olympics ever.

This bill governs the production of commemorative coins for the 1996 games. These coins will commemorate an Olympics that will highlight the best of Atlanta, GA and the United States. We will witness the largest coming together in history of people of different nations, religions, and heritage. The Olympics not only celebrate athletic accomplishment, they celebrate diversity, peace, and our ability to overcome our differences and unite as a people. We all can learn something from the Olympic message.

I urge my colleagues' support for H.R. 2336.

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2336, legislation which amends the Doug Barnard, Jr.—1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act.

This bill was introduced by Congressman BOB BARR, a member of the Banking Committee from the State of Georgia. He is joined today by his Democratic and Republican colleagues from the Peach State in cosponsoring H.R. 2336, a bill to significantly change the marketing strategy for the sale of Olympic commemorative coins. Revenues from the sale of these coins will be used to support the Olympic games in Atlanta.

Unfortunately, the projected sale of the coins does not appear to be as successful as anticipated when we first considered the Olympic coin program. Today we take corrective measures that make good marketing sense and should result in a restructured coin program to maximize profits for the Olympic Committee.

I commend the chairman of the Banking Subcommittee on domestic and international monetary policy, Chairman MICHAEL CASTEL, and the ranking Democratic member of the subcommittee, Congressman Floyd Flake, for their work in bringing this bill to the floor in a timely fashion.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask for unanimous support for the legislation and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EVERETT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE], that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2336.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their re-

marks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2336, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

MEMORATIVE COIN AUTHORIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 1995

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2614) to reform the commemorative coin programs of the U.S. Mint in order to protect the integrity of such programs and prevent losses of Government funds, to authorize the U.S. Mint to mint and issue platinum and gold bullion coins, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2614

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 "Commemorative Coin Authorization and Reform Act of 1995".

TITLE I—COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM REFORM

SEC. 101. RECOVERY OF MINT EXPENSES REQUIRED BEFORE PAYMENT OF SURCHARGES TO ANY RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF LAW RELATING TO DEPOSIT OF SURCHARGES IN THE NUMISMATIC PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND.—Section 5134(c)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting "including amounts attributable to any surcharge imposed with respect to the sale of any numismatic item" before the period.

(b) CONDITIONS ON PAYMENT OF SURCHARGES TO RECIPIENT ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(f) CONDITIONS ON PAYMENT OF SURCHARGES TO RECIPIENT ORGANIZATIONS.—

"(1) PAYMENT OF SURCHARGES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amount derived from the proceeds of any surcharge imposed on the sale of any numismatic item shall be paid from the fund to any designated recipient organization unless—

"(A) all numismatic operation and program costs allocable to the program under which such numismatic item is produced and sold have been recovered; and

"(B) the designated recipient organization submits an audited financial statement which demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury that, with respect to all projects or purposes for which the proceeds of such surcharge may be used, the organization has raised funds from private sources for such projects and purposes in an amount which is equal to or greater than the maximum amount the organization may receive from the proceeds of such surcharge.

"(2) ANNUAL AUDITS.—

"(A) ANNUAL AUDITS OF RECIPIENTS REQUIRED.—Each designated recipient organization which receives any payment from the fund of any amount derived from the proceeds of any surcharge imposed on the sale of any numismatic item shall provide, as a condition for receiving any such amount, for an annual audit, in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards by an independent public accountant selected

by the organization, of all such payments to the organization beginning in the first fiscal year of the organization in which any such amount is received and continuing until all amounts received by such organization from the fund with respect to such surcharges are fully expended or placed in trust.

"(B) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ANNUAL AUDITS.—At a minimum, each audit of a designated recipient organization pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall report—

"(i) the amount of payments received by the designated recipient organization from the fund during the fiscal year of the organization for which the audit is conducted which are derived from the proceeds of any surcharge imposed on the sale of any numismatic item;

"(ii) the amount expended by the designated recipient organization from the proceeds of such surcharges during the fiscal year of the organization for which the audit is conducted; and

"(iii) whether all expenditures by the designated recipient organization during the fiscal year of the organization for which the audit is conducted from the proceeds of such surcharges were for authorized purposes.

"(C) RESPONSIBILITY OF ORGANIZATION TO ACCOUNT FOR EXPENDITURES OF SURCHARGES.—Each designated recipient organization which receives any payment from the fund of any amount derived from the proceeds of any surcharge imposed on the sale of any numismatic item shall take appropriate steps, as a condition for receiving any such payment, to ensure that the receipt of the payment and the expenditure of the proceeds of such surcharge by the organization in each fiscal year of the organization can be accounted for separately from all other revenues and expenditures of the organization.

"(D) SUBMISSION OF AUDIT REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the end of any fiscal year of a designated recipient organization for which an audit is required under subparagraph (A), the organization shall—

"(i) submit a copy of the report to the Secretary of the Treasury; and

"(ii) make a copy of the report available to the public.

"(E) USE OF SURCHARGES FOR AUDITS.—Any designated recipient organization which receives any payment from the fund of any amount derived from the proceeds of any surcharge imposed on the sale of any numismatic item may use the amount received to pay the cost of an audit required under subparagraph (A).

"(F) WAIVER OF PARAGRAPH.—The Secretary of the Treasury may waive the application of any subparagraph of this paragraph to any designated recipient organization for any fiscal year after taking into account the amount of surcharges which such organization received or expended during such year.

"(G) NONAPPLICABILITY TO FEDERAL ENTITIES.—This paragraph shall not apply to any Federal agency or department or any independent establishment in the executive branch which receives any payment from the fund of any amount derived from the proceeds of any surcharge imposed on the sale of any numismatic item.

"(H) AVAILABILITY OF BOOKS AND RECORDS.—An organization which receives any payment from the fund of any amount derived from the proceeds of any surcharge imposed on the sale of any numismatic item shall provide, as a condition for receiving any such payment, to the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury or the Comptroller General of the United States, upon the request of such Inspector General or the Comptroller General, all books, records, and workpapers belonging to or used by the organization, or by any independent