

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from South Dakota has worked diligently and tirelessly on behalf of the nine recognized tribes of South Dakota, including the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, to get this legislation passed. Mr. JOHNSON has been a loyal and hard working member of the subcommittee, and I certainly enjoyed immensely working with him in working on other pieces of legislation. I urge my colleagues to support passage of this legislation.

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

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

I would just like to take a minute and thank my colleague from American Samoa, my good friend, ENI FALEOMAVAEGA, for the bipartisan way that we continue to work on this legislation makes it a real pleasure for me. I want to take this time to publicly thank him.

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

I, too, would like to reciprocate by adding my commendation to the distinguished gentleman from California, as the chairman of our subcommittee, who has worked quite diligently in the past several months in passing this legislation that affects the needs of our Native American communities throughout the country as well as the territories. I really would like to express my appreciation to him for the fine working relationship that we have had over the past several months and on a very bipartisan basis for a change, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for moving forward on this innovative legislation which is particularly important to the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe and to my State of South Dakota. I have been privileged to work with the tribe and with Senator DASCHLE on this bill and its companion in the Senate, and I am confident that my colleagues will support H.R. 2512.

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Infrastructure and Development Act would establish a trust fund within the Department of the Treasury for the development of certain tribal infrastructure projects for the Crow Creek Tribe. These projects were outlined in previous legislation but were never completed due to limited funding sources. The Crow Creek Development trust fund would be capitalized from a small percentage of hydropower revenues and would be capped at \$27.5 million. Language included in this bill would prohibit any increase in power rates in connection with the trust fund. The tribe would then receive the interest from the fund to be used according to a development plan based on legislation previously passed by Congress, and prepared in consultation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service.

The Flood Control Act of 1994 created six massive earthen dams along the Missouri River. Known as the Pick-Sloan plan, this public works project has since provided much-needed flood control, recreation, irrigation, and hydropower for communities along the Missouri. Four of the Pick-Sloan dams are located in South Dakota and the benefits of the project

have proven indispensable to the people of my State.

Unfortunately, construction of the Big Bend and Fort Randall dams was severely detrimental to economic and agricultural development for the Crow Creek Tribe. Over 15,000 acres of the tribe's most fertile and productive land were inundated as a direct result of construction. The tribal community has still not yet been adequately compensated for the economic deprivation caused by Pick-Sloan.

Through the Big Bend Act of 1962, Congress directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of the Interior to take certain actions to alleviate the problems caused by the destruction of tribal resources and displacement of entire communities. Yet, these directives were either carried out inadequately or not at all.

Congress established precedent for the Infrastructure and Development Act with the Three Affiliated Tribes and Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act of 1992, which set up a recovery fund financed entirely from a percentage of Pick-Sloan power revenues to compensate the tribes for lands lost to Pick-Sloan.

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Infrastructure Development Fund Act of 1995 will enable the Crow Creek Tribe to address and improve their infrastructure and will provide the needed resources for further economic development at the Crow Creek Indian reservation.

I am proud to have introduced this legislation on behalf of the Crow Creek Tribe, and I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation and correct this historic injustice against the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe.

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

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments, and 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. GALLEGLY] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2512, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide for certain benefits of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River basin program to the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the four bills just passed.

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

There was no objection.

EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF ACT OF 1996

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 3910) to provide emergency drought relief to the city of Corpus Christi, TX, and the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, TX, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3910

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 "Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1996".

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF

(a) CORPUS CHRISTI.—

(1) EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF.—For the purpose of providing emergency drought relief, the Secretary of the Interior shall defer all principal and interest payments without penalty or accrued interest for the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act for the city of Corpus Christi, Texas, and the Nueces River Authority under contract No. 6-07-01-X0675 involving the Nueces River Reclamation Project, Texas: Provided, That the city of Corpus Christi shall commit to use the funds thus made available exclusively for the acquisition of or construction of facilities related to alternative sources of water supply.

(2) ISSUANCE OF PERMITS.—If construction of facilities related to alternative water supplies referred to in paragraph (1) requires a Federal permit for use of Bureau of Reclamation lands or facilities, the Secretary shall issue such permits within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, recognizing the environmental impact statement FES74-54 and the environmental assessment dated March 1991 (relating to the Lavaca-Navidad River Authority Pipeline permit).

(b) CANADIAN RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY.—

(1) RECOGNITION OF TRANSFER OF LANDS TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.—All obligations and associated debt under contract No. 14-06-500-485 for land and related relocations transferred to the National Park Service to form the Lake Meredith National Recreation Area under Public Law 101-628, in the amount of \$4,000,000, shall be nonreimbursable. The Secretary shall recalculate the repayment schedule of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority to reflect the determination of the preceding sentence and to implement the revised repayment schedule within one year of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF.—The Secretary shall defer all principal and interest payments without penalty or accrued interest for the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act for the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority under contract No. 14-06-500-485 as emergency drought relief to enable construction of additional water supply and conveyance facilities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. THORNBERRY] and the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ORTIZ] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas [Mr. THORNBERRY].

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

(Mr. THORNBERRY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, at the outset, I would like to thank the full committee chairman, the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG], and