

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 434.

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

There was no objection.

#### EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS EXPANSION

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 588) to provide for the expansion of the Eagles Nest Wilderness within the Arapaho National Forest and the White River National Forest, CO, to include land known as the Slate Creek Addition.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 588

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

#### SECTION 1. SLATE CREEK ADDITION TO EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS, ARAPAHO AND WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FORESTS, COLORADO.

(a) SLATE CREEK ADDITION.—If, before December 31, 2000, the United States acquires the parcel of land described in subsection (b)—

(1) on acquisition of the parcel, the parcel shall be included in and managed as part of the Eagles Nest Wilderness designated by Public Law 94-352 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; 90 Stat. 870); and

(2) the boundary of Eagles Nest Wilderness is adjusted to reflect the inclusion of the parcel.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF ADDITION.—The parcel referred to in subsection (a) is the parcel generally depicted on a map entitled "Slate Creek Addition-Eagles Nest Wilderness", dated February 1997, comprising approximately 160 acres in Summit County, Colorado, adjacent to the Eagles Nest Wilderness.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH].

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

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, S. 588 is a noncontroversial bill affecting

Forest Service lands in the district of the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] which passed the House earlier this year as H.R. 985. I want to thank the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. HINCHEY], the subcommittee ranking member, for their cooperation with passage of this measure.

This bill provides that a 160-acre parcel at Slate Creek in Summit County, CO, will be added to the Eagles Nest Wilderness and administered as part of the wilderness area if the land is acquired by the United States within the next 4 years.

The Slate Creek parcel is proposed for acquisition by the United States in a land exchange; however, the current owners are unwilling to convey the land unless it is added to the Eagles Nest Wilderness and permanently managed as wilderness. Since the Slate Creek parcel is surrounded on three sides by the wilderness area, it only makes sense that it be made a part of the wilderness area if the land is acquired by the United States.

I urge support for this measure, which does really enjoy broad support of the Summit County Board of County Supervisors and Commissioners, the Summit County Open Space Advisory Council, the Wilderness Land Trust and other interested parties.

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

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

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on today's agenda we have four previously House-passed Colorado bills. Senate bill 588 expands the Eagles Nest Wilderness within the Arapaho National Forest and the White River National Forest to include land known as the Slate Creek Addition. The House passed this bill in the form of H.R. 985 on June 17 of this year.

To their credit, the owners of this 160-acre parcel want assurances that their land will be protected as wilderness if acquired by the U.S. Forest Service. Accordingly, the bill provides that if the United States acquires the Slate Creek property prior to the year 2000, it will be included in the Eagles Nest Wilderness.

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation, consistent with the desires of both the private property owners and in the public interest. I urge my colleagues to adopt this measure.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 588.

The question was taken.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### RAGGEDS WILDERNESS BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT AND LAND CONVEYANCE

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 589) to provide for a boundary adjustment and land conveyance involving the Raggeds Wilderness, White River National Forest, Colorado, to correct the effects of earlier erroneous land surveys.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 589

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

#### SECTION 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT AND LAND CONVEYANCE, RAGGEDS WILDERNESS, WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST, COLORADO.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) certain landowners in Gunnison County, Colorado, who own real property adjacent to the portion of the Raggeds Wilderness in the White River National Forest, Colorado, have occupied or improved their property in good faith and in reliance on erroneous surveys of their properties that the landowners reasonably believed were accurate;

(2) in 1993, a Forest Service resurvey of the Raggeds Wilderness established accurate boundaries between the wilderness area and adjacent private lands; and

(3) the resurvey indicates that a small portion of the Raggeds Wilderness is occupied by adjacent landowners on the basis of the earlier erroneous land surveys.

(b) PURPOSE.—If it the purpose of this section to remove from the boundaries of the Raggeds Wilderness certain real property so as to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to use the authority of Public Law 97-465 (commonly known as the "Small Tracts Act") (16 U.S.C. 521c et seq.) to convey the property to the landowners who occupied the property on the basis of erroneous land surveys.

(c) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—The boundary of the Raggeds Wilderness, Gunnison and White River National Forests, Colorado, as designed by section 102(a)(16) of Public Law 96-560 (94 Stat. 3267; 16 U.S.C. 1132 note), is hereby modified to exclude from the area encompassed by the wilderness a parcel of real property approximately 0.86-acres in size situated in the SW¼ of the NE¼ of Section 28, Township 11 South, Range 88 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, as depicted on the map entitled "Encroachment-Raggeds Wilderness", dated November 17, 1993.

(d) MAP.—The map described in subsection (c) shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

(e) CONVEYANCE OF LAND REMOVED FROM WILDERNESS AREA.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall use the authority provided by Public Law 97-465 (commonly known as the "Small Tracts Act") (16 U.S.C. 521c et seq.) to convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the real property excluded from the boundaries of the Raggeds

Wilderness under subsection (c) to the owners of real property in Gunnison County, Colorado, whose real property adjoins the excluded real property and who have occupied the excluded real property in good faith reliance on an erroneous survey.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH].

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

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, Senate bill 589 provides for a boundary adjustment and land conveyance involving the Raggeds Wilderness, White River National Forest, Colorado, to correct the effects of earlier erroneous land surveys. This bill is identical to legislation which passed within the House of Representatives earlier this year as H.R. 1019.

In 1993, following a boundary survey, the White River National Forest discovered an encroachment in the Raggeds Wilderness area just west of the town of Marble in Colorado. The encroachment consists of approximately 400 feet of power line and 450 feet of road. In addition, portions of four subdivision lots extend into the wilderness. The road is a country road and provides the sole legal access to these four lots. The entire encroachment is less than 1 acre of land.

The Bureau of Land Management Forest Service surveys found that the original survey of the Crystal Meadows subdivision was erroneous, and although less than 1 acre is affected, the Forest Service cannot settle the matter under the authority of the Small Tracts Act because the lands in question are within the Raggeds Wilderness area. The wilderness boundary may only be modified by an act of Congress, and S. 589 follows the guidelines established by the Small Tracts Act, Public Law 97-465.

This bill is noncontroversial, Mr. Speaker, and I urge its passage.

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

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

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, the House passed H.R. 1019 on June 3, 1997, and the text has returned to us with a Senate bill number.

Mr. Speaker, this bill adjusts the boundaries of the Raggeds Wilderness in the White River National Forest in Colorado to accommodate landowners who occupy the property on the basis of erroneous land surveys. It conveys about 1 acre of land on which roads and

other improvements were inadvertently constructed. The legislation is noncontroversial, and the administration does not object. I ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] for his comments.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 589.

The question was taken.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### DILLON RANGER DISTRICT TRANSFER

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 591) to transfer the Dillon Ranger District in the Arapaho National Forest to the White River National Forest in the State of Colorado.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 591

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

#### SECTION 1. INCLUSION OF DILLON RANGER DISTRICT IN WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST, COLORADO.

(a) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.—

(1) WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST.—The boundary of the White River National Forest in the State of Colorado is hereby adjusted to include all National Forest System lands located in Summit County, Colorado, comprising the Dillon Ranger District of the Arapaho National Forest.

(2) ARAPAHO NATIONAL FOREST.—The boundary of the Arapaho National Forest is adjusted to exclude the land transferred to the White River National Forest by paragraph (1).

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference to the Dillon Ranger District, Arapaho National Forest, in any existing statute, regulation, manual, handbook, or other document shall be deemed to be a reference to the Dillon Ranger District, White River National Forest.

(c) EXISTING RIGHTS.—Nothing in this section affects valid existing rights of persons holding any authorization, permit, option, or other form of contract existing on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) FOREST RECEIPTS.—Notwithstanding the distribution requirements of payments under the sixth paragraph under the heading "FOREST SERVICE" in the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and nine", approved May 23, 1908 (35 Stat. 260,

chapter 192; 16 U.S.C. 500), the distribution of receipts from the Arapaho National Forest and the White River National Forest to affected county governments shall be based on the national forest boundaries that existed on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH].

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

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, S. 591 adjusts the boundaries of White River National Forest to include all national forest system lands within Summit County, Colorado, which are currently part of the Dillon Ranger District of the Arapaho National Forest. This bill passed the House earlier this year as H.R. 1020.

The White River National Forest has administered these lands for a number of years, and therefore the inclusion of the Dillon Ranger District within the White River Forest will more accurately depict the proper administration of these lands. Furthermore, the inclusion should reduce confusion within the general public as to who administers the Dillon Ranger District. The legislation will not alter the current distribution of forest receipts to the affected county governments.

The bill is noncontroversial, and I urge its passage.

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

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

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, this is yet another noncontroversial Colorado bill which we have already considered in the House. H.R. 1020 passed the House on June 3, 1997. The bill was introduced by the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS]. The other body in its wisdom has sent it back to us as Senate bill 591.

The bill provides for the transfer of the Dillon Ranger District in the Arapaho National Forest to the White River National Forest in Colorado. The administration has no objection to this bill, nor does this side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentlewoman from Idaho as chairman of the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health for her diligence, for her leadership and for her attention to issues such as this.

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

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