

Mr. BAUCUS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, there are two points that I want to make.

We are passing this rather significant piece of legislation because we are doing it in a bipartisan basis. I must remind all of my colleagues that when we get into partisan fights often nothing happens. We make political points but don't pass legislation.

This has been very, very cohesive and bipartisan on both sides of the aisle.

It has been an honor for me—a privilege for me—to participate with Senator WARNER, Senator CHAFEE, Senator BOND, and Senator BYRD in putting this together.

My second point is to reaffirm just how lucky we are to have such a dedicated staff who are so able and so talented. I am always in awe in seeing just how right these people are and how necessary they are.

But, for the record, the one lady who came up with the final solution is on my staff. Her name is Kathy Ruffalo.

I yield the floor.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I will proceed momentarily to the Executive Calendar.

But first we want to thank the Chair. The Chair has been very indulgent, and indeed, the staff of the Senate.

But I want to further say that I hope tomorrow that the infrastructure that follows this type of legislation—the contractors, the secretaries of the various organizations throughout the States who are entrusted with the very important highway construction—would immediately look at this effort by the U.S. Senate, and bring to bear their judgment tomorrow on the other body in the hopes that we can pass this.

I particularly call on the National Governors' Association. They came forward in a hearing that I chaired last week, and were very explicit on this whole matter. It was made very clear by the contractors who also appeared at that hearing that there is a short period for certain States for construction. It is imperative that this matter go forward. We have made, as I say, in a bipartisan way, our best effort. Now, with the help of the infrastructure, I am sure that the other body will see the wisdom in this measure, and pass it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination on the Executive Calendar, No. 419.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nomination appear at this point in the RECORD, the President be immediately

notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CHAFEE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

William Dale Montgomery, of Pennsylvania, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Croatia.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

AUTHORIZING AN INTERPRETIVE CENTER AT FORT PECK DAM, MONTANA

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1456, introduced earlier today by Senator BAUCUS.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1456) to authorize an interpretive center at Fort Peck Dam, Montana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read three times, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1456) was read the third time and passed as follows:

S. 1456

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

SECTION 1. FORT PECK DAM INTERPRETIVE CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of Fish and Wildlife shall design, construct, furnish, and equip an historical, cultural and paleontological interpretive center and museum to be located at Fort Peck Dam, Montana.

(b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Director of Fish and Wildlife shall coordinate with officials of the Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Fort Peck Dam Interpretive Center and Museum.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section a total of \$10,000,000.00. Funds appropriated are available until expended.

HAFFENREFFER MUSEUM RESTORATION ACT

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I send a bill to the desk on behalf of Senators

CHAFEE and REED, re: the relocation of the Haffenreffer Museum, and ask the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1455) to provide financial assistance for the relocation and expansion of Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Providence, Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce legislation to assist in the relocation and expansion of the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology at Brown University in Providence, RI.

In 1955, the family of Rudolf F. Haffenreffer bequeathed to Brown University the museum he had founded in Bristol, RI. The museum includes more than 100,000 objects from native peoples of the Americas, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific.

This is a teaching museum owned and supported by Brown University. It has a number of world-class holdings that attract scholars from all over the globe, and has been described by the American Association of Museums as a "superb medium- to small-sized facility with outstanding collections, excellent exhibits, and a superb program of public education and outreach."

While maintaining objects from around the world, the Haffenreffer Museum exhibits extensive archaeological materials from New England that are used to interpret prehistoric and historical cultural developments in Rhode Island and surrounding States. The legislation I introduce today authorizes \$3 million to preserve these culturally important collections and to provide expanded exhibition space that will make them more accessible to schoolchildren, scholars, students, and other visitors.

In 1995, Brown University acquired from the Resolution Trust Corporation [RTC] the historic Old Stone Bank Building, built in 1854, along with the early 19th century Federal-style residence known as the Benoni-Cook House, both located in downtown Providence. The RTC took over both properties when the Old Stone Bank failed in 1993.

Prior to Brown's purchase of these sites, it was unclear how or whether they would be put to use. The funds authorized by this bill will contribute a modest portion of the estimated \$15 million Brown University will spend to relocate the Haffenreffer Museum from Bristol, RI, to the bank building and the Benoni-Cook House, both of which are located on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mr. President, this in indeed a win-win project being carried out by Brown University. We will renovate, preserve,