

Much has been accomplished by the Fire Administration, but the record of fire death rates and property loss in the Nation reveals that much remains to be done. I believe this bill will give the Fire Administration the resources needed to allow it to continue to excel.

S. 1231 will not support just another bureaucratic program. The very small expenditure of funds provided by the Fire Administration will be used to improve the skills of firefighters and emergency response personnel, to increase public awareness of fire safety, and to improve the equipment available for suppressing fires and protecting firefighters.

In short, the program, sponsored by the Fire Administration, will increase the level of excellence of a national service that is critical to every one of us. The Fire Administration has long enjoyed the bipartisan support of Congress because of the recognition of its vital mission to increase public safety.

I would like to commend the majority members of the Committee on Science once again for working in a bipartisan way with the minority to develop the House companion bill to S. 1231. Mr. Speaker, I fully support S. 1231, and recommend the measure to the House for its favorable consideration.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAZIO of New York). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1231.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STANISLAUS COUNTY, CA, LAND CONVEYANCE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 112) to provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to Stanislaus County, California.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 112

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY.

As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (in this Act referred to as "NASA") shall convey to Stanislaus County, California, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the property described in section 2.

SEC. 2. PROPERTY DESCRIBED.

The property to be conveyed pursuant to section 1 is—

(1) the approximately 1528 acres of land in Stanislaus County, California, known as the

NASA Ames Research Center, Crows Landing Facility (formerly known as the Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, Crows Landing);

(2) all improvements on the land described in paragraph (1); and

(3) any other Federal property that is—

(A) under the jurisdiction of NASA;

(B) located on the land described in paragraph (1); and

(C) designated by NASA to be transferred to Stanislaus County, California.

SEC. 3. TERMS.

(a) CONSIDERATION.—The conveyance required by section 1 shall be without consideration other than that required by this section.

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION.—(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the conveyance required by section 1 shall not relieve any Federal agency of any responsibility under law for any environmental remediation of soil, groundwater, or surface water.

(2) Any remediation of contamination, other than that described in paragraph (1), within or related to structures or fixtures on the property described in section 2 shall be subject to negotiation to the extent permitted by law.

(c) RETAINED RIGHT OF USE.—NASA shall retain the right to use for aviation activities, without consideration and on other terms and conditions mutually acceptable to NASA and Stanislaus County, California, the property described in section 2.

(d) RELINQUISHMENT OF LEGISLATIVE JURISDICTION.—NASA shall relinquish, to the State of California, legislative jurisdiction over the property conveyed pursuant to section 1—

(1) by filing a notice of relinquishment with the Governor of California, which shall take effect upon acceptance thereof; or

(2) in any other manner prescribed by the laws of California.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS.—The Administrator of NASA may negotiate additional terms to protect the interests of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER] and the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. CRAMER] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. 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. 112.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the same version of this bill passed this House last year under suspension of the rules. H.R. 112 requires the Administrator of NASA to convey to Stanislaus County, California, the property known as the NASA Ames Research Center, Crows Landing Facility. Under this bill NASA shall retain the right to use this property for aviation activities.

In March of this year, NASA conducted a review of its field activities to identify potential closures which would reduce operational costs. As a result of this effort, NASA decided to cease op-

erations at the NASA Crows Landing Facility in order to lower overhead burdens and eliminate operations costs.

This excess Federal property is ideal for use by Stanislaus County for economic development. It is a win-win arrangement for the Federal Government and the local government of California, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to rise in support of H.R. 112. I thank the chairman of the committee for making sure that this important piece of legislation made it to the floor here at the concluding hours.

This is a noncontroversial measure, as the chairman has indicated. It simply allows the Administrator of NASA to transfer this land to the Stanislaus County, California, government there. The land had been previously owned by the Navy and then transferred to NASA. NASA indicates that it has no further use for this particular parcel, except that it would like to reserve the right to use it for aviation purposes. H.R. 112 does allow the NASA Administrator to preserve that right, and as well, to review to see that there are any other interests that would be in the best interests of the government.

So I agree with the chairman, this is a win-win situation for the Federal Government, for the county government there in California, and I urge Members to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 112.

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

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. 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 Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 112.

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.

□ 2200

AUBURN INDIAN RESTORATION AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1805) to amend the Auburn Indian Restoration Act to establish restrictions related to gaming on and use of land held in trust for the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1805

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