

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my personal commendation to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for his leadership in managing these pieces of legislation now before the House.

Mr. Speaker, I will not object to the passage of this legislation, but I want to note for the record that the Forest Service has objections to language which has been included by the other body. Specifically, the Senate amendment would subject this land conveyance to the Recreation and Public Purposes Act process. H.R. 434, as reported by the committee and passed by the House, would have provided for an equal value exchange of lands pursuant to routine Forest Service law and procedures.

H.R. 434, as amended by the Senate, provides for a one-acre conveyance to the town of Jemez Springs, New Mexico, of land from the Santa Fe National Forest. The land is to be used for the public purpose of a fire station. The bill also contains a reverter clause providing that if the land is not used for a fire station it will revert to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, if this bill provided for a general application of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to all national forest lands, I would strongly oppose it. But since H.R. 434 is limited to a one-acre parcel of land in one New Mexico community, I will not object to the Senate amendment. I view this, however, to be a limited and unique circumstance and not as a precedent for future conveyances of Forest Service lands.

I urge my colleagues to support this piece of legislation.

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. REDMOND).

Mr. REDMOND. Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of H.R. 434, as was introduced by former Congressman Bill Richardson, now Ambassador to the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, the history of the Jemez Mountains Recreation Area dates back to the early 1990's when it was carved out by Congress as a special recreation area for the American people. As a result of declaring the Jemez Mountains a recreation area, we have an additional one million people that now travel through the tiny village of 350 to 450 people, a little village called Jemez Springs. This little village is the closest village that can respond to emergency and disaster, whether it be fire, whether it be first aid emergency for those million visitors that come through the Jemez Springs area. This is the village of first response in time of crisis.

I believe that the village is well within its limits by asking for merely one acre of land on which to build a modern fire station so that they can respond to the emergency needs of the American people as the American people visit the

Jemez Recreation Area. The Federal Government owns over 28 million acres in the State of New Mexico, and I believe that yielding one acre to a village of 350 people who are the first individuals to respond in times of crisis to the visitors of the Jemez Recreation Area is well within reason.

I understand that there is objection to this. This objection on behalf of the Forest Service I believe is unreasonable. The Forest Service does not always have a good reputation of being a good neighbor in New Mexico. I would encourage them to wholeheartedly embrace the transfer of the one acre to Jemez Springs to begin to build bridges with the people of northern New Mexico.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to note for the RECORD that former Congressman Bill Richardson was a very distinguished member of our Committee on Resources, and I think, also to my good friend from New Mexico, that former Ambassador Bill Richardson to the United Nations is now the new Secretary of Energy. It was just confirmed last Friday by the other body.

I want to commend my good friend the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. REDMOND) for following up this piece of legislation, and I just want to note that and commend him for allowing us to bring this piece of legislation now for consideration, and again I urge my colleagues to support this bill and thank my colleague again from North Carolina for his management of these pieces of legislation.

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

Mr. JONES. 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 North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 434.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JONES. 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 materials on H.R. 434, the bill just debated.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### APPROVING A GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL FISHERY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3460) to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Latvia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3460

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

#### SECTION 1. GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL FISHERY AGREEMENT WITH LATVIA.

Notwithstanding section 203 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1823), the governing international fishery agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Latvia, as contained in the message to Congress from the President of the United States dated February 3, 1998, is approved as a governing international fishery agreement for the purposes of such Act and shall enter into force and effect with respect to the United States on the date of enactment of this Act.

#### SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES CONVENTION ACT OF 1995.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 211 of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 5610) is amended by striking "for each of" and all that follows through the end of the sentence and inserting "for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2001."

(b) MISCELLANEOUS TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995 is further amended—

(1) in section 207(e) (16 U.S.C. 5606(e)), by striking "sections" and inserting "section";

(2) in section 209(c) (16 U.S.C. 5608(c)), by striking "chapter 17" and inserting "chapter 171"; and

(3) in section 210(6) (16 U.S.C. 5609(6)), by striking "the Magnuson Fishery" and inserting "the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery".

(c) REPORT REQUIREMENT.—The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 212. ANNUAL REPORT.  
"The Secretary shall annually report to the Congress on the activities of the Fisheries Commission, the General Council, the Scientific Council, and the consultative committee established under section 208."

(d) NORTH ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION QUOTA ALLOCATION PRACTICE.—The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 213. QUOTA ALLOCATION PRACTICE.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Secretary of State, shall promptly seek to establish a new practice for allocating quotas under the Convention that—

"(1) is predictable and transparent;

"(2) provides fishing opportunities for all members of the Organization; and

"(3) is consistent with the Straddling Fish Stocks Agreement.

"(b) REPORT.—The Secretary of Commerce shall include in annual reports under section 212—

"(1) a description of the results of negotiations held pursuant to subsection (a);

"(2) an identification of barriers to achieving such a new allocation practice; and