

with simply a reformed management of our public lands.

Before I go further, I want to give my sincere thanks to my colleague, the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. HELEN CHENOWETH) for her strong support and advocacy not only for this legislation but for the young people of Idaho, as we have fought here to make sure our policies in Washington give us the best opportunity for our children in Idaho.

H.R. 4166 is going to provide the State of Idaho the ability to increase funding for public education by at least \$20 million, if not much more, annually, by restructuring the management of our endowment lands.

In 1890, when Idaho was made a State, about 3½ million acres of land as a permanent endowment were given to the State to help the children throughout this century and beyond. Today, that endowment has a value of about \$2.7 billion, with an accompanying endowment fund worth about another \$700 million, a total value of about \$3.4 billion. And yet, after evaluation, our Governor found its return was only about 3.3 percent, just barely keeping up with the rate of inflation. If that rate of performance could be increased by just 1 percent, it could generate as much as \$30 million of extra dollars for Idaho schoolchildren.

Because of that, Idaho's Governor Phil Batt appointed a Governor's Committee on Endowment Fund Investment Reform to look into what could be done. And that committee, chaired by Doug Dorn, reviewed the current structure of our endowment lands and evaluated what simple commonsense approaches we could find to improve the performance for our school children without raising taxes.

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H.R. 4166 is one of the reforms that this committee has suggested. I again have to give credit to Governor Batt, to the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) and to the others who have worked so hard to make this legislation a reality today. The changes that are proposed allow Idaho to manage its resources in a more effective way that will benefit the school children of Idaho and give us the ability to more clearly strengthen our future.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be the sponsor of this legislation. I encourage all of my colleagues here in the House to support this legislation.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH).

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

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding time, and I want to thank my colleague from Idaho for his outstanding leadership on this issue that is very, very important to our

State. As my colleague from Idaho moves to other endeavors this next year, we will miss his leadership in this body.

I rise right now in wholehearted support for H.R. 4166, a bill to amend the Idaho Admission Act. The most important commodity that we have, Mr. Speaker, is our Nation's children. By providing our children with the best possible education, we provide our Nation with a future that will allow it to continue to be a leader, the leader of the free world. But that future rests on our children and the kind of work that we can do for them today. H.R. 4166 takes a positive step in that direction in our State.

H.R. 4166 amends the 1890 Idaho Admission Act so that Idaho can better invest the funds gained from the leasing of the State's 2.5 million acres of endowment lands. This change could provide as much as \$30 million more for Idaho schools, for construction, for hiring new teachers or wiring classrooms for the Internet without raising new taxes.

As my colleague from Idaho has previously stated, this proposal has been thoroughly debated by all parties and passed nearly unanimously in the Idaho legislature. This bipartisan effort will give education in Idaho a boost without raising taxes. Clearly Idaho's children are the winners here.

I wish to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) as well as the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER), the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) for agreeing to allow this bill to come to the floor in an expedited manner. Most importantly I would like to thank Governor Batt for his diligent efforts on behalf of Idaho's children. Without his vision on how to gain more money for Idaho's schools and without raising taxes on the State's taxpayers, we would not be here.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this very valuable piece of legislation, valuable to our State.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4166.

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.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. 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 the legislation just passed.

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

There was no objection.

#### MEMORIAL TO HONOR MAHATMA GANDHI

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4284) to authorize the Government of India to establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi in the District of Columbia.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4284

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

#### SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH MEMORIAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Government of India may establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi on the Federal land in the District of Columbia.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of the Interior or any other head of a Federal agency may enter into cooperative agreements with the Government of India to maintain features associated with the memorial.

(c) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the memorial shall be in accordance with the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), except that sections 2(c) and 6(b) of that Act shall not apply with respect to the memorial.

(d) LIMITATION ON PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—The Government of the United States shall not pay any expense of the establishment of the memorial or its maintenance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. H.R. 4284 is a bill introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM). The gentleman from Florida is to be commended for working very hard to craft a bill that will recognize and memorialize one of the great world leaders of our time. H.R. 4284 would authorize the Government of India to establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi on Federal property in the District of Columbia and would be in basic accordance with the Commemorative Works Act. The memorial is to be a gift to the people of the United States as a part of the celebration of India's 50 years of freedom.

Mahatma Gandhi was born in India in 1869. He was best known for his civil disobedience that took shape in non-violence and passive resistance and was instrumental in helping India achieve its independence from England. He is revered by millions throughout the world for his unending fight for personal freedom and human rights. H.R. 4284 would allow the country of India to create the Mahatma's memorial within the District of Columbia to