

SCIENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS
RESTORATION ACT

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3904) to prevent the elimination of certain reports.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3904

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

SECTION 1. REPORTS.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) Section 801(b) and (c) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7321(b) and (c)).

(2) Section 603 of the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6683).

(3) Section 822(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (42 U.S.C. 6687).

(4) Section 7(a) of the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act of 1966 (33 U.S.C. 1106(a)).

(5) Section 206 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (42 U.S.C. 2476).

(6) Section 404 of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 (47 U.S.C. 744).

(7) Section 205(a)(1) of the National Critical Materials Act of 1984 (30 U.S.C. 1804(a)(1)).

(8) Section 17(c)(2) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3711a(c)(2)).

(9) Section 10(h) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278(h)).

(10) Section 212(f)(3) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1989 (15 U.S.C. 3704b(f)(3)).

(11) Section 11(g)(2) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710(g)(2)).

(12) Section 5(d)(9) of the National Climate Program Act (15 U.S.C. 2904(d)(9)).

(13) Section 7 of the National Climate Program Act (15 U.S.C. 2906).

(14) Section 703 of the Weather Service Modernization Act (15 U.S.C. 313 note).

(15) Section 118(d)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(d)(2)).

(16) Section 304(d) of the Federal Aviation Administration Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act of 1992 (49 U.S.C. 47508 note).

(17) Section 2367(c) of title 10, United States Code.

(18) Section 303(c)(7) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253(c)(7)).

(19) Section 102(e)(7) of the Global Change Research Act of 1990 (15 U.S.C. 2932(e)(7)).

(20) Section 5(b)(1)(C) and (D) of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704(b)(1)(C) and (D)).

(21) Section 11(e)(6) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710(e)(6)).

(22) Section 2304(c)(7) of title 10, United States Code, but only to the extent of its application to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(23) Section 4(j)(1) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1863(j)(1)).

(24) Section 36(f) of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885c(f)).

(25) Section 37 of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885d).

(26) Section 108 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1986 (42 U.S.C. 1886).

(27) Section 101(a)(3) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(3)).

(28) Section 3(a)(7) and (f) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1862(a)(7) and (f)).

(29) Section 7(a) of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act, 1977 (42 U.S.C. 1873 note).

(30) Section 16 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2215).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO) 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. 3904.

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 Federal Reports and Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 calls for the sunset of all periodic reports submitted to Congress by the executive branch. Congress has extended the sunset date of these reports until May of this year.

The committee on science highlighted nearly 100 reports relevant to its jurisdiction from the thousands scheduled for sunset. Out of that group, 30 were considered to be important to the committee's oversight responsibilities and have been incorporated into H.R. 3904. These reports serve a useful purpose within the agency themselves as a part of their internal review and evaluation process. The agency reports exempted under H.R. 3904 originate from NASA, the National Science Foundation, NOAA and others.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3904 is a bipartisan effort of the Committee on Science to maintain a fundamental oversight tool. I urge its adoption.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Wisconsin has accurately described the bill. We support it. It was passed by a bipartisan effort. We support the bill.

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. 3904.

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.

CONCURRING IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 1753, METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 453) providing for the consideration of the bill H.R. 1753 and the Senate amendments thereto.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 453

Resolved, That, upon the adoption of this resolution, the House shall be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table the bill H.R. 1753 together with the Senate amendments thereto, and to have (1) concurred in the amendment of the Senate to the title, and (2) concurred in the amendment of the Senate to the text with an amendment as follows: In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment, insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CONTRACT.—The term "contract" means a procurement contract within the meaning of section 6303 of title 31, United States Code.

(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The term "cooperative agreement" means a cooperative agreement within the meaning of section 6305 of title 31, United States Code.

(3) DIRECTOR.—The term "Director" means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(4) GRANT.—The term "grant" means a grant awarded under a grant agreement, within the meaning of section 6304 of title 31, United States Code.

(5) INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE.—The term "industrial enterprise" means a private, non-governmental enterprise that has an expertise or capability that relates to methane hydrate research and development.

(6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term "institution of higher education" means an institution of higher education, within the meaning of section 102(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)).

(7) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy.

(8) SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.—The term "Secretary of Commerce" means the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(9) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—The term "Secretary of Defense" means the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Secretary of the Navy.

(10) SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The term "Secretary of the Interior" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey and the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

SEC. 3. METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) COMMENCEMENT OF PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of