

projects to stabilize groundwater levels in San Joaquin County, California.

I appreciate the efforts made by Chairman POMBO, the author of this bill, to accommodate the concerns of neighboring water users. Specifically, language in Section 2 of H.R. 3812 was carried forward from the 108th Congress to allow the participation of the East Bay Municipal Utility District and other stakeholders as this project moves forward.

Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to passage of this legislation.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of H.R. 3812, a bill authored because in San Joaquin County, California, water supplies are being depleted. The region suffers from highly significant groundwater overdraft and saline intrusion, affecting agricultural, residential and commercial water users. This bill provides a much needed solution to a growing problem. H.R. 3812 authorizes \$3.3 million in Federal funding to complete studies that will examine additional surface water supplies, and improve water supply reliability and environmental protection for the Bay-Delta Region. Led by the Bureau of Reclamation, the project's multi-year evaluation would involve the participation and cooperation of a wide range of regional stakeholders and would provide information important to statewide water resource and environmental protection efforts. Areas aided by this bill include Stockton, Lodi, Lockeford, Clements, Waterloo, Farmington, Linden, Wallace, Camp Seco and Valley Springs. A clean, safe water supply is essential to sustain our growing communities. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3812, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### SOUTHERN OREGON BUREAU OF RECLAMATION REPAYMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4195) to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within Rogue River Valley Irrigation District or within Medford Irrigation District.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4195

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Southern Oregon Bureau of Reclamation Repayment Act of 2005".

#### SEC. 2. EARLY REPAYMENT.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 213 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390mm), any landowner within Rogue River Valley Irrigation District or within Medford Irrigation District, in Oregon, may repay, at any time, the construction costs of the project facilities allocated to that landowner's lands within the district in question. Upon discharge, in full, of the obligation for repayment of the construction costs allocated to all lands the landowner owns in the district in question, those lands shall not be subject to the ownership and full-cost pricing limitations of the Act of June 17, 1902 (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act, including the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390aa et seq.).

#### SEC. 3. LIMITATION.

Nothing herein modifies contractual rights that may exist between Rogue River Valley Irrigation District and Medford Irrigation District and the United States under their respective Reclamation contracts, or amends or reopens those contracts; nor does it modify any rights, obligations or relationships that may exist between the districts and their landowners as may be provided or governed by Oregon State law.

#### SEC. 4. CERTIFICATION.

Upon the request of a landowner who has repaid, in full, the construction costs of the project facilities allocated to that landowner's lands owned within the district, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide the certification provided for in subsection (b)(1) of section 213 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390mm(b)(1)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4195, sponsored by our colleague from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) allows for the early capital repayment costs of a Federal water project.

Under current law, two of the three irrigation districts receiving water from the Federal Rogue River project cannot repay the capital costs that they owe to the Federal Government. This bill gives the Bureau of Reclamation the ability to accept prepayment from these two water districts. This legislation benefits the American taxpayer because it allows early revenue to flow to the U.S. Treasury and helps the local landholders by reducing their debt and onerous paperwork requirements.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill.

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

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. UDALL of Colorado asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4195 will allow any landowner within the Rogue River Valley Irrigation District or the Medford Irrigation District to repay at any time the construction costs of the Federal Bureau of Reclamation project, from which the landholder receives irrigation water.

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By prepaying their share of the remaining repayment obligation, landowners will be exempted from the acreage limitation and reporting requirements of reclamation law.

We on this side of the aisle have no objection to enactment of H.R. 4195.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4195.

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.

#### BEAVER COUNTY, UTAH REAL PROPERTY CONVEYANCE

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 52) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey a parcel of real property to Beaver County, Utah.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 52

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

#### SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE TO BEAVER COUNTY, UTAH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall, without consideration and subject to valid existing rights, convey to Beaver County, Utah (referred to in this Act as the "County"), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the approximately 200 acres depicted as "Minersville State Park" on the map entitled "S. 2285, Minersville State Park" and dated April 30, 2004, for use for public recreation.

(b) RECONVEYANCE BY BEAVER COUNTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), Beaver County may sell, for not less than fair market value, a portion of the property conveyed to the County under this section, if the proceeds of such sale are used by the County solely for maintenance of public recreation facilities located on the remainder of the property conveyed to the County under this section.

(2) LIMITATION.—If the County does not comply with the requirements of paragraph

(1) in the conveyance of the property under that paragraph—

(A) the County shall pay to the United States the proceeds of the conveyance; and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior may require that all property conveyed under subsection (a) (other than the property sold by the County under paragraph (1)) revert to the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 52, introduced by Senator HATCH, would convey the Minersville State Park to Beaver County, Utah. Representative CHRIS CANNON introduced the companion legislation in the House of Representatives, which has been approved by the Resources Committee.

Minersville State Park is currently owned by the Bureau of Land Management, but leased by the State of Utah for recreation. However, due to budgetary constraints and the park's loss of revenue, the State can no longer afford to manage the park. Considering its importance to the local community, Beaver County indicated its desire to own the park and, with title to the park, would have the flexibility to manage it in an economically feasible manner.

The State of Utah, the Bureau of Land Management, and Beaver County all strongly support this bill; and I urge passage of this noncontroversial measure.

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

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. UDALL of Colorado asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, normally, a proposal to turn over parkland free of charge would raise serious concerns, particularly when the proposal would also allow the new owner to sell off some of the land.

However, in this instance, we are convinced that Beaver County must have a revenue stream if they are to continue operating this local park. This is compromise legislation that will allow the county to sell some acreage in order to maintain the remainder as public open space.

Mr. Speaker, we do not oppose Senate bill 52.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of S. 52, the Senate companion bill to an identical bill I introduced earlier this year. This legislation is important to my constituents, it would allow Beaver County, Utah to obtain and maintain the former Minersville State Park without restrictions.

This legislation would permit county officials to sell a small portion of this land to offset funding needed to operate and maintain the park.

In 1963, the BLM first granted a patent to Beaver County, Utah for the lands that are now part of Minersville State Park, and in 1964, title was transferred to the State of Utah Division of Parks and Recreation.

However, under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, Utah did not have authority to transfer title. Over the years, the State of Utah has made significant improvements to the Park, including building restrooms, campgrounds, a boat launch ramp, an entrance station, a pavilion and a maintenance building.

Under S. 52, Beaver County would be authorized to sell, at fair market value, portions of the property solely for maintenance and development of the recreational site.

Allowing the county this authority is vital to provide for adequate park maintenance. Currently, the park estimates that it is losing approximately \$90,000 annually.

This legislation gives Beaver County the necessary flexibility to generate revenue for continued use, without which Utah will be forced to close the park.

Minersville State Park is a beautiful recreational site and extremely important to the residents, my constituents, in the surrounding area. Passage of this bill will prevent the park from closing by enabling the county to maintain and operate the park.

S. 52 is important legislation to both Beaver County and to my state of Utah. This legislation passed the Senate unanimously both in the 108th Congress and in late July of this year.

I urge passage of this legislation, it will benefit Utahns and all those who wish to visit this park.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. 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 California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 52.

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.

### VALLES CALDERA PRESERVATION ACT OF 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 212) to amend the Valles Caldera Preservation Act to improve the preservation of the Valles Caldera, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 212

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Valles Caldera Preservation Act of 2005".

#### SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE VALLES CALDERA PRESERVATION ACT.

(a) ACQUISITION OF OUTSTANDING MINERAL INTERESTS.—Section 104(e) of the Valles Caldera Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 698v-2(e)) is amended—

(1) by striking "The acquisition" and inserting the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The acquisition";

(2) by striking "The Secretary" and inserting the following:

"(2) ACQUISITION.—The Secretary";

(3) by striking "on a willing seller basis";

(4) by striking "Any such" and inserting the following:

"(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Any such"; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) AVAILABLE FUNDS.—Any such interests shall be acquired with available funds.

"(5) DECLARATION OF TAKING.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—If negotiations to acquire the interests are unsuccessful by the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall acquire the interests pursuant to section 3114 of title 40, United States Code.

"(B) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—Any difference between the sum of money estimated to be just compensation by the Secretary and the amount awarded shall be paid from the permanent judgment appropriation under section 1304 of title 31, United States Code."

(b) OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES.—Section 106(e) of the Valles Caldera Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 698v-4(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(4) OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES.—Subject to the laws applicable to Government corporations, the Trust shall determine—

"(A) the character of, and the necessity for, any obligations and expenditures of the Trust; and

"(B) the manner in which obligations and expenditures shall be incurred, allowed, and paid."

(c) SOLICITATION OF DONATIONS.—Section 106(g) of the Valles Caldera Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 698v-4(g)) is amended by striking "The Trust may solicit" and inserting "The members of the Board of Trustees, the executive director, and 1 additional employee of the Trust in an executive position designated by the Board of Trustees or the executive director may solicit".

(d) USE OF PROCEEDS.—Section 106(h)(1) of the Valles Caldera Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 698v-4(h)(1)) is amended by striking "subsection (g)" and inserting "subsection (g), from claims, judgments, or settlements arising from activities occurring on the Baca Ranch or the Preserve after October 27, 1999."

#### SEC. 3. BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Section 107(e) of the Valles Caldera Preservation Act (U.S.C. 698v-5(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking "Trustees" and inserting "Except as provided in paragraph (3), trustees"; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking "Trustees" and inserting the following:

"(A) SELECTION.—Trustees"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) COMPENSATION.—On request of the chair, the chair may be compensated at a rate determined by the Board of Trustees, but not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) in which the chair is engaged in the performance of duties of the Board of Trustees.

"(C) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The total amount of compensation paid to the chair