

(3) **NON-FEDERAL LAND.**—The term “non-Federal land” means the Empirita-Simonson parcel of land consisting of approximately 2,392 acres, as depicted on the map entitled “Las Cienegas Enhancement Act—Non-Federal Land” and dated May 9, 2006.

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

**SEC. 3. LAND EXCHANGE, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND IN PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA.**

(a) **EXCHANGE AUTHORIZED.**—If the landowner offers to convey to the Secretary title to the non-Federal land, the Secretary shall accept the offer and convey to the landowner all, right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land.

(b) **VALUATION, APPRAISALS, AND EQUALIZATION.**—

(1) **EQUAL VALUE EXCHANGE.**—The value of the Federal land and the non-Federal land to be exchanged under this section shall be equal. If the values are not equal, the values shall be equalized in accordance with paragraph (3).

(2) **APPRAISAL.**—To determine the value of the Federal land and the non-Federal land, the Federal land and the non-Federal land shall be subject to an appraisal by an independent, qualified appraiser agreed to by the Secretary and landowner. The appraiser shall consider the value of the Federal land and the non-Federal land as of the date of the enactment of this Act. The appraisal shall be conducted in accordance with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisition and the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the appraisal shall be submitted to the Secretary and landowner for approval.

(3) **EQUALIZATION OF VALUES.**—If the values of the Federal land and non-Federal land are not equal, their values may be equalized—

(A) by reducing the acreage of the non-Federal land or the Federal land to be exchanged, as appropriate; or

(B) by the payment by the landowner or the Secretary of a cash equalization payment, which, in the case of a cash equalization payment made by the landowner, may exceed 25 percent of the value of the Federal land, notwithstanding section 206(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716(b)).

(4) **DISPOSITION AND USE OF PROCEEDS.**—Any cash equalization payment received by the Secretary under paragraph (3) shall be deposited in the Federal Land Disposal Account established by section 206(a) of the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (43 U.S.C. 2305(a)). Amounts so deposited shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation and until expended, for the acquisition of land and interests in land in southern Arizona.

(c) **PROTECTION OF VALID EXISTING RIGHTS.**—The exchange of the Federal land and the non-Federal land shall be subject to any easements, rights-of-way, and other valid encumbrances on the land in existence on the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) **TIME FOR COMPLETION OF EXCHANGE.**—The exchange of the Federal land and non-Federal land under this section shall be completed—

(1) except as provided in paragraph (2), not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) if there is a dispute concerning an appraisal of the Federal land or non-Federal land or appraisal issue arising under subsection (b), before the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date the dispute is resolved.

(e) **ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**—As a condition of the conveyance of the Federal land to the landowner, the landowner shall pay the costs of carrying out the exchange of the Federal land and non-Federal land under this section, including any direct costs relating to any environmental reviews and mitigation of the Federal land.

(f) **CORRECTION OF ERRORS; MINOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.**—The Secretary and landowner may mutually agree—

(1) to correct minor errors in the legal descriptions of the Federal land and non-Federal land to be exchanged under this section; or

(2) to make minor adjustments to the boundaries of the Federal land and non-Federal land.

(g) **ROAD ACCESS.**—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the non-Federal land is acquired by the Secretary, the Secretary shall provide to the Secretary of Agriculture a right-of-way through the non-Federal land for motorized public road access to the boundary of the Coronado National Forest. The right-of-way shall be provided in accordance with section 507 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1767).

(h) **ADMINISTRATION OF LAND ACQUIRED BY THE UNITED STATES.**—On acquisition of the non-Federal land by the Secretary, the Secretary shall—

(1) include the acquired land as part of the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area; and

(2) administer the acquired land in accordance with Public Law 106-538 (16 U.S.C. 460000 et seq.), which established the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area, and other applicable laws.

**SEC. 4. MODIFICATION OF LAS CIENEGAS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY.**

The boundary of the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area is modified to exclude the 40-acre tract that, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, is leased by the Bureau of Land Management to the town of Elgin, Arizona, for a sanitary landfill.

**SEC. 5. LAND CONVEYANCE, PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA.**

As an additional condition of the conveyance of the Federal land to the landowner under section 3, the landowner shall convey, without consideration, to Pima County, Arizona, a parcel of land consisting of approximately 98 acres, as depicted on the map referred to in section 2(1) as “land to be conveyed to Pima County”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 5016, introduced by Mr. KOLBE, would consolidate lands within the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area located 50 miles south of Tucson. The area consists of 42,000 acres managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

This legislation would add 2,490 acres of private land to the conservation area in exchange for 1,280 acres of isolated BLM lands. The bill would also modify the boundary of the conservation area to exclude a 40-acre tract of land for a sanitary landfill. This area was inadvertently included in the original boundary.

I would urge support for this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I, too, support passage of this legislation and would encourage its adoption, and I yield back the remainder of our time.

Mr. PEARCE. Madam Speaker, before I depart, I would like to thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for his great

work here. I think we have set a modern land speed record on these bills, and I thank him very much.

Madam Speaker, I have no additional 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 New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5016, 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.

**COLUMBIA SPACE SHUTTLE MEMORIAL STUDY ACT**

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5692) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing memorials to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* on parcels of land in the State of Texas, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5692

*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 “Columbia Space Shuttle Memorial Study Act”.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) **MEMORIAL.**—The term “memorial” means a memorial to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* that is subject to the study in section 3(a).

(2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

**SEC. 3. STUDY OF SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING MEMORIALS TO THE SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available, the Secretary shall conduct a special resource study to determine the feasibility and suitability of establishing a memorial as a unit or units of the National Park System to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* on land in the State of Texas described in subsection (b) on which large debris from the Shuttle was recovered.

(b) **DESCRIPTION OF LAND.**—The parcels of land referred to in subsection (a) are—

(1) the parcel of land owned by the Fredonia Corporation, located at the southeast corner of the intersection of East Hospital Street and North Fredonia Street, Nacogdoches, Texas;

(2) the parcel of land owned by Temple Inland Inc., 10 acres of a 61-acre tract bounded by State Highway 83 and Bayou Bend Road, Hemphill, Texas;

(3) the parcel of land owned by the city of Lufkin, Texas, located at City Hall Park, 301 Charlton Street, Lufkin, Texas; and

(4) the parcel of land owned by San Augustine County, Texas, located at 1109 Oaklawn Street, San Augustine, Texas.

(c) **ADDITIONAL SITES.**—The Secretary may recommend to Congress additional sites in the State of Texas relating to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* for establishment as memorials to the Space Shuttle *Columbia*.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

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

H.R. 5692, introduced by myself, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the feasibility and suitability of establishing a memorial to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* in the State of Texas and for its inclusion as a unit in the National Park System.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to properly commemorate and memorialize one of this Nation's most heroic, yet heartbreaking, tragedies, the disintegration of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* as it reentered earth's atmosphere in the spring of 2003.

This legislation will serve to begin the process of appropriately honoring the bravery and sacrifice not only of the seven heroic souls of her crew and their families, but also of the numerous citizens that lent a hand in the recovery effort following the catastrophe by initiating a study of the Secretary of the Interior to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing memorials to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* on parcels of land in East Texas where the major debris from the shuttle was recovered.

Tragically, it was strewn over hundreds of miles in my district. The commitment by my constituents in the effort to recover as much of the wreckage as possible was pivotal in determining the cause of the incident. These contributions, as well as those made by the crew of the *Columbia*, deserve this recognition.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 5692 and commemorate ultimately the sacrifice by Commander Rick Husband, Pilot William McCool, Payload Commander Michael Anderson, Mission Specialist David Brown, Mission Specialist Kalpana Chawla, Mission Specialist Laurel Blair Salton Clark, and Payload Commander Ilan Ramon deserve a memorial befitting their devotion to their fellow man, their spirit of exploration and discovery, along with their courage.

I urge adoption of the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mr. KIND asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I commend the leadership the gentleman from Texas has shown on this important initiative, and we continue to mourn the loss of the crew of the Space Shuttle *Columbia*. It is our hope this evening that the study we authorize today will help guide efforts to appropriately memorialize the brave explor-

ers who lost their lives in that great tragedy.

Again, I thank my friend from Texas for his leadership and initiative and encourage passage of this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the remainder of our time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman. I have no additional 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 Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5692, 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.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the feasibility and suitability of establishing a memorial to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* in the State of Texas and for its inclusion as a unit of the National Park System."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### RIO GRANDE NATURAL AREA ACT

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 56) to establish the Rio Grande Natural Area in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 56

*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 "Rio Grande Natural Area Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Rio Grande Natural Area Commission established by section 4(a).

(2) NATURAL AREA.—The term "Natural Area" means the Rio Grande Natural Area established by section 3(a).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

#### SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF RIO GRANDE NATURAL AREA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established the Rio Grande Natural Area in the State of Colorado to conserve, restore, and protect the natural, historic, cultural, scientific, scenic, wildlife, and recreational resources of the Natural Area.

(b) BOUNDARIES.—The Natural Area shall include the Rio Grande River from the southern boundary of the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge to the New Mexico State border, extending ¼ mile on either side of the bank of the River.

(c) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prepare a map and legal description of the Natural Area.

(2) EFFECT.—The map and legal description of the Natural Area shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct any

minor errors in the map and legal description.

(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal description of the Natural Area shall be available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

#### SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Rio Grande Natural Area Commission.

(b) PURPOSE.—The Commission shall—

(1) advise the Secretary with respect to the Natural Area; and

(2) prepare a management plan relating to non-Federal land in the Natural Area under section 6(b)(2)(A).

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be composed of 9 members appointed by the Secretary, of whom—

(1) 1 member shall represent the Colorado State Director of the Bureau of Land Management;

(2) 1 member shall be the manager of the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, ex officio;

(3) 3 members shall be appointed based on the recommendation of the Governor of Colorado, of whom—

(A) 1 member shall represent the Colorado Division of Wildlife;

(B) 1 member shall represent the Colorado Division of Water Resources; and

(C) 1 member shall represent the Rio Grande Water Conservation District; and

(4) 4 members shall—

(A) represent the general public;

(B) be citizens of the local region in which the Natural Area is established; and

(C) have knowledge and experience in the fields of interest relating to the preservation, restoration, and use of the Natural Area.

(d) TERMS OF OFFICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except for the manager of the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, the term of office of a member of the Commission shall be 5 years.

(2) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member may be reappointed to the Commission on completion of the term of office of the member.

(e) COMPENSATION.—A member of the Commission shall serve without compensation for service on the Commission.

(f) CHAIRPERSON.—The Commission shall elect a chairperson of the Commission.

(g) MEETINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall meet at least quarterly at the call of the chairperson.

(2) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—A meeting of the Commission shall be open to the public.

(3) NOTICE.—Notice of any meeting of the Commission shall be published in advance of the meeting.

(h) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary and the heads of other Federal agencies shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide any information and technical services requested by the Commission to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission.

#### SEC. 5. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) HEARINGS.—The Commission may hold such hearings, meet and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers advisable to carry out this Act.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying out the management plan on non-Federal land in the Natural Area, the Commission may enter into a cooperative agreement with the State of Colorado, a political subdivision of the State, or any person.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A cooperative agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall establish procedures for providing notice to the Commission of any action proposed by