

Twenty-five years ago, peaceful pro-democracy demonstrators, many of them students, most of them students, gathered in Tiananmen in a move for greater openness, transparency, and the rule of law.

But what could have marked the beginning of a peaceful, political transition in China was brutally, brutally crushed by the People's Liberation Army. A historic moment of opportunity was, quite frankly, lost.

By nearly every measure, China is today as intolerant of dissent as it has ever been. Just read today's New York Times where they talk about how they are cracking down, telling people: Do not go to Tiananmen.

Like authoritarian governments before it, the Chinese Government remains deeply frightened. They are frightened. They are literally afraid of their own people. They are afraid of the spirit that animated that protest, namely, the yearning for basic human rights and fundamental freedoms.

I first went to China in 1991 with my good friend Congressman CHRIS SMITH of New Jersey. It was during this trip we visited Beijing prison number 1. Chinese authorities informed us—and we saw them—that approximately 40 Tiananmen Square protestors were in the prison. Our request was to see the demonstrators. They were denied, but Chinese authorities gave us a tour of the prison's textile and plastic shoe factories. We saw them making socks. These are the socks that they were making. The fact is there are golfers on the side, and in those days they didn't play golf. Tiananmen Square demonstrators were making socks for Americans to wear as they play golf. I took with me some of the socks that prisoners were making because they were coming to our country.

That experience captures, in stark terms, the failure of U.S. foreign policy—the failure of U.S. foreign policy toward China over successive demonstrations, both Republican and Democrat alike. The United States has too often pursued a relationship that is fundamentally inconsistent with the most basic national values, marked by trade and unfettered market access at the expense of human rights, religious freedom, and the rule of law. President Reagan said that the words in the Constitution and the words in the Declaration of Independence were a covenant not only with the people in Philadelphia in 1776 and 1787, but with the people of Tiananmen and the people who want freedom all over the world.

May this resolution by Congressman SMITH and the approaching anniversary of that dark June day serve as a sobering reminder of the unmet yearning for basic human liberty which compels men like Liu Xiaobo, himself an imprisoned Nobel Laureate, won the 2010 Nobel Prize, was in prison, his wife was under house arrest, she couldn't even go to Norway to pick up the prize, and also the thousands of others whose names we do not know, but as Leader

PELOSI said: they will be known in the West, someday everyone will know who they are and everyone will know who they are in China and we will know the name of “tank man,” because “tank man” that Ms. PELOSI talked about has done more to bring about freedom than anybody else, and we will know their names.

I pray for the day that the Chinese Government—the party and system responsible for the crackdown in Tiananmen and responsible for the continued repression—will be relegated to the “ash heap of history.” They will be relegated to the ash heap of history. I believe that will come very soon. I believe it will come in my lifetime, particularly if the Democratic aspirations of the Chinese people can find a champion—if they can find a champion in the United States of America.

With that, I thank Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN for bringing this bill up. I thank Mr. SMITH for this resolution and all the effort that he has done. I want to again thank Democratic Leader PELOSI for her leadership in fighting on these issues of human rights and religious freedom.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support for this resolution, which I join as an original cosponsor with my good friends and colleagues, Congressman CHRIS SMITH (NJ) and Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI (CA). I cannot express strongly enough my admiration and respect for their leadership on protecting and promoting human rights in China, and their commitment to remembering, commemorating and educating others on the events that took place in Tiananmen Square twenty-five years ago.

Mr. Speaker, thousands of citizens brutally murdered. Students shot down by their own government. Tanks rolling into Tiananmen Square to ruthlessly repress the spark of hope ignited in the hearts of thousands of people. On June 4th, a massacre ended the weeks of student protest and civil society actions that sparked hope for change and good governance, hope for greater inclusion and democracy.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, it has been 25 years since Tiananmen Square—and China hopes that we've forgotten.

But we have not forgotten. We have not forgotten Tiananmen Square, nor have we forgotten all the brave Chinese citizens who every day attempt to exercise the basic rights promised to them under the Chinese Constitution. The right to speak out and to bring grave matters to the attention of their government. Chinese citizens and their legal advocates who have tried to bring issues like government corruption, corporate exploitation of workers, unsafe working conditions, inadequate housing, agricultural mismanagement—so many find themselves the targets of government repression, legal reprisal, harassment, house arrest and even long and brutal imprisonment.

They deserve the right to speak out and engage in intellectual and public debate about what constitutes fundamental human rights and respect, what constitutes the freedom to think and worship as one chooses, what constitutes respect for the ostensible cultural di-

versity of China when faced with the reality of brutal cultural repression in Tibet and Xinjiang.

There are so many past and current heroes and heroines in China who have dared to think, write, speak and act freely in defiance of government control, censorship and mythology. We remember all of them today, past and present, as we debate this resolution and recall the events of 25 years ago.

We stand with you, today and always. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 599.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 599.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1715

HERMISTON REVERSIONARY LANDS ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3366) to provide for the release of the property interests retained by the United States in certain land conveyed in 1954 by the United States, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, to the State of Oregon for the establishment of the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center of Oregon State University in Hermiston, Oregon, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3366

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 “Hermiston Reversionary Lands Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map entitled “Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center” and dated April 7, 2014.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

(3) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of Oregon (acting through the Oregon State Board of Higher Education on behalf of Oregon State University).

SEC. 3. RELEASE OF PROPERTY INTERESTS IN BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF OREGON FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HERMISTON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER.

(a) RELEASE OF RETAINED INTERESTS.—Any reservation or reversionary interest retained by the United States to the approximately 290 acres in Hermiston, Oregon, depicted as

“Reversionary Interest Area” on the Map, is hereby released without consideration.

(b) INSTRUMENT OF RELEASE.—The Secretary shall execute and file in the appropriate office a deed of release, amended deed, or other appropriate instrument reflecting the release of retained interests under subsection (a).

(c) CONVEYANCE OF ORPHAN PARCEL.—Notwithstanding the land use planning requirements of sections 202 and 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712, 1713), not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a request from the State, the Secretary shall convey to the State, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States to and in the approximately 6 acres identified on the Map as “Bureau of Land Management Administered Land”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3366 would release the Bureau of Land Management’s reversionary interest in 290 acres that were conveyed to the State of Oregon in 1954 for the establishment of the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Oregon State University in Hermiston, Oregon. It would also reunite that land with a 6-acre orphan parcel that the Bureau of Land Management has no use for.

In 1954, the Federal Government conveyed the 290 acres affected by this legislation to the State of Oregon. However, the Federal Government retained a reversionary interest in the property which now denies OSU and the city of Hermiston the control and flexibility needed to efficiently manage the property to advance new agricultural research programs.

As Hermiston continues to grow up around this area, lifting the reversionary interest will advance the goals of Oregon State University, benefit the local economy, and create job opportunities to meet the demands of the expanding region.

Adjacent to the 290 acres is a 6-acre parcel of land that previously reverted back to the BLM and that currently stands idle. This parcel is the subject of an amendment being considered with this bill.

If it is not dealt with, it will become an orphan land parcel that is of no use to the Bureau of Land Management,

and it will be a challenge to manage. The 6 acres would be better managed when they are rejoined with the adjacent 290 acres that this bill addresses.

Congressman WALDEN, who is from that district, should be commended for his work on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of the Hermiston Reversionary Interest Release Act.

In 1954, the Federal Government conveyed 250 acres near Hermiston, Oregon, to the State of Oregon, to establish an agricultural experiment station. The agricultural experiment station ultimately became the Oregon State University Agricultural Research and Experiment Center.

The Hermiston Center focuses on the innovation and implementation of agricultural and horticultural opportunities, and it provides solutions to production restraints. This work is crucial to the agricultural economy of the region.

Oregon State University would like to move the Hermiston Center to a new location and is looking to Congress to remove Federal restrictions placed on the land at the time of conveyance in order to sell or to develop the property.

H.R. 3366 removes these Federal restrictions and will allow Oregon State to develop its agricultural research facilities to meet the future needs of the agricultural sector. Allowing the flexibility that H.R. 3366 provides is a priority for Oregon State University and the region, and we gladly support this bill and the university’s continued research.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 8 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), the author of this legislation.

Mr. WALDEN. I thank the chairman and the members of the Natural Resources Committee for their work that brought this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3366, the Hermiston Reversionary Interest Release Act, is very important to the city of Hermiston—as you all have heard—to Umatilla County, and to Oregon State University, so I appreciate being able to speak in support of it today.

Oregon—and the nearly 70,000 square miles that I represent in my district—is full of unique landscapes, ranging from high deserts to green valleys, which produce more than 220 different agricultural crops.

Farmers in this part of Oregon, the Columbia Basin, grow crops from commodities—like corn and wheat—to specialty crops—like onions, potatoes, asparagus, and, of course, the world-famous Hermiston watermelons.

In fact, Umatilla County is the second highest agricultural producing county in the State of Oregon, with sales topping \$487 million annually.

Agriculture has always been the economic backbone of Umatilla County. However, growth of the industry would not have been maintained without significant innovation in what types of crops are grown and in improvements in production techniques.

The land that this legislation deals with was conveyed to the State of Oregon and then to Oregon State University by the Federal Government. It is the home of the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center, capably and ably managed by Superintendent Phil Hamm, with whom we have worked closely on this legislation.

This center has fueled these innovations, and it has helped growers in the region maximize the use of precious water, fight off new pests and diseases, and achieve record-breaking yields.

This commonsense legislation simply places the home of the research center back fully under local control by removing the retained reversionary interest. This bill also conveys 6 acres of land that were orphaned from the station after the construction of a railroad line.

This release and conveyance provides the flexibility OSU needs to better manage the station for the future benefit of area farmers and to meet the needs of the city of Hermiston, eastern Oregon’s largest city.

When this land was originally conveyed in 1954, the Hermiston population was fewer than 4,000 people, and the research station was located well out of town. Today, with a population of 16,745 people, the research facilities now lie within the city limits of Hermiston, presenting potential challenges to growth in the future.

Despite economic and population growth in the last 60 years, the needs of farmers have not changed much. They still rely upon the quality work done by researchers at the station to grow top-notch crops and to create jobs in the region.

Unfortunately, as station managers try to plot the path for continued viability of the station as the city continues to grow, they find their hands tied by the reversionary interest the Federal Government maintains over the property.

Commonsense opportunities that could generate additional revenue for research, like siting a cell tower on a small portion of the property that can’t be farmed, are passed over because of these improvement restrictions.

Also, if the need arises in the future, the reversionary interest stands in the way of the relocation of the facility, which would provide additional economic opportunities for the city, while maintaining the research capabilities at a site better suited for agriculture production, rather than being stuck between industrial sites or residential communities.

By removing the reversionary interest, H.R. 3366 removes these hurdles and provides opportunities for economic and job growth for the local

community, which is why it has been strongly supported by farmers in the area, by the city of Hermiston, and by the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners as well.

For farmers in the Columbia Basin, it is a way for valuable agriculture research to continue into the future, bringing new techniques they need to tackle new challenges as they continue to feed and clothe the world.

For Oregon State University, it provides the flexibility they need to ensure they continue their mission of providing the quality research they have provided in the area for decades.

Again, I want to thank the staff on the committee, as well as my own staff—Riley Bushue and Thomas Griffin—for their work on this legislation.

I would ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their work on this important piece of legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am glad my colleague from Oregon mentioned the Columbia Basin. My district happens to be just north of that. That part of the Columbia Basin that I represent also is a very plentiful agriculture area, and I am glad my friend from Oregon, just to the south of me, recognizes that.

With that, this is a good piece of legislation, and I urge its passage.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 503, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL DESERT STORM AND DESERT SHIELD WAR MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 503) to authorize the National Desert Storm Memorial Association to establish the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 503

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 “National Desert Storm and Desert Shield War Memorial Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) *ASSOCIATION.*—The term “Association” means the National Desert Storm Memorial As-

sociation, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Arkansas and described in section 501(c)(3) and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) *MEMORIAL.*—The term “memorial” means the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial authorized to be established under section 3.

SEC. 3. MEMORIAL TO COMMEMORATE.

(a) *AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.*—The Association may establish the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial as a commemorative work, on Federal land in the District of Columbia to commemorate and honor those who, as a member of the Armed Forces, served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield.

(b) *COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.*—The establishment of the commemorative work shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

(c) *USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS PROHIBITED.*—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the memorial. The Association shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the memorial.

(d) *DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.*—

(1) *If upon payment of all expenses for the establishment of the memorial (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Association shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.*

(2) *If upon expiration of the authority for the commemorative work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Association shall transmit the balance to a separate account with the National Park Foundation for memorials, to be available to the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator (as appropriate) following the process provided in section 8906(b)(4) of title 40, United States Code, for accounts established under section 8906(b)(2) or (3) of title 40, United States Code.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 503 authorizes the National Desert Storm Memorial Association to establish a commemorative work on Federal land outside of the closed National Mall reserve in the District of Columbia to commemorate and honor

members of the Armed Forces who served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield.

Over 600,000 American servicemen deployed for Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield and successfully led a coalition of over 30 countries to evict an invading army to secure the independence of Kuwait.

This memorial will recognize their success, but it will also serve as a commemoration of those nearly 300 Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf.

The work would be planned and constructed using non-Federal funds, and unlike recent monuments' proposals, it does not exempt it from the Commemorative Works Act, which was established to place standards and a process for the placement of memorials in the Washington, D.C., area. This is a good piece of legislation, and I urge its passage.

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

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 503, the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield War Memorial Act.

Following the ordered invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, the United States, along with the United Nations Security Council, demanded the immediate halt and pullback of forces under the threat of military action.

After Saddam Hussein defied the United Nations Security Council's demands, the United States, along with its NATO and Arab allies, began Operation Desert Storm, followed by Operation Desert Storm—a 100-hour land war which expelled the Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Approximately 700,000 members of the American Armed Forces served as part of Operation Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield. Of those, 293 died in theater, and 148 were killed in action.

H.R. 503 authorizes the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield War Memorial Association to build the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial as a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia, in order to honor the members of the American Armed Forces who served on active duty and those who made the ultimate sacrifice in support of our country.

Honoring those who have served and those who have died is a duty shared by all Americans, regardless of political affiliation. We support this bipartisan bill and look forward to its adoption.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee, Dr. ROE, the author of this legislation.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the proud sponsor of H.R.