

made to ensure that this type of aggression and tyranny will not be tolerated by the United States towards our allies. May this memorial reflect those sacrifices for generations to pay tribute and admire, and lest we not forget.

Respectfully,

GLENN MINNEY (U.S.N. RET.),
Director of Government Relations and
Congressional Legislation,
Blinded Veterans Association.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I would especially like to thank a couple of people, such as JEFF MILLER, my friend from Hendersonville, North Carolina, who introduced me to Scott Stump and his colleagues at the National Desert Storm Memorial Association, for the legwork they have done in support of H.R. 503. Without their efforts, we wouldn't be standing here today. I also would like to thank Lieutenant Colonel Norbert from Canada, who is also in the audience today.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Chairman HASTINGS and Chairman BISHOP for their assistance in moving this legislation to the House floor.

I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation and to honor the service of those who served in these operations.

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

I thank my colleagues from Tennessee and Washington, and I am very honored to support this piece of legislation, particularly on the day after we formally observed Memorial Day. It is truly an honor to recognize the men and women and the families who give the ultimate sacrifice to protect this country.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this is a good piece of legislation, and I commend Dr. ROE and others for introducing it and bringing it to the floor. I urge its passage.

With that, 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.

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. 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.

SANDIA PUEBLO SETTLEMENT TECHNICAL AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 611) to make a technical amendment to the T'uf Shur

Bien Preservation Trust Area Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 611

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 "Sandia Pueblo Settlement Technical Amendment Act".

SEC. 2. SANDIA PUEBLO SETTLEMENT TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.

Section 413(b) of the T'uf Shur Bien Preservation Trust Area Act (16 U.S.C. 539m-11(b)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of paragraph (4), by striking "conveyance" and inserting "title to be conveyed"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) FAILURE TO EXCHANGE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If the land exchange authorized under paragraph (1) is not completed by the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary, on request of the Pueblo and the Secretary of the Interior, shall transfer the National Forest land generally depicted as ‘Land to be Held in Trust’ on the map entitled ‘Sandia Pueblo Settlement Technical Amendment Act’ and dated October 18, 2013, to the Secretary of the Interior to be held in trust by the United States for the Pueblo—

“(i) subject to the restriction enforced by the Secretary of the Interior that the land remain undeveloped, with the natural characteristics of the land to be preserved in perpetuity; and

“(ii) consistent with subsection (c).

“(B) OTHER TRANSFERS.—After the transfer under subparagraph (A) is complete, the Secretary of the Interior, with the consent of the Pueblo, shall—

“(i) transfer to the Secretary, consistent with section 411(c)—

“(I) the La Luz tract generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Sandia Pueblo Settlement Technical Amendment Act’ and dated October 18, 2013; and

“(II) the conservation easement for the Piedra Lisa tract generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Sandia Pueblo Settlement Technical Amendment Act’ and dated October 18, 2013; and

“(ii) grant to the Secretary a right-of-way for the Piedra Lisa Trail within the Piedra Lisa tract generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Sandia Pueblo Settlement Technical Amendment Act’ and dated October 18, 2013.”.

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 material 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.

Mr. Speaker, S. 611 authorizes a transfer of land between the U.S. Forest Service and the Pueblo of Sandia in the State of New Mexico. The bill would complete a series of pending land exchanges that were originally authorized under a 2003 law. The exchanges were intended to resolve the Pueblo's ownership claims to Sandia Mountain and to retain certain lands and interests in public ownership as part of the Cibola National Forest.

Some of the land exchanges were not executed because of a disagreement over land valuation. In 2009, Congress attempted to resolve this matter through a technical amendment but, in the view of the Forest Service, the bill did not resolve the land valuation dispute. So, Mr. Speaker, it is hoped that round two of the technical amendments to the 2003 act will conclude the matter.

The Committee on Natural Resources has reported the House companion measure to this bill, H.R. 3605, and we have no objection to passing S. 611 in lieu of H.R. 3605.

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 S. 611, the Sandia Pueblo Settlement Technical Amendment Act.

Senate 611 provides technical amendments to the T'uf Shur Bien Preservation Trust Area Act, which passed Congress over 10 years ago, in order to settle land claims with the Pueblo of Sandia, but due to uncertainty over the valuation of land within the U.S. Forest Service, has still not been implemented.

Specifically, this bill requires the Secretary of Agriculture, at the request of the Sandia Pueblo and the Secretary of the Interior, to transfer certain national forest land to the Secretary of the Interior to be held in trust for the Pueblo, if a land exchange with the Pueblo required by the T'uf Shur Bien Preservation Trust Area Act is not completed within 30 days of this Act's enactment.

The bill would also affect a land conveyance, a transfer of right-of-way from the tribe to the Forest Service, and would require the National Forest land in question to remain undeveloped so that the Pueblo will be able to use the land for ceremonial purposes in perpetuity.

This bill is the companion of H.R. 3605, a bill I introduced in the House. That bill was reported favorably out of committee. Since the Senate bill has already passed that body, we have decided to vote on that bill to, hopefully, pass it with efficiency.

It is difficult for many tribal communities to access and protect sacred sites. So when we have the opportunity to place sacred sites under tribal control, I think it is important for this body to act.

The Pueblo of Sandia and the entire New Mexico delegation supports S. 611.

I ask my colleagues to stand with me in support of this important bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I will advise my friend from New Mexico that I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague.

I just want to reiterate my gratitude to the entire New Mexico delegation; the Governor of Pueblo Sandia, Governor Paisano; the lieutenant governor; and the entire tribal council.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and 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, S. 611.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COUNSELING AND TREATMENT FOR SEXUAL TRAUMA OCCURRING DURING INACTIVE DUTY TRAINING

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2527) to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide veterans with counseling and treatment for sexual trauma that occurred during inactive duty training.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2527

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

SECTION 1. COUNSELING AND TREATMENT FOR SEXUAL TRAUMA OCCURRING DURING INACTIVE DUTY FOR TRAINING.

Section 1720D of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “active duty or active duty for training” and inserting “active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training”; and

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking “this section, the” and inserting the following: “this section:

“(1) The”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The term ‘veteran’, with respect to inactive duty training described in subsection (a)(1), also includes an individual who—

“(A) is not otherwise eligible for the benefits of this chapter; and

“(B) while serving in the reserve components of the Armed Forces, performed such inactive duty training but did not serve on active duty.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MILLER of Florida. 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. 2527.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2527 would extend VA’s program of counseling, care, and services for veterans who experience sexual trauma during inactive duty training.

Those servicemembers and veterans who experience sexual violence during military service, regardless of where or when such violence is inflicted, should have access to the counseling, care, and treatment they need to recover.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 2527, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 2527, the National Guard Military Sexual Trauma Parity Act.

Mr. Speaker, I want to first thank Mr. BENISHEK, the chairman of the Health Subcommittee; Ms. BROWNLEY, the ranking member of the Health Subcommittee; and especially Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member MICHAUD for working with me on this very important issue.

The bill before you is bipartisan legislation which addresses an unacceptable gap in the current law that effectively leaves some victims of military sexual assault without the support and treatment they need.

Members of the National Guard and other reserve components of our armed services have fought bravely for our country, many completing multiple tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since the attacks on September 11, more than 50,000 guardsmen and guardswomen have been called to service, both at home and abroad.

We recognize the value of the National Guard and other reserve components, and thank them for their service. Unfortunately, some, like members of the other Armed Forces, are victimized by sexual assault while on Active Duty. If that happens, they are provided all the VA resources and services they need to recover and heal, both physically and emotionally.

Such benefits, however, are not offered to members of the National Guard and other reserve components who experience sexual assault while on inactive training missions. Members of the Guard are required to participate in training missions one weekend a month and 2 weeks a year, but benefits and services, such as counseling and Medicare, do not extend to victims sexually assaulted during these mandatory training missions. This omission is simply unacceptable and leaves so many who have served our country

without any assistance or support during a devastating time.

The National Guard Military Sexual Trauma Parity Act would fix this problem and clarify that all victims of sexual trauma in the National Guard or other reserve components have access to the care they need, whether they are on Active Duty or on a required training mission.

We must make it a priority to change the culture of the military and put an end to acts of sexual trauma within our armed services. Until we do, however, we must be sure that we provide all victims the treatment they need and deserve.

I am proud that many veterans service organizations support this important legislation to ensure that all Guard members who are “always ready, always there” to protect our country receive the same support in return from their government.

So, Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, so I will reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I would just conclude my remarks and urge all my colleagues to support this legislation and, again, thank the chairman for working with me to bring it to the floor. We want to send it to the Senate and urge them to pass it quickly and on to the President for his signature.

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

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 2527, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2527.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REESTABLISHMENT OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2942) to amend title 38, United States Code, to reestablish the Professional Certification and Licensure Advisory Committee of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2942

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

SECTION 1. REESTABLISHMENT OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) REESTABLISHMENT.—Section 3689(e)(5) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by