beneficial relationship with the existing attractions.

Mr. Speaker, we now face a crucial point that demands action. In addition to the encryption issue, an important landmark would be lost forever should the site be destroyed. These sites serve as an important reminder of our Cold War strategy and should be preserved for today and future generations.

Mr. Speaker, there is a sign painted on the door leading into the Delta-1 control room. Below a pizza box someone wrote, and I quote, "Worldwide delivery in 30 minutes or less, or your next one is free." Dark humor, I know, but it was a reality. Civilization as we all know it could have been destroyed in 30 minutes. The character and personalites of our soldiers who served a critical role in the defense of our Nation should be preserved.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore ask the House to join me in supporting this important legislation and to move closer to the establishment of what would prove to be an invaluable asset to this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) for his work in helping us move this legislation forward.

First, let me thank Chairman YOUNG and Chairman HANSEN for all their help moving this legislation. The other body passed S. 382, the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site Establishment Act of 1999, by unanimous consent on March 25, 1999, and I urge the House to pass the bill today.

I, like many Americans, grew up during the Cold War when tensions between America and the Soviet Union were at their highest point. My memories of this time are vivid. I remember Vietnam, the renewed arms race, and the immense pride and patriotism I felt when the B-52 bomber landed. During this period, 150 Minuteman II missiles remained on nuclear alert at Ellsworth AFB.

In western South Dakota, the 44th missile wing blended with the scenery with the Black Hills as a backdrop. Spread out over 13,500 square miles, the soldiers grew to know the locals and the hills as a backdrop. On the Fourth of July 1994 when the wing was deactivated, something was missing on the high plains of Western South Dakota. On occasion, I still meet soldiers who manned the silos stationed at Ellsworth, and they tell me how wonderful the people of South Dakota are.

I grew up in Murdo, South Dakota, just 60 miles east on I-90 from the Delta One command center. Surrounding that center were 10 miles east on I-90 from the Delta One command center. Below a pizza box, someone wrote, "Worldwide delivery in 30 minutes or less or your next one is free." Dark humor, I know, but it was a reality. Civilization as we all know it could have been destroyed in 30 minutes. The character and personalites of our soldiers who served a critical role in the defense of our nation should be preserved.

I, therefore, ask the House to join me in supporting this important legislation and move closer to the establishment of what would prove to be an invaluable asset to this nation.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 382 with one reservation. I do not oppose the establishment of the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota. I do, however, have significant concerns with directing the Secretary of the Air Force to transfer funds to the Secretary of the Interior for the purpose of establishing, operating, and maintaining the site.

In my judgment, the financial responsibility for maintaining the National Park System does not rest with the Department of the Air Force. Section 4(b) of the bill provides for such a transfer of funds. However, I would note that the funds specified for transfer in section 4(b)(1) have expired. In the interest of facilitating the establishment of the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site, I saw no need, as a member of the Committee on Resources, to strike the most provision concerning the transfer of funds and thereby send the bill back to the Senate at this late date in the session.

As a member of the Committee on Armed Services and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities, I want to note further that an authorization to transfer such funds is proper within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Armed Services. I think it is fair to say that the Committee, and certainly this member, would oppose any effort to compel the Secretary of the Air Force to utilize military construction, operations and maintenance, or other funds authorized and appropriated for fiscal year 2000 to support the establishment, operations, and maintenance of this site.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 382.

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.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on S. 382, the Senate bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HILL of Montana. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Tuesday, November 16, for personal medical leave. Should I have been present for rollcall votes 587 through 595, I would have voted the following way:

On rollcall vote 587, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 588, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 589, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 590, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 591, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 592, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 593, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 594, I would have voted yes; on rollcall vote 595, I would have voted yes.

CITY OF SISTERS, OREGON, LAND CONVEYANCE

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 416) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the city of Sisters, Oregon, a certain parcel of land for use in connection with a sewage treatment facility, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 416

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—
November 17, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE 30023

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 416.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE)?

There is a current and immediate health threat from surging effluent, to put it delicately. During the summer months, in order to accommodate tourists who often visit the surrounding lands, the city must place approximately 60 portable toilets around the town.

Even though the city is economically distressed, it has put together a financing package of approximately $7 million for a wastewater treatment facility. Unfortunately, additional funds to acquire land for the treatment facility and the disposition of treated wastewater are currently beyond the residents' ability to pay, which is why we are here today.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, as amended, represents a bipartisan agreement for exchange of land for the City of Sisters in exchange for a waiver of hook-up fees and future services between its surrounding neighbor, the U.S. Forest Service. This agreement will allow a much-needed wastewater treatment facility to be built for the benefit of the residents of Sisters, the Forest Service and its employees, and the visitors who stop by this busy wayside as they travel through Oregon and vacation in nearby Forest Service lands.

The Federal Government will save tens of thousands of dollars in hook-up fees and future treatment expenses. The residents of Sisters will get the land they need to construct a treatment facility that will eliminate the health hazards they face.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mayor Steve Wilson of Sisters, the Deschutes Forest Supervisor Sally Collins, and the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health staff, and the minority staff as well, for all the hard work they put on this legislation, and I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. Miller) for his help in drafting the agreement that we approved.

Mr. Speaker, Senator bill 416 is of the utmost importance to the health and welfare of the constituents of my district. This legislation will convey a parcel of land for the use by the City of Sisters, Oregon, for the development of a sewage treatment facility. It has strong bipartisan support from its co-sponsors, Senator Wyden and Senator Smith, and it passed unanimously in the other body.

The bill also has the support of the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DeFazio), my fellow Oregonian across the aisle who serves on the Committee on Resources as well.

Now, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DeFAZIO), Colorado, represents a bipartisan agreement for the development of a sewage treatment facility in the letter of understanding dated October 14, 1999, the city of Sisters, Oregon, for a population of 1,000, approximately 60 portable toilets around the town.

Even though the city is economically distressed, it has put together a financing package of approximately $7 million for a wastewater treatment facility. Unfortunately, additional funds to acquire land for the treatment facility and the disposition of treated wastewater are currently beyond the residents' ability to pay, which is why we are here today.

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Mr. Speaker, Senator bill 416 is of the utmost importance to the health and welfare of the constituents of my district. This legislation will convey a parcel of land for the use by the City of Sisters, Oregon, for the development of a sewage treatment facility. It has strong bipartisan support from its co-sponsors, Senator Wyden and Senator Smith, and it passed unanimously in the other body.
into this well-conceived legislation. I strongly support passage of Senate bill H.R. 16.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) who just spoke in the well for all the work that he did on this legislation, along with the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DeFazio). The gentleman has quite properly explained the impact of the legislation and we are in agreement with him and urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, S. 416 directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey, after a public process, either 160 or 240 acres to the City of Sisters, Oregon for use as a sewage treatment facility. The City of Sisters is surrounded by federal land and is in dire need of a wastewater treatment plant.

The text of the bill as amended provides that the federal government will convey the land to the city and the Secretary would have to mutually agree to the administrative process and fair market value requirements.

Nevertheless, I no longer object to this bill because under my amendment which the Committee adopted, the Forest Service will be adequately compensated for the land it conveys to the city. The city has agreed to waive sewage treatment-related costs for the Forest Service in the facility’s service area in an amount equal to the value of the federal land.

The bill also provides that if the final federal appraisal deviates by ten percent or more from the city’s preliminary appraisal, then the city and the Secretary would have to mutually agree on compensation to attain the higher appraisal value. This provision ensures that the federal government gets a close approximation of fair market value for its land.

I commend Mr. Walden for his hard work on this bill and his willingness to work with me to address my concerns, as well as those of the Forest Service. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE. Mr. Speaker, I have no more requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill will also reverse the Federal corporate charter issued to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Umatilla Band of Pomo Indians of the Umatilla Indian Reservation after “Sparks Indian Colony.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any lease entered into or renewed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. REVOCATION OF CHARTER OF INCORPORATION.

The request of the Stockbridge-Munsee Community of Wisconsin to surrender the charter of incorporation issued to the community on May 21, 1938, pursuant to section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934, (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”) is hereby accepted, and the charter of incorporation is hereby revoked.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1953 is a technical amendments bill which will authorize leases for terms not to exceed 99 years on lands held in trust for the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Umatilla Band of Pomo Indians of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will also reverse a Federal corporate charter granted to the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians in 1938. The band has asked us to revoke the charter because it is outdated, because it has never been used, and because it has been suspended by another charter. Only the Congress can revoke this charter.

Existing Federal law, which limits the leasing of land held in trust for Indian tribes to a period of not more than 25 years, has proven to be unrealistic in today’s world of large investment requirements. Tribes need expanded leasing authority to increase on-reservation housing and to facilitate economic development.

Mr. Speaker, I support this technical amendment and urge my colleagues to pass same.

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

Mr. HANSEN. 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 Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1953, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1953. This is legislation that I introduced earlier this term in an effort to assist two tribes and some of the finest people in my community. The ability for these sovereign governments to execute 99-year leases is critical for their self-sufficiency and the diversity necessary for further economic viability. In addition, I support the new provisions added via the manager’s amendment and am pleased that all of these contained provisions have been approved by the proper representatives of both parties.

Briefly, I would like to explain to my colleagues what Congress is accomplishing with this bill. Currently, federal law limits these tribes to executing a 25-year lease that may be renewed once for a second 25-year term. The bill’s stated worthy purposes for public, religious, educational, residential, and business development reflect the future goals of the tribes and require this federal action permitting these entities the ability to grant long-term leases of 99 years.

One key principle that must remain fixed within the foundation of federal Native American policy is preserving the sovereignty of Indian tribes. This stated policy is unfortunately meaningless if Congress fails in its duty to exercise its legislative authority and empower tribes. Tribes must have the appropriate legal authority through the necessary tools for true self-sufficiency, governance, and development. They must be free to undertake the type of modern development that this bill contemplates. This is a fair and equitable result for the meaningful self-determination worthy of a sovereign nation and its people going into the 21st century.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the gentleman from Alaska (Chairman DON YOUNG), the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the distinguished ranking member (Mr. MILLER), the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), and the other Members who were instrumental in the passage of this overdue and worthwhile bill. In addition, I am grateful that my colleagues and I were able to secure its passage this year, because there is no need to delay the implementation of any bill designed with the sole focus of helping Native Americans and Indian tribes.

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

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