

POM-548. A resolution by the Legislature of the State of New York relative to the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

Whereas, Water is a critical resource that is essential for all forms of life and for a broad range of economic and social activities; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes support 33 million people as well as a diversity of the plant and animal populations; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes contain roughly 20% of the world's freshwater and 95% of the freshwater of the United States; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes are predominantly non-renewable resources with approximately only 1% of their water renewed annually by precipitation, surface water runoff and inflow from groundwater sources; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes Basin is an integrated and fragile ecosystem with its surface and groundwater resources a part of a single hydrologic system, which should be dealt with as a whole in ways that take into account water quantity, water quality and ecosystem integrity; and

Whereas, Sound science must be the basis for water resource management policies and strategies; and

Whereas, Scientific information supports the conclusion that a relatively small volume of water permanently removed from sensitive habits may have grave ecological consequences; and

Whereas, Single and cumulative bulk removals of water from drainable basins such as interbasin transfers, reduce the resiliency of a system and its capacity to cope with future, unpredictable stresses, including potential introduction of non-native species and diseases to receiving waters; and

Whereas, There is uncertainty about the availability of Great Lakes water in the future in light of previous variations in climatic conditions, climate change, demands on water—cautions should be used in managing water to protect the resource for the future; and

Whereas, A report from The International Joint Commission, released March 15, 2000, recommends that Canadian and U.S. federal, provincial and state governments should not permit the removal of water from the Great Lakes Basin unless the proponent can demonstrate that the removal will not endanger the integrity of the Great Lakes Ecosystem; and

Whereas, Canada has already introduced legislation to amend the Boundary Waters Treaty Act to prohibit bulk water withdrawals from the Great Lakes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to urge the New York State Congressional Delegation to effectuate an amendment to the Boundary Waters Treaty Act to prohibit bulk water withdrawals from the Great Lakes to preserve the integrity and environmental stability of the Great lakes; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to each member of the United States Congressional Delegation of the State of New York; to the Vice President of the United States in his capacity as President of the United States Senate; to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; to the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives; to the Secretary of the United States Senate; and to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 2844: An original bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize the provision of assistance to increase the availability of credit to microenterprises lacking full access to credit, to establish a Micro-finance Loan Facility, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-335).

S. 2845: An original bill to authorize additional assistance to countries with large populations having HIV/AIDS, to authorize assistance for tuberculosis prevention, treatment, control, and elimination, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-336).

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2712: A bill to amend chapter 35 of title 31, United States Code, to authorize the consolidation of certain financial and performance management reports required of Federal agencies, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-337).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 2844. An original bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize the provision of assistance to increase the availability of credit to microenterprises lacking full access to credit, to establish a Micro-finance Loan Facility, and for other purposes; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 2845. An original bill to authorize additional assistance to countries with large populations having HIV/AIDS, to authorize assistance for tuberculosis prevention, treatment, control, and elimination, and for other purposes; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 2846. A bill to extend the suspension of duty for certain chemicals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ABRAHAM:

S. 2847. A bill to modify the River and Harbor Act of 1886 to authorize Corps of Engineer authority over an extended portion of the Clinton River; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 2848. A bill to provide for a land exchange to benefit the Pecos National Historical Park in New Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 2849. A bill to create an independent office in the Department of Labor to advocate on behalf of pension participants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S.J. Res. 49. A joint resolution recognizing Commodore John Barry as the first flag officer of the United States Navy; to the Committee on Armed Services.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 2848. A bill to provide for a land exchange to benefit the Pecos National Historical Park in New Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

PECOS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2000

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, today, I am introducing the "Pecos National Historical Park Land Exchange Act of 2000. This bill will facilitate a land exchange between the Federal government and a private landowner that will benefit the Pecos National Historical Park in my State of New Mexico.

Specifically, the bill will enable the Park Service to acquire a private inholding within the park's boundaries in exchange for the transfer of a nearby tract of national forest system land. The national forest parcel has been identified as available for exchange in the Santa Fe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and is surrounded by private lands on three sides.

Pecos National Historical Park possesses exceptional historic and archaeological resources. Its strategic location between the Great Plains and the Rio Grande Valley has made it the focus of the region's 10,000 years of human history. The park preserves the ruins of the great Pecos pueblo, a major trade center and the ruins of two Spanish colonial missions dating from the 17th and 18th centuries.

The Glorieta Unit of the park protects key sites associated with the 1862 Civil War Battle of Glorieta Pass, a significant event that ended the Confederate attempt to expand the war into the west. This unit will directly benefit from the land exchange.

I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the bill I have introduced today be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

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 "Pecos National Historical Park Land Exchange Act of 2000."

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act—

(1) the term "Secretaries" means the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(2) the term "landowner" means Harold and Elizabeth Zuschlag, owners of land within the Pecos National Historical Park.

(3) the term "map" means a map entitled "Pecos National Historical Park Land Exchange" and dated June 27, 2000.

SEC. 3. LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) Upon the conveyance by the landowner to the Secretary of the Interior of the lands identified in subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey the following lands and interests to the landowner, subject to the provisions of this Act:

(1) approximately 160 acres of Federal lands and interests therein within the Santa