

providing for consideration of S. 2485, the St. Croix Island Heritage Act, and providing for the adoption of a concurrent resolution to make certain corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 2614, the Certified Development Company Program Improvements Act of 2000—"yea"; rollcall No. 583, on agreeing to H. Res. 663—"aye".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent today when the House debated and voted "On Approving the Journal", H.J. Res. 120 "Further Continuing Appropriations for FY 2001", "On a Motion on the Hour of Meeting", on "Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 662 Providing for consideration of certain joint resolutions making further continuing appropriations for FY 2001", on H. Res. 662 "Providing for consideration of certain joint resolutions making further continuing appropriations for FY 2001", on "Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 663 Providing for consideration of S. 2485; and Corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 2614", and on H. Res. 662, "Providing for consideration of S. 2485; and Corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 2614."

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on "Approving the Journal" (rollcall vote 577), "aye" on H.J. Res. 120 (rollcall vote 578), "aye" on a "Motion on the Hour of Meeting" (rollcall vote 579), "aye" on "Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 662" (rollcall vote 580), "aye" on H. Res. 662 (rollcall vote 581), "aye" on "Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 663" (rollcall vote 582), and "aye" on H. Res. 663 (rollcall vote 583).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and could not vote on rollcalls No. 582 and 583. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" for each of these measures.

SAINT CROIX ISLAND HERITAGE ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 663, I call up the Senate bill (S. 2485) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance in planning and constructing a regional heritage center in Calais, Maine, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of S. 2485 is as follows:

S. 2485

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 "Saint Croix Island Heritage Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) Saint Croix Island is located in the Saint Croix River, a river that is the boundary between the State of Maine and Canada;

(2) the Island is the only international historic site in the National Park System;

(3) in 1604, French nobleman Pierre Dugua Sieur de Mons, accompanied by a courageous group of adventurers that included Samuel Champlain, landed on the Island and began the construction of a settlement;

(4) the French settlement on the Island in 1604 and 1605 was the initial site of the first permanent settlement in the New World, pre-dating the English settlement of 1607 at Jamestown, Virginia;

(5) many people view the expedition that settled on the Island in 1604 as the beginning of the Acadian culture in North America;

(6) in October, 1998, the National Park Service completed a general management plan to manage and interpret the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site;

(7) the plan addresses a variety of management alternatives, and concludes that the best management strategy entails developing an interpretive trail and ranger station at Red Beach, Maine, and a regional heritage center in downtown Calais, Maine, in cooperation with Federal, State, and local agencies;

(8) a 1982 memorandum of understanding, signed by the Department of the Interior and the Canadian Department for the Environment, outlines a cooperative program to commemorate the international heritage of the Saint Croix Island site and specifically to prepare for the 400th anniversary of the settlement in 2004; and

(9) only 4 years remain before the 400th anniversary of the settlement at Saint Croix Island, an occasion that should be appropriately commemorated.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take all necessary and appropriate steps to work with Federal, State, and local agencies, historical societies, and nonprofit organizations to facilitate the development of a regional heritage center in downtown Calais, Maine before the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Saint Croix Island.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ISLAND.—The term "Island" means Saint Croix Island, located in the Saint Croix River, between Canada and the State of Maine.

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

SEC. 4. SAINT CROIX ISLAND REGIONAL HERITAGE CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide assistance in planning, constructing, and operating a regional heritage center in downtown Calais, Maine, to facilitate the management and interpretation of the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—To carry out subsection (a), in administering the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements under appropriate terms and conditions with other Federal agencies, State and local agencies and nonprofit organizations—

(1) to provide exhibits, interpretive services (including employing individuals to provide such services), and technical assistance;

(2) to conduct activities that facilitate the dissemination of information relating to the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site;

(3) to provide financial assistance for the construction of the regional heritage center in exchange for space in the center that is sufficient to interpret the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site; and

(4) to assist with the operation and maintenance of the regional heritage center.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act (including the design and construction of the regional heritage center) \$2,000,000.

(2) EXPENDITURE.—Paragraph (1) authorizes funds to be appropriated on the condition that any expenditure of those funds shall be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by funds from non-Federal sources.

(b) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to maintain and operate interpretive exhibits in the regional heritage center.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Pursuant to House Resolution 663, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 2485, the St. Croix Island Heritage Act. This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance in planning and constructing a Regional Heritage Center in Calais, Maine.

St. Croix Island is located in the St. Croix River between Maine and Canada. It is the only international historic site in the national park system. In 1604, the French landed on the island and began construction of a settlement, which became the first permanent settlement in the New World. In October 1998, the National Park Service completed a general management plan to manage and interpret the St. Croix Island international historic site. In the year 2004, the U.S. and Canada will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the settlement of the St. Croix Island. This bill will facilitate the development of a Regional Heritage Center in downtown Calais, Maine, to be a central focus point for this celebration.

The bill authorizes \$2 million for the planning and construction of the heritage center and requires a dollar-for-dollar match by non-Federal sources. I believe that this bill has merit, and I support its passage.

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

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

S. 2485 is a noncontroversial bill that authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to assist in the construction of a Regional Heritage Center on St. Croix Island. St. Croix Island is located in the middle of the St. Croix River, which forms the boundary between the United States and Canada. The proposed heritage center will be built as part of the upcoming 400th anniversary of the settlement of St. Croix Island.