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AMENDMENT TO VA/HUD BILL TO PREVENT EPA MOVING FORWARD ON DESIGNATION OF NEW NONATTAINMENT AREAS

(Mr. COLLINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, when a lower court ruled in 1999 against new Federal air standards, reasonable persons expected the EPA to delay further implementation of the standards until the Supreme Court ruled on the agency's appeal.

Instead, the EPA is pushing forward with rules that force State and local governments across the country to spend thousands of dollars to comply with new invalid standards.

To stop this waste of taxpayer money, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) and I will offer an amendment to VA/HUD later today which will prevent the EPA from moving forward with the designation of new nonattainment areas until such time as the Supreme Court makes a decision.

State and local governments could better use their resources to help their communities to comply with the rules that may never become legally enforceable.

Our amendment is simple. It does not affect existing air quality standards, nor does it render judgment on the new standards. It only requires EPA to postpone further action until the Supreme Court issues a final ruling.

It is common sense to postpone the designation process until we are certain that it will not be a huge waste of Federal, State and local resources.

LOS ALAMOS LEAKS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the Founding Fathers saw a national security as the very first duty of government. The first duty listed by the Constitution, and it turned its head on fancy: I was written out of its Constitution, and it turned its head on slavery. I have heard the snickers, the perplexed faces, the snide comments, the alarmed looks at the House chamber when the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consider, called for the first time in a mirror, its response was to proclaim that the black man had no rights that a white man was bound to respect.

It took a second look, however, and began to exercise its demons; that is what reparations to Native Americans, Holocaust victims, and Japanese Americans was all about. Sadly, nobody thought about me. Yet an unarmed black man can be murdered on the streets of America and no one blinks an eye.

Innocent black men disappear to death row. Crack cocaine dumped into our neighborhoods. Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., murdered in conspiracies.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) is trying to close these wounds, not reopen them.

NONCOMMERCIAL BROADCASTING
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ACT OF 2000

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 527 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 527

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4201) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the service obligations of noncommercial educational broadcast stations. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The amendment recommended by the Committee on Commerce now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the bill, as amended, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce; (2) a further amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Congressional Record pursuant to clause 8 of rule XVIII, if offered by a representative of a Member of the Committee on Commerce; and (3) one motion to reconsider with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) is recognized for 1 minute.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 527 is a fair rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4201, the Noncommercial Broadcasting Freedom of Expression Act of 2000. It provides 27 protected hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce.