

Those F-4D that flew by were a symbol of his career as fighter pilot and his combat excellence. He actually flew in an F-16 the day before.

In closing, the Air Force is a better institution today than it was 4 years ago. General Ryan's distinguished and faithful service provided a significant and lasting contribution to our Air Force and our Nation's security.

He has served our Nation with honor and distinction. I know the Members of both the House and Senate join me in paying tribute to this outstanding American patriot upon his retirement from the United States Air Force.

We thank him, wish him and his family much health, happiness and God speed.

General Ryan, good flight, mission complete.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no further requests for morning hour debates, pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the House will stand in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.) the House stood in recess until 2 p.m. today.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Out of the depths, David cries to You, O Lord, in Psalm 130.

Lord, on an ordinary September Monday, caught up in routine, it may be difficult for us to be in touch with our depths.

Yet when aware of the pain in some hearts or when we truly face the complexity of issues overshadowing our responsibilities, we need Your mercy.

Help us to sense Your forgiveness behind every mistaken judgment of the past.

Guide our decisions today and throughout this week, that much may be accomplished and be recognized as Your providential care behind every event.

For it is Your justice and Your peace which holds the aspirations of the American people together.

Longing for Your presence, O Lord, make us watchful for Your movements and personal reflection and in honest discussion, so Your glory may be evident in our deeds.

By Your grace penetrate our souls, that we may live and pray from the depths now and forever.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON). The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### U.N. CONFERENCE ON RACISM

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

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the most recent issue of the Weekly Standard features a Charles Krauthammer article entitled Disgrace in Durbin, referring to the recently concluded U.N. Conference on Racism.

Mr. Krauthammer suggests that their conference included Third World dictators practicing their demagoguery, hopefully to the detriment of Israel.

He further suggests that the conference had the trappings reminiscent of pre-World War II in Nazi Germany, a Nuremberg rally, if you will, and these same dictators were pointing indirectly or directly accusatory fingers at the United States because of our friendship with Israel.

This sort of activity serves no good purpose, and President Bush is to be commended for his refusal to legitimize or dignify the disgrace in Durbin.

#### AMERICA NEEDS IMMEDIATE CAPITAL GAINS TAX RELIEF

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, today the United States is burdened with one of the highest capital gains taxes of any industrial nation. The effect puts our country's companies and workers at a severe disadvantage.

On average, the capital of U.S. businesses and farmers is taxed 80 percent higher than our foreign competitors. The economy needs and those who we represent deserve immediate capital gains tax relief.

The capital gains tax is an assault on the American dream. For many low- and moderate-income workers, one of the ways of accumulating wealth is

through investment in stocks and businesses.

When the government puts a high tax on capital gains, people who lose the most from the high rate are the poorest, the youngest, those in the beginning of their careers, those who are further from the sources of capital.

Policies that punish success ultimately kill the seeds that promise enterprise and jobs to the poor. Those in our communities are asking for our help, Mr. Speaker.

Their message to us, to the President, and all in this Congress could not be clearer: give us the seed capital for inner-city jobs and investments. Turn this economy around, cut capital gains and cut capital gains taxes now.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE TOM SAWYER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable TOM SAWYER, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 6, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Court of Common Pleas of Summit County, Ohio.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

TOM SAWYER.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes or postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

#### OIL REGION NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ACT

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 695) to establish the Oil Region National Heritage Area, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 695

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; DEFINITIONS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Oil Region National Heritage Area Act".

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage Area” means the Oil Region National Heritage Area established in section 3(a).

(2) **MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The term “management entity” means the Oil Heritage Region, Inc., or its successor entity.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

## SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds the following:

(1) The Oil Region of Northwestern Pennsylvania, with numerous sites and districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and designated by the Governor of Pennsylvania as one of the State Heritage Park Areas, is a region with tremendous physical and natural resources and possesses a story of State, national, and international significance.

(2) The single event of Colonel Edwin Drake’s drilling of the world’s first successful oil well in 1859 has affected the industrial, natural, social, and political structures of the modern world.

(3) Six national historic districts are located within the State Heritage Park boundary, in Emlenton, Franklin, Oil City, and Titusville, as well as 17 separate National Register sites.

(4) The Allegheny River, which was designated as a component of the national wild and scenic rivers system in 1992 by Public Law 102–271, traverses the Oil Region and connects several of its major sites, as do some of the river’s tributaries such as Oil Creek, French Creek, and Sandy Creek.

(5) The unspoiled rural character of the Oil Region provides many natural and recreational resources, scenic vistas, and excellent water quality for people throughout the United States to enjoy.

(6) Remnants of the oil industry, visible on the landscape to this day, provide a direct link to the past for visitors, as do the historic valley settlements, riverbed settlements, plateau developments, farmlands, and industrial landscapes.

(7) The Oil Region also represents a cross section of American history associated with Native Americans, frontier settlements, the French and Indian War, African Americans and the Underground Railroad, and immigration of Swedish and Polish individuals, among others.

(8) Involvement by the Federal Government shall serve to enhance the efforts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, local subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, volunteer organizations, and private businesses, to promote the cultural, national, and recreational resources of the region in order to fulfill their full potential.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this Act is to enhance a cooperative management framework to assist the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, its units of local government, and area citizens in conserving, enhancing, and interpreting the significant features of the lands, water, and structures of the Oil Region, in a manner consistent with compatible economic development for the benefit and inspiration of present and future generations in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States.

## SEC. 3. OIL REGION NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established the Oil Region National Heritage Area.

(b) **BOUNDARIES.**—The boundaries of the Heritage Area shall include all of those lands depicted on a map entitled “Oil Region National Heritage Area”, numbered OIRE/20,000 and dated October, 2000. The map shall be on file in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service. The Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register, as soon as practical after the date of the enactment of this Act, a detailed description and map of the boundaries established under this subsection.

(c) **MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The management entity for the Heritage Area shall be the Oil Heritage Region, Inc., the locally based private, nonprofit management corporation which shall oversee the development of a management plan in accordance with section 5(b).

## SEC. 4. COMPACT.

To carry out the purposes of this Act, the Secretary shall enter into a compact with the management entity. The compact shall include information relating to the objectives and management of the area, including a discussion of the goals and objectives of the Heritage Area, including an explanation of the proposed approach to conservation and interpretation and a general outline of the protection measures committed to by the Secretary and management entity.

## SEC. 5. AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF MANAGEMENT ENTITY.

(a) **AUTHORITIES OF THE MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The management entity may use funds made available under this Act for purposes of preparing, updating, and implementing the management plan developed under subsection (b). Such purposes may include—

(1) making grants to, and entering into cooperative agreements with, States and their political subdivisions, private organizations, or any other person;

(2) hiring and compensating staff; and

(3) undertaking initiatives that advance the purposes of the Heritage Area.

(b) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—The management entity shall develop a management plan for the Heritage Area that—

(1) presents comprehensive strategies and recommendations for conservation, funding, management, and development of the Heritage Area;

(2) takes into consideration existing State, county, and local plans and involves residents, public agencies, and private organizations working in the Heritage Area;

(3) includes a description of actions that units of government and private organizations have agreed to take to protect the resources of the Heritage Area;

(4) specifies the existing and potential sources of funding to protect, manage, and develop the Heritage Area;

(5) includes an inventory of the resources contained in the Heritage Area, including a list of any property in the Heritage Area that is related to the themes of the Heritage Area and that should be preserved, restored, managed, developed, or maintained because of its natural, cultural, historic, recreational, or scenic significance;

(6) recommends policies for resource management which consider and detail application of appropriate land and water management techniques, including, but not limited to, the development of intergovernmental and interagency cooperative agreements to protect the Heritage Area’s historical, cultural, recreational, and natural resources in a manner consistent with supporting appropriate and compatible economic viability;

(7) describes a program for implementation of the management plan by the management entity, including plans for restoration and construction, and specific commitments for that implementation that have been made by the management entity and any other persons for the first 5 years of implementation;

(8) includes an analysis of ways in which local, State, and Federal programs, including the role for the National Park Service in the Heritage Area, may best be coordinated to promote the purposes of this Act;

(9) lists any revisions to the boundaries of the Heritage Area proposed by the management entity and requested by the affected local government; and

(10) includes an interpretation plan for the Heritage Area.

(c) **DEADLINE; TERMINATION OF FUNDING.**—

(1) **DEADLINE.**—The management entity shall submit the management plan to the Secretary within 2 years after the funds are made available for this Act.

(2) **TERMINATION OF FUNDING.**—If a management plan is not submitted to the Secretary in accordance with this subsection, the management entity shall not qualify for Federal assistance under this Act.

(d) **DUTIES OF MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The management entity shall—

(1) give priority to implementing actions set forth in the compact and management plan;

(2) assist units of government, regional planning organizations, and nonprofit organizations in—

(A) establishing and maintaining interpretive exhibits in the Heritage Area;

(B) developing recreational resources in the Heritage Area;

(C) increasing public awareness of and appreciation for the natural, historical, and architectural resources and sites in the Heritage Area;

(D) the restoration of any historic building relating to the themes of the Heritage Area;

(E) ensuring that clear, consistent, and environmentally appropriate signs identifying access points and sites of interest are put in place throughout the Heritage Area; and

(F) carrying out other actions that the management entity determines to be advisable to fulfill the purposes of this Act;

(3) encourage by appropriate means economic viability in the Heritage Area consistent with the goals of the management plan;

(4) consider the interests of diverse governmental, business, and nonprofit groups within the Heritage Area; and

(5) for any year in which Federal funds have been provided to implement the management plan under subsection (b)—

(A) conduct public meetings at least annually regarding the implementation of the management plan;

(B) submit an annual report to the Secretary setting forth accomplishments, expenses and income, and each person to which any grant was made by the management entity in the year for which the report is made; and

(C) require, for all agreements entered into by the management entity authorizing expenditure of Federal funds by any other person, that the person making the expenditure make available to the management entity for audit all records pertaining to the expenditure of such funds.

(e) **PROHIBITION ON THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.**—The management entity may not use Federal funds received under this Act to acquire real property or an interest in real property.

## SEC. 6. DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES OF THE SECRETARY.

(a) **TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—

(A) **OVERALL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary may, upon the request of the management entity, and subject to the availability of appropriations, provide technical and financial assistance to the management entity to carry out its duties under this Act, including updating and implementing a management plan that is submitted under section 5(b) and approved by the Secretary and, prior to such approval, providing assistance for initiatives.

(B) **OTHER ASSISTANCE.**—If the Secretary has the resources available to provide technical assistance to the management entity to carry out its duties under this Act (including updating and implementing a management plan that is submitted under section 5(b) and approved by the Secretary and, prior to such approval, providing assistance for initiatives), upon the request of the management entity the Secretary

shall provide such assistance on a reimbursable basis. This subparagraph does not preclude the Secretary from providing nonreimbursable assistance under subparagraph (A).

(2) **PRIORITY.**—In assisting the management entity, the Secretary shall give priority to actions that assist in the—

(A) implementation of the management plan;

(B) provision of educational assistance and advice regarding land and water management techniques to conserve the significant natural resources of the region;

(C) development and application of techniques promoting the preservation of cultural and historic properties;

(D) preservation, restoration, and reuse of publicly and privately owned historic buildings;

(E) design and fabrication of a wide range of interpretive materials based on the management plan, including guide brochures, visitor displays, audio-visual and interactive exhibits, and educational curriculum materials for public education; and

(F) implementation of initiatives prior to approval of the management plan.

(3) **DOCUMENTATION OF STRUCTURES.**—The Secretary, acting through the Historic American Building Survey and the Historic American Engineering Record, shall conduct studies necessary to document the industrial, engineering, building, and architectural history of the Heritage Area.

(b) **APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT PLANS.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the Governor of Pennsylvania, shall approve or disapprove a management plan submitted under this Act not later than 90 days after receiving such plan. In approving the plan, the Secretary shall take into consideration the following criteria:

(1) The extent to which the management plan adequately preserves and protects the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the Heritage Area.

(2) The level of public participation in the development of the management plan.

(3) The extent to which the board of directors of the management entity is representative of the local government and a wide range of interested organizations and citizens.

(c) **ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.**—If the Secretary disapproves a management plan, the Secretary shall advise the management entity in writing of the reasons for the disapproval and shall make recommendations for revisions in the management plan. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove a proposed revision within 90 days after the date it is submitted.

(d) **APPROVING CHANGES.**—The Secretary shall review and approve amendments to the management plan under section 5(b) that make substantial changes. Funds appropriated under this Act may not be expended to implement such changes until the Secretary approves the amendments.

(e) **EFFECT OF INACTION.**—If the Secretary does not approve or disapprove a management plan, revision, or change within 90 days after it is submitted to the Secretary, then such management plan, revision, or change shall be deemed to have been approved by the Secretary.

**SEC. 7. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL ENTITIES.**

Any Federal entity conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the Heritage Area shall—

(1) consult with the Secretary and the management entity with respect to such activities;

(2) cooperate with the Secretary and the management entity in carrying out their duties under this Act and, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activities with the carrying out of such duties; and

(3) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct or support such activities in a manner that the management entity determines shall not have an adverse effect on the Heritage Area.

**SEC. 8. SUNSET.**

The Secretary may not make any grant or provide any assistance under this Act after the expiration of the 15-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 9. USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES.**

Nothing in this Act shall preclude the management entity from using Federal funds available under Acts other than this Act for the purposes for which those funds were authorized.

**SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act—

(1) not more than \$1,000,000 for any fiscal year; and

(2) not more than a total of \$10,000,000.

(b) **50 PERCENT MATCH.**—Financial assistance provided under this Act may not be used to pay more than 50 percent of the total cost of any activity carried out with that assistance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON).

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am delighted to be here today to discuss H.R. 695, The Oil Region National Heritage Area. I would first like to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) and their staff for their hard work in bringing this bill to the floor today. This legislation is vital to protect and conserve natural, cultural, and historical resources of national significance, while recognizing one of the single most influential resources of the modern era.

The 1859 event of Colonel Edwin Drake's drilling of the world's first successful oil well has had a tremendous effect on the modern world. The commercial history of petroleum in the United States begins at Drake Well located along Oil Creek near Titusville, Pennsylvania, in fact, 5 miles from my home. The tools, the terminology, and the transportation and financial and extraction processes of the oil industry were developed here in the latter part of the 19th century and are still used today. Oil and petroleum products have transformed the world, including the automobile, the industrial revolution, and the creation of petroleum-based products such as plastics.

Oil has been recognized as a potentially significant substance long before Drake's Well called the attention of the world to this corner of Northwestern Pennsylvania. Many accounts of the Allegheny valleys and its tributaries tell of springs and streams whose surfaces were covered with a thick, oily substance. Because of this, the Oil Creek Valley was so named even before Drake's well. In addition, Native Americans of the Seneca tribe gathered and traded oil, giving rise to the name "Seneca Oil." About 1847, a Pennsylva-

nian named Sam Keir devised a way to distill petroleum into lamp fuel which he called "carbon fuel." The discovery of oil caused a stampede of people, with whole towns and hundreds of new oil wells quickly appearing.

Familiar words and meanings in the American language originated or were adopted for use in this territory: wildcatter, bird dog, gusher, pay dirt, shooter, and cash on the barrel head. Heroes and villains, enormous wealth, tragedies, violence, and environmental degradation are part of this story.

Forests were clear-cut to provide railroad ties and material to build oil derricks, bridges and buildings. Early black and white pictures show a denuded landscape devoid of any trees or foliage. Part of the story that visitors learn about when they visit the current area of the Oil Heritage Park includes the degradation and restoration of the forests. Now, the visitors can see vistas of restored forests, creeks, and ecosystems. When I was a boy, you could not swim in many of these streams. Now we have some of the best trout and bass fishing in the East. I am grateful technology has improved over the years so that we can manage our natural resources in a way that is beneficial to all.

The creation of the Oil Region National Heritage Area enjoys widespread support from local citizens, governments, and businesses. Last year, the National Park Service testified about their reluctance to create this heritage area. However, at my urging, they agreed to conduct a feasibility study. The team went into this study with trepidation; however, they came away supportive and enthusiastic about the creation of the Oil Region National Heritage Area.

In February, we conducted two town hall meetings where elected officials, community leaders, businesses and concerned citizens met to discuss the merits of the national designation. No negative comments were voiced concerning the creation of the Oil Region National Heritage Area. Sixty-eight people attended the meetings and every person who commented spoke favorably. As my colleagues can see, Mr. Speaker, this endeavor was founded with true grassroots support.

Today, Pennsylvania is no longer a major contributor in U.S. oil production; however, hundreds of active wells still dot the landscape. Oil Creek and its tributaries now run clear. Hillsides that once were oil soaked and clear-cut now exist as mature forests. All of the major oil companies have their roots here, including Sunoco, Standard Oil, Pennzoil, Quaker State, and Texaco. Oil fueled the industrial revolution and modernized America's transportation system. It is vital that we preserve and enhance the area that is called "the valley that changed the world," the birthplace of commercial petroleum.

Through the establishment of the Oil Region National Heritage Area, we are allowing this great story to be told through maintenance of exhibits, restoration of buildings, and the development of educational and recreational opportunities. I would like to thank the cosponsors of H.R. 695, including my good friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA), a neighbor. In fact, the majority of the Pennsylvania delegation supports the creation of the Oil Region National Heritage Area, and I would like to thank them as well. This bill is supported by the majority and minority party of the Committee on Resources as well as the administration. It is indeed now time to recognize the national significance of this great region by designating the Oil Region as a National Heritage Area. I hope my colleagues will want to recognize the important contribution that oil has made to the world as we know it by voting to pass H.R. 695, the Oil Region National Heritage Area. I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 695, as amended.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation would establish a new national heritage area in Pennsylvania. The purpose of the new designation would be to commemorate the first successful efforts to drill for oil in the mid-19th century and to preserve historical and cultural resources of the time. The area included in this new designation is already home to six national historic districts and 17 sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Similar legislation in the previous Congress raised some concern because, at the time, no study of the area to be included in this new designation had been conducted. In addition, the administration raised several technical issues regarding the bill. However, since that time, a study has been completed and the area was found to be appropriate for this type of designation. Further, the sponsor of the bill has made the changes suggested by the administration and, with those changes, we join the administration in supporting H.R. 695.

□ 1415

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 695, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EL CAMINO REAL DE LOS TEJAS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ACT OF 2001

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1628) to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de los Tejas as a National Historic Trail.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1628

*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 "El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Act of 2001".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) El Camino Real de los Tejas (the Royal Road to the Tejas), served as the primary route between the Spanish viceregal capital of Mexico City and the Spanish provincial capital of Tejas at Los Adaes (1721–1773) and San Antonio (1773–1821);

(2) the seventeenth, eighteenth, and early nineteenth century rivalries among the European colonial powers of Spain, France, and England and after their independence, Mexico and the United States, for dominion over lands fronting the Gulf of Mexico, were played out along the evolving travel routes in this immense area;

(3) the future of several American Indian nations, whose prehistoric trails were later used by the Spaniards for exploration and colonization, was tied to these larger forces and events and the nations were fully involved in and affected by the complex cultural interactions that ensued;

(4) the Old San Antonio Road was a series of routes established in the early 19th century sharing the same corridor and some routes of El Camino Real, and carried American immigrants from the east, contributing to the formation of the Republic of Texas, and its annexation to the United States;

(5) the exploration, conquest, colonization, settlement, migration, military occupation, religious conversion, and cultural exchange that occurred in a large area of the borderland was facilitated by El Camino Real de los Tejas as it carried Spanish and Mexican influences northeastward, and by its successor, the Old San Antonio Road, which carried American influence westward, during a historic period which extended from 1689 to 1850; and

(6) the portions of El Camino Real de los Tejas in what is now the United States extended from the Rio Grande near Eagle Pass and Laredo, Texas and involved routes that changed through time, that total almost 2,600 miles in combined length, generally coursing northeasterly through San Antonio, Bastrop, Nacogdoches, and San Augustine in Texas to Natchitoches, Louisiana, a general corridor distance of 550 miles.

#### SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

Section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended as follows:

(1) By designating the paragraph relating to the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail as paragraph (21).

(2) By adding at the end the following:

"(23) EL CAMINO REAL DE LOS TEJAS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—El Camino Real de los Tejas (The Royal Road to the Tejas) National Historic Trail, a combination of routes totaling 2,580 miles in length from the Rio Grande near Eagle Pass and Laredo, Texas to Natchitoches, Louisiana, and including the Old San Antonio Road, as generally depicted on the maps entitled 'El Camino Real de los Tejas', contained in the report prepared pursuant to subsection (b) entitled 'National Historic Trail Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment: El Camino Real de los Tejas, Texas-Louisiana', dated July 1998. A map generally depicting the trail shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The trail shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior.

"(B) COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of the Interior may coordinate with United States and Mexican public and non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Government of Mexico and its political subdivisions, for the purpose of exchanging trail information and research, fostering trail preservation and educational programs, providing technical assistance, and working to establish an international historic trail with complementary preservation and education programs in each nation."

#### SEC. 4. PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION.

Designation of El Camino Real de los Tejas under this Act does not itself confer any additional authority to apply other existing Federal laws and regulations on non-Federal lands along the trail. Laws or regulations requiring public entities and agencies to take into consideration a national historic trail shall continue to apply notwithstanding the foregoing. On non-Federal lands, the national historic trail shall be established only when landowners voluntarily request certification of their sites and segments of the trail consistent with section 3(a)(3) of the National Trails System Act. Notwithstanding section 7(g) of such Act, the United States is authorized to acquire privately-owned real property or an interest in such property for purposes of the trail only with the willing consent of the owner of such property and shall have no authority to condemn or otherwise appropriate privately-owned real property or an interest in such property for the purposes of El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON).

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1828 would establish the El Camino Real de los Tejas National Trail to the National Trails system. The Camino Real, also known as the royal road, is a combination of historic routes totaling 2,600 miles used by the Spanish to connect them to Spanish Capitals. The history of the