

that is necessary in order for us to restore our Nation's most cherished waterway, the Chesapeake Bay, which not only has significant environmental impact on Virginia and many other States, but also contributes enormously to our recreational activities and to our economy. I, therefore, Madam Speaker, urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN).

Mr. CARDIN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), my friend, for yielding this time to me and for his leadership in moving this legislation, and also the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST), my colleague, in working together to bring forward this very important reauthorization legislation that will help continue the Federal partnership in restoring the Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in our Nation.

In 1991, original authorizations for NOAA's participation was passed by this Congress, and since that time, NOAA has been an instrumental partner in our efforts that involve not only the State of Maryland, but our surrounding States; not just State government, but local governments; not just government, but the private sector. We have worked together in partnership and have made tremendous progress in restoring the Chesapeake Bay.

This legislation not only reauthorizes NOAA's participation, but establishes small grant programs to local governments, community organizations, educational institutions to restore fisheries and habitats.

Madam Speaker, I say personally I know the groups that qualify for these funds. They are out there every day helping us restoring the waters and stirring the banks, cleaning up the waters, helping us in a major way. This legislation will mean that there will be additional resources available to these local groups to help them.

The legislation also provides for a 5-year study, which I think is extremely important on the multispecies management plan. For too long, we have been looking at individual species. This legislation will allow us to look at all the species within the bay as to how they interact with each other.

We increase the authorization to \$6 million through fiscal year 2006; and in combination, this legislation will increase NOAA's participation in partnership to restore the bay.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate all for moving this legislation so early. It will help us in our efforts not only in Maryland, not only in the communities that surround the Chesapeake Bay, but as a model for our Nation as to the right way to clean up a major body, a multijurisdictional body of water.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to urge everyone to vote aye on this, and also to congratulate the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST) for this very fine piece of legislation.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) once again, and certainly the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) for helping us with this legislation.

One last very brief comment on the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Chesapeake Bay itself, about 100 years ago, at the turn of the century, we took out of the bay on an annual basis up to 15 million bushels of oysters, 15 million. It was the engine that drove the economy of the State of Maryland and Virginia and, to some extent, Pennsylvania, for the commercial harvest, for the recreational activities, for all the spin-off economic resources that depended on the Chesapeake Bay, 15 million bushels of oysters. We are, in a good year now, in a very good year, down to 300,000 bushels of oysters.

With this legislation, we can understand the nature of the mechanics of the ecosystem, how the food web works. Human activity degraded the bay; human ingenuity will restore it.

I urge an aye vote on H.R. 642.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 642, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. GILCREST. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY TO HAVE UNTIL FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2001, TO FILE LEGISLATIVE REPORTS ON H.R. 392, H.R. 503, H.R. 863, H.R. 1209, AND H.J. RES. 41

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary have until Friday, April 20, to file legislative reports on the following: H.R. 392, Private Relief Bill for Nancy Wilson; H.R. 503, Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2001; H.R. 863, Consequence for

Juvenile Offenders Act of 2001; H.R. 1209, Child Status Protection Act of 2001; and H.J. Res. 41, Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment.

This request has been cleared with the minority.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1430

NEED-BASED EDUCATIONAL AID ACT OF 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 768) to amend the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 to make permanent the favorable treatment of need-based educational aid under the antitrust laws.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 768

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 "Need-Based Educational Aid Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.

Section 568(d) of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (15 U.S.C. 1 note) is repealed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 768, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, today the House considers H.R. 768, the Need-Based Educational Aid Act of 2001. This bill was introduced by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH), and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK). It makes permanent an antitrust exemption that allows universities to agree on common standards of need when awarding financial aid.

This exemption has been passed on a temporary basis several times without controversy, and the current version is set to expire at the end of September. It appears to be working well, and I am hopeful that it now can be made permanent.