

Park Service assistance to environmentally enhance their properties if they so choose.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 640 is an important addition to the recreation area and enjoys widespread support from the local community, including the private property owners. The bill also unanimously passed the House Committee on Resources.

I would ask my colleagues to join with me today in passing this bill.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who represents a portion of this area and is a cosponsor of this legislation.

□ 1045

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time.

I rise in support of H.R. 640. I am pleased to join in that effort with my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Ventura County, California (Mr. GALLEGLY).

Mr. Speaker, my colleague from California has explained the importance of the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area. I should point out that 33 million people visit this national recreation area each year, for both its mountains and its beaches. It is within an hour's drive of 17 million Americans.

In terms of recreation, it is the most important unit of the National Park Service. The park since its inception has been run cooperatively with local government, State government, and local community groups. It has the overwhelming support, I would say the unanimous support, of everyone in the area. For example, its general management plan included input from over 70 elected officials, 15 public meetings, all in the continuing effort to make sure that park management meets local needs.

H.R. 640 would expand the park boundaries to include some 3,700 acres of non-Federal public and private lands. This would allow the Park Service to assume management over a number of parcels which donors have in effect already donated to the National Park Service. These include the 107-acre Abrams property, the 2,300-acre Upper Las Virgenes Creek area, and the 390-acre Liberty Canyon/Morrison Ranch area. These parcels now have their title held by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, an agency of State government, but they would be better administered as part of this national recreation area.

I want to stress that this bill will not cost the Treasury one cent. This bill does not authorize the expenditure of any money. Just as importantly, assuming management over these additional acres will not require additional operating funds for the management of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

Further, the bill provides that land within this area shall be acquired by the Federal Government only by donation or with the use of donated funds. I will not be back here next year asking for funds from this Congress to buy land in this newly added area of the national recreation area.

The gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY) has talked about how this bill and the expansion of the park boundaries has the support of the affected local property owners. Some 900 acres of privately owned land will now fall within the park's boundaries. Almost all of that privately owned land, at least 99 percent of the private landowners, are in my district. All of them support or have voiced their support for this bill through their homeowners associations. It is amazing, because I represent, I think, one of the most opinionated districts in this country. On every other subject, I get opinions on both sides. This is one area where our communities stand together.

The three homeowners associations included in these boundaries have all sent letters of support. The Saratoga Hills Homeowners Association has been particularly vocal, and some 100 of its members have signed a petition. In addition, this bill is supported by all of the relevant municipalities, by the relevant State senator, the relevant State assembly member, the relevant county supervisor in the L.A. County portion of the area, and enjoys strong support in Ventura County as well.

I ask my colleagues to pass this bill, because it will provide for new land to be managed as part of this national recreation area, a wildlife corridor that is critical to the preservation of species in the area, and will do so with no adverse consequences to local landowners and at no cost to the Federal Government.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 640, 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.

EXTENDING AUTHORITY OF WASHINGTON, OREGON AND CALIFORNIA TO MANAGE DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 1661) to extend indefinitely the authority of the States of Washington, Oregon, and California to manage a Dungeness crab fishery until the effective date of a fishery management plan for the fishery under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1661

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY OF STATES OF WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND CALIFORNIA TO MANAGE DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY.

Section 203 of the Act entitled "An Act to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Poland, and for other purposes", approved November 13, 1998 (Public Law 105-384; 16 U.S.C. 1856 note), is amended by striking subsection (i).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1661 is a bill to extend the existing State management of the Dungeness crab fishery off the coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington. The bill is sponsored by the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

This is not the first time State management of the Dungeness crab fishery has been addressed by Congress. In 1996, in conjunction with the Sustainable Fisheries Act, Congress authorized the States of California, Oregon, and Washington the interim authority for the management of Dungeness crab for 3 years. During that period of time, the States showed they could cooperatively and effectively manage the Dungeness crab fishery.

When the interim authority was due to expire in 1998, the Pacific Fishery Management Council, which has the Federal management responsibility for conservation and management of the fishery, wrote to Congress requesting an extension of State management authority.

For the past 5 years, the States have been cooperatively managing the Dungeness crab fishery, which occurs in Federal waters adjacent to their States. This is an extremely valuable fishery. In fact, in the 1999-2000 season, 41.3 million pounds of Dungeness crab were landed, which had a value of \$84.2 million. This is a healthy food source for thousands of Americans.

H.R. 1661 will extend the authority for State management indefinitely. Until the Pacific Council decides it

should regain its authority through a Federal fishery management plan developed by the Council, the States will continue their cooperative management.

Congress has acted favorably on this issue in the past, and I urge passage of this non-controversial bill. I want to thank Members on both sides of the aisle for their cooperation, especially the Members who sponsored this legislation; and I want to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle for helping this legislation along.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill as well. As my colleague has explained, H.R. 1661, introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), allows the States of California, Oregon, and Washington to continue to cooperatively adopt and enforce State laws to manage the Dungeness crab fishery in Federal waters along the West Coast of the United States.

The States were first granted this interim authority in 1996 while future options for managing its fishery were explored. The compelling reason at that time was a need to accommodate the rights of Northwest Indian tribes to harvest a share of the crab resource off of the coast of Washington while the options for future management by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council were explored.

The State management program worked well, and the Pacific Fishery Management Council has requested that the Congress allow the State management authority to be extended in lieu of a Federal plan.

We have done that once already through legislation, and this bill would continue that authority indefinitely. It does not override the Council's authority in any way, as State authority would expire should the Council ever decide to develop a Federal plan. In the meantime, however, it ensures strong conservation and management of the Dungeness crab fishery, that it will continue, and is supported by all three States, the tribes, the processors and the fishermen. I urge Members to support the passage of H.R. 1661 today.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1661.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CHILD STATUS PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1209) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to determine whether an alien is a child, for purposes of classification as an immediate relative, based on the age of the alien on the date the classification petition with respect to the alien is filed, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1209

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 "Child Status Protection Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. USE OF AGE ON PETITION FILING DATE, PARENT'S NATURALIZATION DATE, OR MARRIAGE TERMINATION DATE, IN DETERMINING STATUS AS A CHILD OF A CITIZEN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) RULES FOR DETERMINING WHETHER CERTAIN ALIENS ARE IMMEDIATE RELATIVES.—

“(1) AGE ON PETITION FILING DATE.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), for purposes of subsection (b)(2)(A)(i), a determination of whether an alien satisfies the age requirement in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) of section 101(b)(1) shall be made using the age of the alien on the date on which the petition is filed with the Attorney General under section 204 to classify the alien as an immediate relative under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i).

“(2) AGE ON PARENT'S NATURALIZATION DATE.—In the case of a petition under section 204 initially filed for an alien child's classification as a family-sponsored immigrant under section 203(a)(2)(A), based on the child's parent being lawfully admitted for permanent residence, if the petition is later converted, due to the naturalization of the parent, to a petition to classify the alien as an immediate relative under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i), the determination described in paragraph (1) shall be made using the age of the alien on the date of the parent's naturalization.

“(3) AGE ON MARRIAGE TERMINATION DATE.—In the case of a petition under section 204 initially filed for an alien's classification as a family-sponsored immigrant under section 203(a)(3), based on the alien's being a married son or daughter of a citizen, if the petition is later converted, due to the legal termination of the alien's marriage, to a petition to classify the alien as an immediate relative under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i), the determination described in paragraph (1) shall be made using the age of the alien on the date of the termination of the marriage.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to all petitions and applications pending before the Department of Justice or the Department of State on or after such date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1209, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1209, the Child Status Protection Act of 2001, was introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims, and the ranking member, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

This bill is another example of Congress having to clean up a mess made by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Under current law, aliens residing in the United States who are eligible for permanent resident status must adjust their status with the INS. However, INS processing delays have caused up to a 3-year wait for adjustment. For alien children of U.S. citizens, this delay in processing can have serious consequences, for once they turn 21 years of age, they lose their immediate relative status.

An unlimited number of immediate relatives of U.S. citizens can receive green cards each year. However, there are a limited number of green cards available for the adult children of U.S. citizens.

If a U.S. citizen parent petitions for a green card for a child before that child turns 21, but the INS does not get around to processing the adjustment of status application until after the child turns 21, the family is out of luck. The child goes to the end of the waiting list. The child is being punished because of the INS ineptitude, and that is not right.

H.R. 1209 corrects this outcome by providing that a child shall remain eligible for immediate relative status as long as an immigrant visa petition was filed for him or her before turning 21.

The fact that we have to consider debate and pass this bill is just one more reason why the Immigration and Naturalization Service needs to be dismantled and restructured. I await eagerly for the administration's INS reform proposal, because it cannot come too soon. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.