

¶117.22 CHANGE OF REFERENCE—H.R. 1249

On motion of Mr. MCHUGH, by unanimous consent, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure was discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1249) to redesignate the Federal building located at 107 Federal Building, in Terre Haute, Indiana, as the "John T. Myers Federal Building".

When said bill was rereferred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

¶117.23 REDUCTION OF GREEN HOUSE GASES

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 151); as amended:

Whereas carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas, can be removed from the atmosphere by trees through photosynthesis and stored in wood;

Whereas releases of carbon dioxide can be prevented by the use of wood products as substitutes for products whose manufacture consumes fossil fuels and releases substantial amounts of carbon dioxide; and

Whereas managing our forests by planting and growing our forest resources will remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That it is the sense of the Congress that the United States—

(1) should manage its forests to maximize the reduction of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere among many other objectives; and

(2) should serve as an example and as a world leader in managing its forest in a manner that substantially reduces the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mrs. EMERSON, recognized Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. FALCOMA, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mrs. EMERSON, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

By unanimous consent, the title was amended so as to read: "Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should manage its forests to maximize the reduction of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere among many other objectives, and that the United States should serve as an example and as a world leader in managing its forests in a manner that substantially reduces the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere."

A motion to reconsider the votes whereby the rules were suspended and said concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to and the title was amended was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said concurrent resolution.

¶117.24 GRAZING AT GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

Mr. HANSEN moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 708) to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study concerning grazing use of certain land within and adjacent to Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and to extend temporarily certain grazing privileges; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mrs. EMERSON, recognized Mr. HANSEN and Mr. FALCOMA, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mrs. EMERSON, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed.

By unanimous consent, the title was amended so as to read: "An Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study concerning grazing use and open space within and adjacent to Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and to extend temporarily certain grazing privileges."

A motion to reconsider the votes whereby the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed and the title was amended was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said bill.

¶117.25 ASIAN ELEPHANT CONSERVATION

Mr. SAXTON moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1787) to assist in the conservation of Asian elephants by supporting and providing financial resources for the conservation programs of nations within the range of Asian elephants and projects of persons with demonstrated expertise in the conservation of Asian elephants; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mrs. EMERSON, recognized Mr. SAXTON and Mr. FALCOMA, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mrs. EMERSON, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said bill.

¶117.26 CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEMS

Mr. SAXTON moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following amend-

ments of the Senate to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 8) to make a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, to exclude a small parcel of land containing improvements:

Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert:

That the Congress recognizes the significance of maintaining the health and stability of coral reef ecosystems, by—

(1) promoting comprehensive stewardship for coral reef ecosystems;

(2) discouraging unsustainable fisheries or other practices that are harmful to coral reefs and human health;

(3) encouraging research, monitoring, and assessment of and education on coral reef ecosystems;

(4) improving the coordination of coral reef efforts and activities of Federal agencies, academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and industry; and

(5) promoting preservation and sustainable use of coral reef resources worldwide.

Strike out the preamble and insert:

Whereas coral reefs are among the world's most biologically diverse and productive marine habitats, and are often described as the tropical rain forest of the oceans;

Whereas healthy coral reefs provide the basis for subsistence, commercial fisheries, and coastal and marine tourism and are of vital economic importance to coastal States and territories of the United States including Florida, Hawaii, Georgia, Texas, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

Whereas healthy coral reefs function as natural, regenerating coastal barriers, protecting shorelines and coastal areas from high waves, storm surges, and accompanying losses of human life and property

Whereas the scientific community has long established that coral reefs are subject to a wide range of natural and anthropogenic threats;

Whereas a wide variety of destructive fishing practices, including the use of cyanide, other poisons, surfactants, and explosives, are contributing to the global decline of coral reef ecosystems;

Whereas the United States has taken measures to protect national coral reef resources through the designation and management of several marine protected areas, containing reefs of the Flower Garden Banks in the Gulf of Mexico, the Florida Keys in south Florida, and offshore Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa;

Whereas the United States, acting through its agencies, has established itself as a global leader in coral reef stewardship by launching the International Coral Reef Initiative and by maintaining professional networks for the purposes of sharing knowledge and information on coral reefs, furnishing near real-time data collected at coral reef sites, providing a repository for historical data relating to coral reefs, and making substantial contributions to the general fund of coral reef knowledge; and

Whereas 1997 has been declared the "International Year of the Reef" by the coral reef research community and over 40 national and international scientific, conservation, and academic organizations: Now, therefore, be it

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mrs. EMERSON, recognized Mr. SAXTON and Mr. ABERCROMBIE, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,