

As we pass this legislation, I know that the memories of those who died will live on in our hearts. They will not be defined by their tragic deaths through gun violence but by the lives they lived, the people they touched, and the love they gave.

Paraphrasing Dr. King: So I decided as an individual to stick with love because, yes, hate is too great of a burden to bear, and it has been on me, my community, my city, and my Nation for too long.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues for joining us in supporting this legislation.

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

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO).

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 49 to designate the Pulse nightclub as a national memorial site and to honor those whose lives were taken by a gunman with hate in his heart.

□ 1330

I thank the gentleman for his leadership and his response with H.R. 49 along with Congresswoman MURPHY. I visited with Mr. SOTO in Florida near Orlando and actually toured the Pulse nightclub site, and what a poignant visitation that was.

Almost 5 years ago, the Nation awoke to the heartbreaking news of a mass shooting that unfolded at a nightclub in Orlando. Forty-nine lives were taken, and 53 others were injured. It was another devastating loss to the LGBTQ-plus community and our Nation.

The gunman had targeted Pulse nightclub, a nightclub frequented by Orlando's Latino and LGBTQ-plus communities. This was a safe place for many of the people who were there that night. The shooter violated a safe space where LGBTQ people, and, in this case, LGBTQ-plus people of color were able to be themselves and to live and dance freely without fear or judgment.

Our community—that is, the LGBTQ-plus community—is still healing from this attack, and families and friends are still mourning the loss of their loved ones. I will never forget waking up in my Washington, D.C. apartment as I was scrolling through the news, and I was just in disbelief that another shooting had occurred. Since then, we have had so many other senseless shootings.

By designating the Pulse nightclub as a national memorial site, we can always remember the vibrant lives of those we lost. This memorial will serve as a reminder that we cannot stop fighting for equality.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote “yes” on H.R. 49.

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

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California, Chair TAKANO, for taking the pilgrimage to the Pulse Memorial, along with me and others and listening and paying respects. So I appreciate that.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. Five years ago, 49 people were murdered in a violent, hate-filled, mass shooting at an LGBTQ nightclub in Orlando, the Pulse nightclub. I thank Congressman SOTO for his leadership and our colleagues, Congresswoman MURPHY and Congresswoman DEMINGS. I, too, had the opportunity to go to the site and to read the beautiful notes written about the young lives that were taken that night, and the very special place that Pulse was.

I was, in fact, in Florida this weekend with Barbara Poma, the owner of the Pulse nightclub, who was leading an effort to turn this site into not only a sacred place, but a museum. I shared with her what for young LGBTQ people nightclubs were and still are, a place of sanctuary, a safe place where people can be themselves where they go to dance, to be with friends, and to share a sense of community. That was all shattered by the brutality of the events of the evening in which this occurred.

This shooting was an act of terror and an act of hate. It left the Nation really grasping for answers. In the days that followed, we heard stories of incredible courage, bravery, and resolve. But mostly, there was unspeakable pain for those who lost someone in this attack.

Although I pray that the passage of 5 years has brought some measure of relief, the truth is that their pain will never fully go away. It is critical to designate this memorial today so that our country never forgets those who were lost. Congressman SOTO will remember we had on the steps of the Capitol a beautiful remembrance with full-sized photographs of each of these young people who had so much to give and so much to offer whose lives were taken that night.

But in addition to remembering, it is also important that we take action to do everything we can to make sure that nothing like this ever happens again. Individuals who are convicted of hate crimes should never own a gun, and that is why I plan to reintroduce the Disarm Hate Act to do just that, because we know if you commit a hate crime, it often escalates and those crimes become increasingly violent as time goes on. No American family should have to suffer because of the loophole that currently exists today. Let's disarm hate once and for all.

Today, we remember the 49 young lives lost at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. Let's be sure that we designate this memorial officially, so that everyone will know the story of what hap-

pened to these young people who were killed because they were in a place of sanctuary, and safety, and community, but because they were members of the LGBTQ community, our allies.

Madam Speaker, I thank again the gentleman for yielding and for his incredible leadership on this issue, and I urge all my colleagues to vote “yes.”

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

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) for making the pilgrimage and paying his respects at the memorial.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I have no further requests for time, and I would inquire whether my colleague has any remaining speakers on his side.

Mr. WESTERMAN. In closing, Madam Speaker, again, I urge adoption of H.R. 49, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and our colleagues across the aisle for their bipartisan support of this really important bill for our Nation. I thank also Representatives DEMINGS, MURPHY, CICILLINE, and TAKANO for their support here today.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 49.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### BLACKWATER TRADING POST LAND TRANSFER ACT

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 478) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 478

*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 “Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **BLACKWATER TRADING POST LAND.**—The term “Blackwater Trading Post Land” means the approximately 55.3 acres of land as depicted on the map that—

(A) is located in Pinal County, Arizona, and bordered by Community land to the east, west, and north and State Highway 87 to the south; and

(B) is owned by the Community.

(2) **COMMUNITY.**—The term “Community” means the Gila River Indian Community of the Reservation.

(3) MAP.—The term “map” means the map entitled “Results of Survey, Ellis Property, A Portion of the West ½ of Section 12, Township 5 South, Range 7 East, Gila and Salt River Meridian, Pinal County, Arizona” and dated October 15, 2012.

(4) RESERVATION.—The term “Reservation” means the land located within the exterior boundaries of the reservation created under sections 3 and 4 of the Act of February 28, 1859 (11 Stat. 401, chapter LXVI), and Executive orders of August 31, 1876, June 14, 1879, May 5, 1882, November 15, 1883, July 31, 1911, June 2, 1913, August 27, 1914, and July 19, 1915, and any other lands placed in trust for the benefit of the Community.

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

**SEC. 3. LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST FOR BENEFIT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall take the Blackwater Trading Post land into trust for the benefit of the Community, after the Community—

(1) conveys to the Secretary all right, title, and interest of the Community in and to the Blackwater Trading Post Land;

(2) submits to the Secretary a request to take the Blackwater Trading Post Land into trust for the benefit of the Community;

(3) conducts a survey (to the satisfaction of the Secretary) to determine the exact acreage and legal description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land, if the Secretary determines a survey is necessary; and

(4) pays all costs of any survey conducted under paragraph (3).

(b) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—Not later than 180 days after the Blackwater Trading Post Land is taken into trust under subsection (a), the map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Secretary.

(c) LANDS TAKEN INTO TRUST PART OF RESERVATION.—After the date on which the Blackwater Trading Post Land is taken into trust under subsection (a), the land shall be treated as part of the Reservation.

(d) GAMING.—Class II and class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) shall not be allowed at any time on the land taken into trust under subsection (a).

(e) DESCRIPTION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall cause the full metes-and-bounds description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land to be published in the Federal Register. The description shall, on publication, constitute the official description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 478, introduced by our colleague, Representative TOM

O'HALLERAN from Arizona, authorizes the United States to place 55.3 acres of historically and culturally significant land into trust on behalf of the Gila River Indian Community of Arizona.

This parcel of land is commonly referred to as the Blackwater Trading Post Land, because it once contained the Ellis family's Blackwater Trading Post which sold goods to members of the Gila River Indian Community since the 1930s.

After purchasing the trading post in 2010, the community found around 1,000 cultural artifacts on the property, including 126 Akimel O'odham baskets. Following this discovery, the community decided to apply to take the parcel of land into trust.

However, legislation is required for this exchange, as the community's 2004 water settlement explicitly requires that any lands located outside of the community's reservation boundaries be taken into trust through congressional action.

Passage of H.R. 478 will ultimately allow the community to preserve a piece of their heritage by incorporating this contiguous parcel of land into its reservation land base.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Representative O'HALLERAN for his work on this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 478, the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act. This bill will place approximately 55 acres of land in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the Gila River Indian Community. According to the Tribe, these lands and the former Blackwater Trading Post have a historical connection to the Tribe, as the trading post served many Tribal members since at least the 1930s. In 2010, the Tribe purchased the Blackwater Trading Post and surrounding lands after the former owners retired.

Pursuant to the 2004 Arizona Water Rights Settlement Act, the Gila River Tribe cannot acquire off-reservation lands into trust absent an act of Congress.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SOTO. In closing, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation for the Gila River Community of Arizona, as corrected. I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS) who knows the State very well.

I urge support of the Gila River Indian Community of Arizona's incorporation of this additional land. I thank Representative O'HALLERAN for his leadership and the bipartisan support of the ranking member, Mr. WESTERMAN from Arkansas.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 478.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

**CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 810) to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 810

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

**SECTION 1. CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(xx) CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—The Chief Standing Bear Trail, extending approximately 550 miles from Niobrara, Nebraska, to Ponca City, Oklahoma, which follows the route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people during Federal Indian removal, and approximately 550 miles from Ponca City, Oklahoma, through Omaha, Nebraska, to Niobrara, Nebraska, which follows the return route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 810, introduced by Representative FORTENBERRY from Nebraska, would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail.