

Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail shall not preclude, limit, control, regulate, or determine the conduct or management of the activity or use.

“(F) EFFECT ON ENERGY DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, OR TRANSMISSION.—Nothing in this paragraph, the acquisition of land or an interest in land authorized by this paragraph, or any management plan for the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail shall prohibit, hinder, or disrupt the development, production, or transmission of energy.

“(G) NO EMINENT DOMAIN OR CONDEMNATION.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary of the Interior may not use eminent domain or condemnation.”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. 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 New York?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3519, the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail Designation Act, introduced by Senator BOOZMAN of Arkansas. This bill passed the Senate unanimously earlier this week.

This bill amends the National Trails Systems Act to designate the Butterfield National Historic Trail stretching from St. Louis, Missouri, to San Francisco, California.

Known as the Oxbow Trail, the Butterfield Overland Trail was an important 19th century postal route that the National Park Service studied and deemed to be nationally significant and feasible, suitable, and desirable for addition to the national trails system as a national historic trail.

I congratulate the Arkansas delegation and supporters of this bill, as this will be a great addition to a growing network of national historic trails. However, I would like to note the bill includes novel language regarding energy development that has never been included in the National Trails Act. Simply, it states that nothing in the bill shall prohibit or hinder the development, production, or transmission of energy.

While this is an important concern, historic trails designations like the one envisioned by this bill have not been an impediment to energy development. So while this is a worthy trail designation—and I support the adoption of this particular bill—I think we should be mindful of the need to include similar language in future designations.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 3519, offered by my colleague and good friend from Arkansas, Senator JOHN BOOZMAN, which would designate the Butterfield Overland Trail as a national historic trail.

This historic trail commemorates the route pioneered by the Butterfield Overland Mail Company as they transported mail and people along the Oxbow Route between 1858 and 1861. Starting in Missouri and Tennessee and ending in California, this route was pivotal to westward expansion prior to the Civil War and plays an important role in Arkansas' history.

In fact, four segments of the route have been designated on the National Register of Historic Places in Arkansas and the Potts Home in Pope County as the most intact stagecoach station in this country. This station has been well-maintained by the Pope County Historical Foundation as the Potts Inn Museum.

In 2018, the National Park Service completed a special resource study of the trail and found that the Butterfield Overland Trail meets the criteria for national significance and is feasible, suitable, and desirable for designation as a national historic trail.

I concur that this trail is well-suited for designation, and I hope that this new national historic trail will help bring renewed attention to the important role Arkansas played in shaping our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I thank Senator BOOZMAN for his steadfast leadership on this bill, an issue that he has championed since 2007. I would also like to thank him for ensuring that important provisions protecting energy development and private property rights were added to the legislation. These are commonsense provisions that will ensure the historic trail will not interfere with any energy development, production, or transmission.

On a personal note, during the summers when I was in college and I was having to carry out a long-distance relationship with my college sweetheart back before iPhones and the internet, my late father-in-law actually retired from the Postal Service, and I think it was very fitting that their address was 1208 Butterfield Trail. I sent many letters to that address during those long summers. Butterfield Trail holds a special place in my heart.

Madam Speaker, I support this bipartisan bill. I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I enjoyed hearing that bit of nostalgia. I have no further requests for time. I have no other speakers. I urge my colleagues to support this 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 New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3519.

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.

AMENDING THE FARM SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT OF 2002

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 5328) to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to extend terminal lakes assistance.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 5328

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

SECTION 1. TERMINAL LAKES ASSISTANCE.

Section 2507(f) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb-6(f)) is amended by striking “2023” and inserting “2025”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 5328. This legislation will enable the desert terminal lakes assistance program to fulfill its intended purpose while bringing the program to an orderly closure. S. 5328 amends the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 by changing the program's sunset date from October 1, 2023, to October 1, 2025.

The program has successfully improved the water supply to Walker Lake, Pyramid, and Summit Lakes for the benefit of at-risk natural desert terminal lakes and associated riparian and watershed resources.

To date, the program has secured over half of the water to reach the restoration goal for Walker Lake while also protecting agricultural interests in Nevada and California. The program has brought nearly 20,000 acres under sustainable management.

With an additional 2 years, the program can maximize conservation outcomes while supporting agricultural producers and ensure that maximum outcomes are achieved as the program

ends. The ability to complete the program in an orderly way and fully spend the funds allocated back in 2014 will enable 70 to 80 percent completion of Walker Lake's restoration goals.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, the desert terminal lakes program was created to help restore terminal lakes, provide conservation benefits, and protect agricultural and other interests throughout surrounding watersheds.

However, with the program's sunset date approaching on October 1, 2023, this legislation will authorize the program an additional 2 years, through October 1, 2025.

This program has been credited with conserving significant amounts of water to protect Tribal, agricultural, environmental, and habitat interests. By extending the program's sunset, Congress ensures that the program has the opportunity to finish up the effective conservation work achieved by the program and the ability to shut down in a fiscally responsible manner.

Funding for the program has already been obligated and uses have already been identified for the remaining money. This bill does not authorize any new funding, and the CBO estimates that the bill will have no budgetary impacts.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate my colleagues' attention to this matter, and I urge them to join me in supporting this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close debate.

I appreciate the comments from the gentleman from Pennsylvania and agree with him completely. The focus that he has placed on recognizing how valuable this program has been in conserving water, how effective it has been, and how this fix in this legislation will ensure that we can in a fiscally responsible and without budgetary impact way ensure this program's success by extending it for an additional 2 years is exactly why I urge everyone to vote for this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 5328.

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.

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JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF WAR CRIMES ACT

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4240) to amend section 2441 of title 18, United States Code, to broaden the scope of individuals subject to prosecution for war crimes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4240

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 "Justice for Victims of War Crimes Act".

SEC. 2. WAR CRIMES.

Section 2441 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) JURISDICTION.—There is jurisdiction over an offense described in subsection (a) if—

"(1) the offense occurs in whole or in part within the United States; or

"(2) regardless of where the offense occurs—

"(A) the victim or offender is—

"(i) a national of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence; or

"(ii) a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, regardless of nationality; or

"(B) the offender is present in the United States, regardless of the nationality of the victim or offender."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(e) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LIMITATIONS.—In the case of an offense described in subsection (a) and further described in subsections (c)(1) and (c)(3), an indictment may be found or an information may be instituted at any time without limitation.

"(f) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—No prosecution for an offense described in subsection (a) shall be undertaken by the United States except on written certification of the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General, or an Assistant Attorney General, which function of approving prosecutions may not be delegated, that a prosecution by the United States is in the public interest and necessary to secure substantial justice.

"(2) OFFENDER PRESENT IN UNITED STATES.—For an offense for which jurisdiction exists under subsection (b)(2)(B) (and does not exist under any other provision of subsection (b)), the written certification required under paragraph (1) of this subsection that a prosecution by the United States is in the public interest and necessary to secure substantial justice shall be made by the Attorney General or the Deputy Attorney General, which function may not be delegated. In issuing such certification, the same official shall weigh and consider, among other relevant factors—

"(A) whether the alleged offender can be removed from the United States for purposes of prosecution in another jurisdiction; and

"(B) potential adverse consequences for nationals, servicemembers, or employees of the United States.

"(g) INPUT FROM OTHER AGENCY HEADS.—The Secretary of Defense and Secretary of State may submit to the Attorney General for consideration their views generally regarding potential benefits, or potential adverse consequences for nationals, servicemembers, or employees of the United

States, of prosecutions of offenses for which jurisdiction exists under subsection (b)(2)(B).

"(h) NO JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Certifications under subsection (f) and input from other agency heads under subsection (g) are not subject to judicial review.

"(i) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as—

"(1) support for ratification of or accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which entered into force on July 1, 2002; or

"(2) consent by the United States to any assertion or exercise of jurisdiction by any international, hybrid, or foreign court.".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GARCIA of Texas). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NADLER. 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 S. 4240.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, in the shadow of the Second World War, we joined with other nations to sign the four Geneva Conventions, fulfilling the promise of the Nuremberg trials to ensure that war criminals and perpetrators of crimes against humanity could and would be held accountable for their actions.

Today, with passage of the Justice for Victims of War Crimes Act, we will close a dangerous loophole that has allowed this promise to ring hollow for some.

Unfortunately, under current law, the United States can only prosecute people who have engaged in violations of international humanitarian law in cases where the alleged perpetrator or victim is a U.S. national or a member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

As a result, even if a foreign national war criminal is located in the U.S., they cannot be prosecuted for their war crimes committed against other foreign nationals.

Americans pride themselves on belonging to a country that presents itself to the world as a beacon of justice, a home for the persecuted, and an enforcer of peace, but because of this gap in our laws, the United States has become a safe haven for perpetrators of war crimes in international conflicts.

This missing piece in our criminal laws constricts our ability to hold individuals accountable in conflicts arising around the world. For example, Russian oligarchs have found refuge in the United States and will continue to do so until the Justice for Victims of War Crimes Act becomes law.

This legislation fixes a loophole in the 1996 War Crimes Act by permitting