

remedy of a violation of a grant requirement under such provision, whether the covered recipient was in compliance with subsection (a)(1)(D) at the time of such violation.

(j) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Director, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report summarizing, with respect to the previous calendar year—

(1) each report received under subsection (d)(2);

(2) each investigation concluded by the Inspector General under subsection (f)(2), including the purpose and duration of such investigation;

(3) each administrative action taken with respect to a covered recipient to enforce this Act;

(4) information about the action taken by each covered recipient to abate a gross violation of internationally recognized human rights;

(5) information about remedial actions taken by the Director pursuant to subsection (i);

(6) explanations for each extension of time given under subsection (d)(3); and

(7) a summary of allegations and information that the Director did not refer to the Inspector General and the explanation for why such information was not referred.

(k) SAFEGUARD FOR SENSITIVE INFORMATION.—In carrying out this section, the Director may take such measures and withhold such information as the Director determines necessary to protect the safety of individuals—

(1) who are victims, or at risk of being victims, of a gross violation of internationally recognized human rights; and

(2) who provide information regarding a potential gross violation of internationally recognized human rights.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HERRELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. 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 California?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7025 is a bipartisan bill led by the chair and the ranking member of the Natural Resources Committee. It will significantly improve the management and oversight of international conservation programs at the Department of the Interior.

Over the past couple of years, our committee conducted a bipartisan investigation into the role of the Worldwide Wildlife Fund, or WWF, and the Department of the Interior, DOI, regarding allegations of human rights abuses at conservation parks around the world.

The reports are deeply upsetting, describing decades of abuse toward indigenous and local people in the name of conservation.

The committee's oversight hearing in October revealed numerous shortcomings in how WWF carries out its work and how DOI oversees grant funding in challenging locations.

These allegations aren't unique. Leading voices at the U.N. and elsewhere have, for years, warned of grave abuses in the name of conservation, in large part due to the colonial-based "fortress conservation model" that kicked indigenous and local people off their lands to set up protected areas.

International conservation efforts are critical to the success of our national security, international development, climate, and biodiversity goals.

However, when investing in these goals, we must ensure commonsense safeguards are in place that protect human rights. This bill does that.

First, it expands human rights vetting to international Fish and Wildlife Service-funded conservation projects. It prohibits Fish and Wildlife Service funds from going to armed groups that commit gross violations of human rights.

Second, the bill establishes a thorough, fair, and transparent process for investigating credible allegations of human rights abuses.

Third, this legislation weaves the highest human rights standards into grant contracts.

This bill is common sense, it is good government, and it will make international conservation more successful, benefiting local and indigenous community members and the planet.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this legislation and reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7025, the Advancing Human Rights-Centered International Conservation Act of 2022.

This bill is the result of a bipartisan investigation on how the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's international grant program helped fund human rights atrocities committed by eco-paramilitary forces in Africa and elsewhere.

The bipartisan investigation led to an oversight hearing at the Committee on Natural Resources last year, where we heard from expert witnesses about the need for reform in this program. The hearing and the findings of our investigation ultimately led to this bill.

The fundamental concepts of this bill are agency accountability and transparency. This bill would specifically require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to vet the human rights record of conservation groups and their subgrantees prior to awarding the grant.

The inclusion of subgrantees is critical. Unfortunately, we have seen some conservation groups avoid taking responsibility for the actions of their subgrantees.

Experts, such as Wake Forest University International Law Professor John Knox, who has extensive knowledge on

this issue, recommended this reform. Mr. Knox and other witnesses and experts have been instrumental in helping the committee throughout the legislative process.

The experts and bipartisan members of the committee agree that the Federal Government has a responsibility to ensure that American taxpayer dollars are not being spent to perpetuate human rights abuses. This bill requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to live up to that responsibility.

This legislation is a much-needed and significant change from the status quo. This is a matter where both sides of the aisle have come together to ensure our conservation efforts do not occur at the cost of human lives.

I thank Ranking Member WESTERMAN and Chairman GRIJALVA and their staffs for their hard work and cooperation on this bill. I urge adoption of this bill and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New Mexico for mentioning Professor Knox. He was an outstanding witness in our hearings on this subject.

The truth is, the product of 3 years of work that is before us today was a really good exercise in bipartisan leadership, so I appreciate that.

I have no further requests for time and am prepared to close, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HERRELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this legislation and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7025, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. 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 question are postponed.

NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7693) to amend title 54, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Park Foundation.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7693

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 "National Park Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION.

Section 101122(a) of title 54, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “\$5,000,000” and inserting “\$15,000,000”; and

(2) by striking “2023” and inserting “2030”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HERRELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. 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 California?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7693, the National Park Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2022.

This bill will ensure that the congressionally chartered philanthropic partner of the National Park Service can continue supporting our parks for years to come.

Specifically, this bill will reauthorize Federal funding for the National Park Foundation through 2030 and increase the overall annual authorization level from \$5 million to \$15 million.

This is a smart and commonsense investment in the future of our national parks. Every Federal dollar requires a minimum 1-to-1 match with private dollars, creating a multiplying effect that reaches units throughout the entire system.

After more than 100 incredible years, our national parks are more popular than ever. This means they need our support to ensure that the National Park Service can address challenges that include aging infrastructure, overcrowding, and inconsistent funding from Congress.

The National Park Foundation is a key partner and ally. Innovative partnerships that leverage Federal investments and private donations help our parks thrive. I am proud to support this bill today so that the foundation can keep serving this important role.

Later this week, we will consider the Interior Appropriations legislation, which includes vital funding for the National Park Service.

I thank my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee for developing a bill that includes a robust investment in our national parks, and I hope that Congress can keep making sound investments that ensure the National Park Service continues to thrive throughout its second century and beyond.

I thank our colleague, Ranking Member WESTERMAN, for introducing this important legislation. Mr. Speaker, I

urge my colleagues to vote “yes,” and reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7693, the National Park Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2022. This bipartisan bill has the support of 51 cosponsors. This bill will leverage private investment and innovative public-private partnerships to reduce the \$21.8 billion deferred maintenance backlog at our national parks, and address pressing issues like park overcrowding.

Very importantly, the foundation is required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match with private funds for their Federal appropriations, and Federal funds cannot be used by the National Park Foundation for overhead, administrative expenses, or land acquisition.

In 2016, Congress passed the National Park Service Centennial Act, which authorized the National Park Foundation, the official charitable partner of the National Park Service, to receive up to \$5 million in discretionary appropriations annually through fiscal year 2023.

The foundation utilizes its Federal appropriations to work with local partners and leverage private investment to achieve the greatest impact possible.

The foundation works together with the National Park Service to identify projects, including rehabilitating trails, visitor centers and other facilities, expanding youth access, and conserving park habitat.

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To date, the Foundation has routinely exceeded the minimum 1-to-1 required match and has more than \$20 million worth of projects awaiting funding in the pipeline.

Since first receiving an appropriation in fiscal year 2018, the Foundation has funded more than 100 projects in 32 States and two territories. By the end of next year, the Foundation plans to have funded projects in all 50 States and multiple territories.

This bill builds on the National Park Foundation’s success by creating additional opportunities to encourage even more private funding for the parks.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 7693, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7693.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. 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 question are postponed.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE SOVEREIGN DECISION OF FINLAND AND SWEDEN TO APPLY TO JOIN THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) AS WELL AS CALLING ON ALL MEMBERS OF NATO TO RATIFY THE PROTOCOLS OF ACCESSION SWIFTLY

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1130) expressing support for the sovereign decision of Finland and Sweden to apply to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as well as calling on all members of NATO to ratify the protocols of accession swiftly, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1130

Whereas Finland and Sweden have made a historic decision to deepen their security ties with the transatlantic community;

Whereas a more resilient security architecture in Europe advances democracy, human rights, and values consistent with the North Atlantic Treaty;

Whereas, on April 4, 1949, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, hereinafter referred to as NATO, to serve as a defensive alliance based on promoting democratic values and the peaceful mediation of disputes;

Whereas NATO membership is open to “any other European state in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area”;

Whereas Finland and Sweden are European states with strong democratic foundations that share the transatlantic community’s dedication to the rule of law and the peaceful resolution of disputes;

Whereas Finland and Sweden have been members of NATO’s Partnership for Peace program since 1994 and have contributed to NATO-led operations in the Balkans, Afghanistan, and Iraq;

Whereas NATO established the Partnership Interoperability Initiative at the Wales Summit in 2014 to develop military-to-military interoperability between select partner nations enabling them to contribute to future crisis management, including NATO-led operations;

Whereas Finland and Sweden were designated inaugural Enhanced Opportunities Partners at the Wales Summit in 2014;

Whereas the hard-fought post-World War II European security architecture has been upended by the Russian Federation’s cruel full-scale invasion of Ukraine which began on February 24, 2022;

Whereas the Russian Federation’s invasion has fomented the worst European humanitarian crisis since World War II with 4,339 civilian deaths, 4.8 million Ukrainian refugees across Europe, and 7.1 million more internally displaced within Ukraine, according to the United States Agency for International Development as of June 10, 2022;

Whereas Finland and Sweden’s populations expressed support for NATO membership;