

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

# DUCK STAMP MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2023

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 788) to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow States to issue fully electronic stamps under that Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 788

*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 “Duck Stamp Modernization Act of 2023”.

## SEC. 2. AUTHORIZING FULLY ELECTRONIC STAMPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 (16 U.S.C. 718r) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “ACTUAL STAMP” and inserting “ELECTRONIC STAMP”;

(B) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “an actual stamp” and inserting “the electronic stamp”; and

(C) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) on the date of purchase of the electronic stamp; and”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “actual stamps” and inserting “actual stamps under subsection (e)”;

(3) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) DELIVERY OF ACTUAL STAMPS.—The Secretary shall issue an actual stamp after March 10 of each year to each individual that purchased an electronic stamp for the preceding waterfowl season.”.

(b) CONTENTS OF ELECTRONIC STAMP.—Section 2 of the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 (16 U.S.C. 718o) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Federal” and all that follows through “that is printed” and inserting “Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp required under the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act (16 U.S.C. 718a et seq.) that is printed”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) may contain an image of the actual stamp.”.

(c) STAMP VALID THROUGH CLOSE OF HUNTING SEASON.—Section 6 of the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 (16 U.S.C. 718s) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “shall, during the effective period of the electronic stamp—” and inserting “shall—”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “for a period agreed to by the State and the Secretary, which shall not exceed 45 days” and inserting “through the first June 30 that occurs after the date of issuance of the electronic stamp by the State”.

(d) ELECTRONIC STAMPS AS PERMIT.—Section 1(a)(1) of the Migratory Bird Hunting

and Conservation Stamp Act (16 U.S.C. 718a(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “as an electronic stamp (as defined in section 2 of the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 (16 U.S.C. 718o)) or” after “Conservation Stamp,”; and

(2) by striking “face of the stamp” and inserting “face of the actual stamp (as defined in that section)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 788, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 788, sponsored by my friend and fellow Razorback, Senator JOHN BOOZMAN from Arkansas. This bill makes commonsense improvements to wildlife regulations by modernizing how waterfowl hunters across the country can purchase a Federal duck stamp.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), who had a companion bill in the House that went through our committee.

The Federal duck stamp was first created when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act into law in 1934. The law required waterfowl and other migratory bird hunters, ages 16 and over, to purchase and possess a valid duck stamp prior to taking migratory waterfowl.

Current law requires hunters to physically possess a signed duck stamp while hunting for any migratory waterfowl. Even in States where electronic licensing is used, a signed physical duck stamp is required.

Mr. Speaker, on my mobile phone, I have the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission hunting app. Right here, front and center, I have my Federal duck stamp electronically. Technically, I would be breaking the law if a game warden approached me when I was hunting and this is all that I had. I still have to carry my little duck stamps in my pocket that are signed, both the State and Federal duck stamps.

This bill would modernize that program so that these electronic duck stamps would suffice if you were approached by a game warden.

S. 788 modernizes the program by removing the 45-day requirement to have a physical duck stamp and allowing States the option to sell electronic duck stamps for the entirety of the hunting season.

Under this bill, purchasers would still receive the physical stamp at the end of their State waterfowl season, therefore preserving the long legacy of the Federal duck stamp for generations to come.

This is a good governance approach that will continue the unmatched American tradition of wildlife conservation through sportsmen participation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GARRET GRAVES of Louisiana for his tireless work on this issue. He sponsored the House companion to S. 788. After today, this legislation is one step closer to becoming law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the duck stamp, or Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, is the only Federal conservation revenue stamp. This means that 98 percent of the sale price is used to purchase conservation easements and to acquire wetland habitats for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The duck stamp also provides an opportunity to showcase wildlife art, with the Fish and Wildlife Service hosting an art competition each year and the winning piece selected for next year's design.

Sportsmen and women, artists, and conservationists purchase duck stamps as a collectible to cover entry fees to any National Wildlife Refuge System unit, as a hunting license, or as a donation to conservation.

Millions of stamps have been sold in recent years, contributing tens of millions of dollars toward conservation each year. This bipartisan bill would modernize government services by allowing online access to the Federal duck stamp. It would save applicants and agency officials time and money and make it more accessible for hunters, conservationists, and collectors to purchase duck stamps and to support wetland conservation.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), where I understand that if you can't get to a hunt in Arkansas, it is not a bad place to go as a consolation.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas and the gentlewoman from Oregon for their cooperation on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I note that my friend from Arkansas, whether he has the electronic stamp or the physical stamp, I feel that the ducks in Arkansas are safe. I have seen him shoot and am confident that those ducks are safe.

Seriously, Mr. Speaker, oftentimes, when Congress acts, I think the American people need to be very concerned.

In this case, I think it is a really good thing that is happening today.

As my friends have discussed, back in 1934, President Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act into law. Today, over 1.6 million hunters go out and buy a physical duck stamp every single year.

This has resulted in over \$1.1 billion being invested in conservation. This has benefited over 6 million acres of our national wildlife refuges around the United States. This is a great program.

As my friend from Arkansas indicated, there is a compliance issue. With the great work that was done in 2013 to allow for an electronic duck stamp, there is a lag time between when the duck stamp is purchased and when the physical stamp comes in. You could find hunters out of compliance, despite the fact that they bought a stamp. Simply, this legislation fixes that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Senate cosponsors of this legislation who have jumped in, Senators BOOZMAN, MANCHIN, MARSHALL, and KING, for introducing the House companion—I want to be clear, the House companion. This was a House bill and has already passed out of the House, but now, the Senate is refusing to take our bill up, so we find ourselves here.

In any case, I think this is good news. We are going to take the win. I appreciate the opportunity to move forward.

The bottom line is that this ensures that hunters can be compliant and are not going to get fined for not having the physical stamp. Importantly, it preserves the physical stamp that will continue to be mailed. It still is available to be purchased at local sporting goods stores and post offices all around the United States.

We can continue to ensure compliance and ensure the enjoyment of waterfowl all over the United States, whether you are in North Dakota or south Louisiana or even in the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee's State, Arkansas.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman MIKE THOMPSON from California, who is the bipartisan cosponsor on this legislation. I urge adoption.

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from Arkansas and Louisiana, who represent great States to go hunting in if you can't make it all the way out to Oregon. I welcome you all there.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill, and it should pass. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I hope this can be unanimous, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to make clear that the gentleman from Louisiana, even though he looks like a duck commander, he is not a duck commander, but he does enjoy the outdoors.

The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, which is based on a user pays system through the purchase

of items like the Federal duck stamp, is the envy of the world. In total, fees paid by the sportsmen communities contribute over \$1 billion in revenue annually that goes toward wildlife conservation, which is truly a remarkable achievement.

S. 788 is a commonsense, bipartisan bill that underpins the Northern American model by giving hunters certainty and modernizing the Federal duck stamp process.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 788.

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. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

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#### PROTECT SMALL BUSINESS AND PREVENT ILLICIT FINANCIAL ACTIVITY ACT

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5119) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide small businesses with additional time to file beneficial ownership information, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5119

*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 "Protect Small Business and Prevent Illicit Financial Activity Act".

#### SEC. 2. BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INFORMATION REPORTING DEADLINES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

Section 5336(b)(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by inserting "(but which may not adjust the report submission deadline)" after "Treasury"; and

(B) by striking "in a timely manner, and";

(2) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by inserting "(but which may not adjust the report submission deadline)" after "Treasury"; and

(B) by striking "at the time of" and inserting "not later than 90 days after the date of such";

(3) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) by inserting "(but which may not adjust the report submission deadline)" after "Treasury"; and

(B) by striking "in a timely manner, and not later than 1 year" and inserting "not later than 90 days"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(H) UNABLE TO OBTAIN.—FinCEN may not by rule, guidance, or otherwise, permit a re-

porting company from submitting a report relating to the inability of the reporting company to obtain or identify information in the alternative to submitting a report required under this subsection."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUNN) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. 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 this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, American small businesses are the backbone of our economy. There are nearly 32.6 million small businesses operating in our country, and in my home State of Iowa, that makes up more than one-half of the businesses, those that are on Main Street in our hometown communities and right in the storefront where Americans shop and spend their time each week.

However, these small businesses are under attack from a Federal bureaucracy in D.C. trying to burden them in red tape, and alarmingly, also from our adversaries overseas, specifically Chinese Communist Party entities, that have infiltrated our country with shell companies that jeopardize our national security, violate our intellectual property laws, and hurt our economy both locally and globally.

Recent reports suggest that the Chinese Communist Party has more than 40,000 shell companies operating in the United States today. They use these companies to launder money, peddle drugs, and collect sensitive information on our people and our Nation. We cannot, we must not, and, today, we will not allow that to happen.

In 2020, Congress passed the Corporate Transparency Act to shut down these illegal shell companies, but, right now, foreign-owned entities use these shell companies and exploit a loophole in this law by checking a box on the required form claiming that they don't know who owns the company, which, of course, we all know—both Republican and Democrat—is completely absurd.

Once enacted, our bipartisan Protect Small Business and Prevent Illicit Financial Activity Act will finally close this loophole and will also reduce the burdensome red tape for the legitimate American businesses who are trying to do that which they have done so well for so long: serve our hometown communities.

First, these shell companies will no longer be able to exploit the system by