

This is a well-deserved honor for Senator Sarbanes.

He played a key role in securing the Federal funding for the visitor center at Fort McHenry. Fort McHenry is an important historic site. Thanks to Senator Sarbanes, visitors have access to exhibits and resources to further their education about the fort and its key importance in the War of 1812.

Beyond his work at Fort McHenry, Senator Sarbanes was a giant, both in the United States Senate and in the State of Maryland.

About 30 years ago this month, I had the honor of joining the staff and serving as counsel to Senator Paul Sarbanes during the Whitewater investigations. I had watched him during the Watergate hearings when I was a young man. I was one of those strange kids who came home from school and put on the hearings. We didn't have C-SPAN yet, so this was my first chance to actually see Congress in action. The two people who stood out for me were Barbara Jordan and Paul Sarbanes.

He was a great boss and a great mentor for me, and I wouldn't be here today in the House of Representatives without his influence, his guidance, and his assistance to me and my career.

It was a tremendous privilege to work for him. It is a tremendous privilege to be able to speak on his behalf today, and I ask all of my colleagues to support the passage of this legislation.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is a straightforward bill that would honor the work and legacy of a devoted public servant. I urge the adoption of 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 Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6826.

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.

AMERICA'S CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3791) to reauthorize the America's Conservation Enhancement Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3791

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT, DISEASE, AND PREDATION

Sec. 101. Losses of livestock due to depredation by federally protected species.

Sec. 102. Black vulture livestock protection program.

Sec. 103. Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force.

Sec. 104. Protection of water, oceans, coasts, and wildlife from invasive species.

Sec. 105. North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

Sec. 106. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act.

Sec. 107. Modification of definition of sport fishing equipment under TSCA.

Sec. 108. Chesapeake Bay Program.

Sec. 109. Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998.

Sec. 110. Chesapeake Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense.

TITLE II—NATIONAL FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Sec. 201. National Fish Habitat Board.

Sec. 202. Fish Habitat Partnerships.

Sec. 203. Fish habitat conservation projects.

Sec. 204. Technical and scientific assistance.

Sec. 205. Accountability and reporting.

Sec. 206. Funding.

Sec. 207. Technical correction.

TITLE I—WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT, DISEASE, AND PREDATION

SEC. 101. LOSSES OF LIVESTOCK DUE TO DEPRE- DATION BY FEDERALLY PROTECTED SPECIES.

Section 102(d) of the America's Conservation Enhancement Act (7 U.S.C. 8355(d)) is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

SEC. 102. BLACK VULTURE LIVESTOCK PROTE- TION PROGRAM.

Section 103 of the America's Conservation Enhancement Act (7 U.S.C. 8356) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by inserting “; **BLACK VULTURE LIVESTOCK PROTECTION PROGRAM**” after “**COMMON RAVENS**” and conforming the table of contents accordingly;

(2) by redesignating subsections (a) through (c) as paragraphs (1) through (3), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(3) in each of paragraphs (2) and (3) (as so redesignated), by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”;

(4) by inserting before paragraph (1) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(a) **DEPREDAION PERMITS FOR BLACK VULTURES AND COMMON RAVENS.**—”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) **BLACK VULTURE LIVESTOCK PROTECTION PROGRAM.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, in coordination with States, shall carry out, through fiscal year 2030, a black vulture livestock protection program (referred to in this subsection as the “program”) that allows 1 public entity or Farm Bureau organization per State to hold a statewide depredation permit to protect commercial agriculture livestock from black vulture predation.

“(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—Each public entity or Farm Bureau organization that holds a depredation permit under the program—

“(A) shall—

“(i) demonstrate sufficient experience and capacity to provide government regulated services to the public, as determined by the Secretary;

“(ii) submit a complete depredation permit application, as determined by the Secretary, for review and approval according to proce-

dures of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

“(iii) be responsible for complying with, and ensuring subpermittee compliance with, as applicable, all permit conditions; and

“(iv) be responsible for collecting, managing, and reporting required information under the permit; and

“(B) may subpermit to livestock producers to take black vultures for the purposes of livestock protection.

“(3) **STUDY.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, shall carry out a study on whether prescribed take levels of black vultures may be increased for subpermittees within a biologically sustainable take level for the population.

“(4) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, shall submit to the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report on the status of the program, including the results of the study required under paragraph (3).”.

SEC. 103. CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE TASK FORCE.

Section 104 of the America's Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 667h) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “after the completion of the study required by subsection (c)”;

(B) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking “180 days after the date on which the study is completed under subsection (c)” and inserting “90 days after the date of the enactment of the America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024. The efforts of the Task Force shall not be contingent on the completion of the study required by subsection (c)”;

(2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

SEC. 104. PROTECTION OF WATER, OCEANS, COASTS, AND WILDLIFE FROM INVASIVE SPECIES.

Section 10(p) of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 666c-1(p)) is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

SEC. 105. NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT.

Section 7(c) of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4406(c)) is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

SEC. 106. NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION ESTABLISHMENT ACT.

Section 10 of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3709) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and cooperative agreements,” and inserting “, cooperative agreements, participating agreements, and similar instruments used for providing partnership funds,”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively;

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) **FUNDING AGREEMENTS.**—Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities

may enter into a Federal funding agreement with the Foundation for a period of not more than 10 years.”; and

(D) in subparagraph (C) (as so redesignated), by inserting “, and should when possible,” after “may”.

SEC. 107. MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF SPORT FISHING EQUIPMENT UNDER TSCA.

Section 108(a) of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 note) is amended by striking “During the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act” and inserting “During the period beginning on the date of enactment of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024 and ending on September 30, 2030”.

SEC. 108. CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM.

Section 117(j) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1267(j)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030, \$92,000,000.”.

SEC. 109. CHESAPEAKE BAY INITIATIVE ACT OF 1998.

Section 502(c) of the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-312; 112 Stat. 2963; 134 Stat. 920) is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

SEC. 110. CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED INVESTMENTS FOR LANDSCAPE DEFENSE.

Section 111(e)(1) of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (33 U.S.C. 1267 note) is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

TITLE II—NATIONAL FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

SEC. 201. NATIONAL FISH HABITAT BOARD.

Section 203 of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 8203) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “26 members” and inserting “28 members”; and

(B) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) 2 shall be representatives of the Department of the Interior, including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management;”; and

(C) by striking subparagraphs (G) and (H) and inserting the following:

“(G) 2 shall be representatives of Indian Tribes, of whom—

“(i) 1 shall be a representative of Indian Tribes in the State of Alaska; and

“(ii) 1 shall be a representative of Indian Tribes in States other than the State of Alaska;

“(H) 2 shall be representatives of—

“(i) the Regional Fishery Management Councils established by section 302(a)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1852(a)(1)); or

“(ii) the Marine Fisheries Commissions;”; and

(2) in subsection (e)(1)(B), by striking “all members” and inserting “the members present”.

SEC. 202. FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIPS.

Section 204 of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 8204) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, subject to paragraph (3),” after “Act and”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) LIMITATION.—The Board shall only submit a report required under paragraph (1)

in the fiscal years in which the Board is proposing modifications to, or new designations of, 1 or more Partnerships.”; and

(2) by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

“(f) DESIGNATION OR MODIFICATION OF PARTNERSHIP.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Congress shall have the exclusive authority to designate or modify a Partnership.

“(2) DESIGNATION OR MODIFICATION PROCESS.—A Partnership designation or modification the Board recommends to Congress shall be deemed to be approved by Congress if Congress does not pass a joint resolution of disapproval with respect to the designation or modification by the date that is 90 days after the date on which the relevant congressional committees receive such recommendation.”.

SEC. 203. FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION PROJECTS.

Section 205 of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 8205) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “for the following fiscal year”; and

(2) in subsection (e)—

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

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of the total cost of all fish habitat conservation projects carried out by a Partnership each year shall be at least 50 percent.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Such non-Federal share of the cost of a fish habitat conservation project” and inserting “The non-Federal share described in paragraph (1)”.

SEC. 204. TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASSISTANCE.

Section 206(a) of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 8206(a)) is amended by inserting “, the Bureau of Land Management,” after “the Forest Service”.

SEC. 205. ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING.

Section 209 of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 8209) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b);

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking the subsection designation and heading and all that follows through “Not later than” in paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than”; and

(B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as subsection (b) and indenting appropriately; and

(3) in subsection (b) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “subsection (a)”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) as paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (5), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(C) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(4) a description of the status of fish habitats in the United States as identified by Partnerships; and”; and

(E) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (i) through (v) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively, and indenting appropriately; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C) (as so redesignated), by redesignating subclauses (I) and (II) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and indenting appropriately.

SEC. 206. FUNDING.

Section 212(a) of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 8212(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by inserting “PARTNERSHIPS AND” after “HABITAT”;

(B) by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”; and

(C) by inserting “Partnership operations under section 204 and” after “to provide funds for”;

(2) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”; and

(3) in paragraph (3), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

SEC. 207. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Section 211 of the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 8211) is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)” and inserting “Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Federal Advisory Committee Act’)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) 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 may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 3791, 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. 3791, the America’s Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act, or the ACE Act.

This bill seeks to improve and codify a series of collaborative conservation efforts between the Federal Government, States, and wildlife and sportsmen organizations that have resulted in positive results for numerous species.

S. 3791 would first reauthorize a series of successful conservation programs, such as the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Chesapeake Bay Program.

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act, or NAWCA, is particularly important to my home State of Arkansas. As the only Federal grant program solely dedicated to wetlands conservation, NAWCA has conserved over 31 million acres of wetland habitat for waterfowl.

This is critical for my State, as over 100,000 people each year visit Arkansas for the best waterfowl hunting in the country and to hunt in the pristine flooded timber and rice fields of the Natural State.

Title II of the bill makes important technical changes to the National Fish Habitat Partnership program. These changes include ensuring that Tribes, regional fishery management councils, and marine fisheries commissions are

represented on the National Fish Habitat Board and can contribute to reviewing project proposals and allocating grant dollars.

I also commend the work of the sponsor of the House companion of this bill, Congressman ROB WITTMAN of Virginia, who is a true champion of our country's wildlife and sportsmen.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 3791 would reauthorize several critical wildlife and habitat bills through 2030.

These include the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act, the Chesapeake Bay Program, and the National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships program.

The bill would also codify important new programs, such as the black vulture livestock protection program and make technical changes to the National Fish Habitat Partnership and board.

As we know, in the Great Lakes, wetlands, estuaries, and other fish habitats are crucial in providing ecosystem services. They enhance water quality, offer essential habitat for fish and wildlife, mitigate coastal storm impacts, and improve water supply. To conserve and restore these environments, partnerships among Federal, State, and regional entities leverage their diverse resources, expertise, and capabilities to maximize their impacts.

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act exemplifies a successful partnership-based program, utilizing non-Federal partnerships to protect and restore wetlands and related habitats. This is one of the most cost-effective conservation programs out there, where more than \$3 in non-Federal contributions are made for every Federal dollar invested.

Similarly, the Chesapeake Bay Program brings together stakeholders, academic institutions, and local governments to collaboratively restore and preserve the Chesapeake Bay. The bay provides over \$130 billion annually in natural benefits, including improved air, water, and soil quality as well as critical fisheries habitat.

Additionally, the National Fish Habitat Partnership unites 20 regional fish habitat partnerships to restore aquatic ecosystems' health. Since its inception in 2006, the partnership has rehabilitated tens of thousands of acres of freshwater habitat and over 2,000 miles of rivers, generating more than \$1 billion in economic value.

Finally, the amendments to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation authorization will help the foundation and Federal agencies better align priorities, report on the status of programs, and help grantees run their programs efficiently.

I am proud to support the bipartisan effort to reauthorize these essential

wildlife conservation programs. These efforts are critical steps toward addressing the Nation's growing biodiversity crisis.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN).

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for his leadership on the committee and for his efforts to make sure that the America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act comes before this body and ultimately gets signed into law.

The act is better known as the ACE Reauthorization Act, and ace it definitely is. It is the ace that we need in our hand to make sure we are there on the side of our natural resources across this Nation.

This pivotal piece of legislation signifies our commitment to preserving the natural beauty of our great Nation while promoting sustainable practices for future generations. As a lifelong outdoorsman, I am committed to ensuring all Americans have the opportunity to get out and enjoy the outdoors, from the Pacific Ocean to our wonderful national treasure, the Chesapeake Bay.

This legislation, which has been amended to contain my House Natural Resources-passed companion language, provides authorization for some of the most effective conservation programs in the history of this Nation.

This bill would reauthorize the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, which protects waterfowl, fish, and wildlife resources across this Nation and, most importantly, preserves critical wetland habitat, which is disappearing at an alarming rate.

It supports local economies that depend on outdoor recreation, tourism, and agriculture. It also preserves American traditions, such as hunting, fishing, bird-watching, family farming, and cattle ranching.

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Mr. Speaker, this is one of the most successful public-private partnerships in the history of this Nation. This program leverages more than \$2 of private money to \$1 of public money. All of these dollars come from sportsmen, whether it is through buying a duck stamp to go hunt waterfowl or just to enjoy doing bird watching, which we know our colleague from Virginia enjoys quite a bit of.

It is incredibly impactful for this Nation to understand that also, on the public side, these dollars from duck stamps are matched with sportsmen who are passionate about these resources, whether it is the waterfowl, the shore birds, or the wetland habitats, and organizations like Ducks Unlimited and Delta Waterfowl. Those organizations work tirelessly to raise these dollars, and all of these go to preserving that critical habitat.

We know today in our Nation these wetland habitats are disappearing at an alarming rate. Our ability to set aside these lands in our national wetlands inventory through our National Wildlife Refuge System is incredible. We use all kinds of tools to do that. Whether it is through purchase of the property or whether it is through purchase of development rights, conservation easements, they are really effective tools to make sure we preserve this critical habitat.

The other part of the ACE Reauthorization Act is reauthorizing the National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act. We know our States do a wonderful job of focusing on critical fish habitat and working to preserve those. This bill allows them to do even more with Federal partners to make sure they are working in unison with local governments and local organizations to do even more to preserve that critical habitat.

Also, as co-chair of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Task Force, I know how crucial it is to protect our national treasure, the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay is not only the largest estuary in the United States but also a critical ecosystem that supports diverse wildlife and provides economic benefits to millions of Americans.

In fact, I would argue many folks here in the Washington, D.C., area on a daily basis enjoy the wonderful natural resources from the Chesapeake Bay. If you go to a restaurant and happen to order a crab cake or an oyster, it most likely came from the Chesapeake Bay.

I am proud that this bill also reauthorizes the Chesapeake Bay Program, a successful Federal and State partnership that coordinates efforts to reduce pollution in the bay.

Mr. Speaker, if there is a poster child for a Federal role under the Constitution, it is the Chesapeake Bay Program because it truly is an interstate program. It is about getting all the States to work together to make sure we are in unison in improving water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. This is, indeed, that constitutional direction on interstate cooperation that is allowed under the Constitution to achieve what is critical not just to this Nation but also to our natural resources.

The Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Act is also a critical part of this. It supports efforts to improve the conditions of habitats and enhance public access to the bay and its rivers. We know what an incredibly important economic engine the Chesapeake Bay is. This enhances the ability for folks to enjoy the Chesapeake Bay, to learn more about it, and to have those opportunities there that not only create richness in life for the people who enjoy the bay but also for the communities that seek their livelihood from the bay.

The Chesapeake Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense Act, another part of the ACE Reauthorization Act, helps local entities rehabilitate

fish and wildlife habitats throughout the bay watershed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. WITTMAN. This ACE Reauthorization Act is truly a testament to our commitment to future generations and to the treasure of the natural resources that this Nation has at its avail. It ensures that our children and grandchildren will inherit a world that is as rich in biodiversity and natural beauty as the one we cherish today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act.

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

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

While we are on the topic of conservation, I thank my colleagues for working with Democrats not just on this conservation bill but also on the WILD Act, which I am pleased to hear will be included in the NDAA this month.

Like the bill before us today, the WILD Act is a bipartisan effort to maximize conservation impacts through partnerships; specifically, the Multinational Species Conservation Funds, which help conserve iconic wildlife species, including elephants, rhinos, tigers, great apes, and turtles, and the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, which supports habitat restoration efforts across the United States, including the territories.

I am pleased to be the Democratic colead of the WILD Act, and I thank my Republican colleague, Representative JOYCE of Ohio, for his partnership.

I hope all of us can continue finding ways to work together on conservation and other issues, just like we are doing today with the ACE Reauthorization Act.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN).

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for yielding me time again.

It is incredibly valuable, I think, for folks across the Nation to understand that America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act is really one of those efforts where we take a lot of separate bills which by themselves do a lot of good, and we bring them together to do even a greater good. With that, we also are able to look at how these programs relate to each other. Our effort at this level is to make sure that we coordinate and that we look at how we utilize resources.

These bills are critically important because it is not just about utilizing

Federal resources. In fact, I would argue, with these bills it is actually more about leveraging the opportunities and the resources we have at the State and local levels because these bills are incredibly important to localities across the Nation. They are incredibly important to the experience that we all have as Americans in enjoying these natural resources. That is why the ACE Reauthorization Act, I think, has such far-reaching impacts on our Nation.

It is great that today we can come together in a bipartisan way and say we are in favor of this. This is one of the places where we know working together we can get things done that are in the best interests of our communities and the best interests of our States and Commonwealths across the Nation.

We understand, too, that as much as sometimes people focus on the things that we disagree on, there are some pretty significant things that we agree on.

Today is one of those days where we look at this, and we say these bills are all about a greater good. They are really about enhancing the quality of life in our communities. They are about achieving things that we look to do in common with each other. We look for the private sector to leverage the dollars that are there, people that want to participate in these programs that have really been shown to be a success across the spectrum through the years and that leverage resources.

We look today at the challenges we face in the Nation about a deficit in resources that come in versus the resources that go out. This is one of those programs where it really is a success story about how we take a small amount of Federal dollars that come from sportsmen that voluntarily pay for these dollars, and they leverage it with private dollars. What a great example of a successful program.

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

By passing S. 3791, Congress will ensure that vital conservation work that has benefited countless at-risk species can be improved and continue on into the future.

When we think about conservation, the word "conservation" denotes that it is usage of our resources, it is good stewardship, and these programs promote good stewardship. They not only promote good stewardship, it gets a lot of skin in the game, not just from the Federal Government and the general public, but from all of these conservation organizations and private funds that go into true conservation work to create the wildlife habitat that benefits so many species.

We know that it not only benefits species that we like to hunt and fish for, but it also benefits us because clean air and clean water and a healthy, safe environment benefits everyone. That is what these programs promote.

This bill has brought together a diverse group of sportsmen and conservation organizations who see the benefit of the programs included in this bill, as my friend from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) has already stated. These organizations are groups we have all heard of like Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, and the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. Many of us are members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, the American Sportfishing Association, and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Again, I encourage my colleagues to support the 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. 3791, 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. 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.

LAHAINA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA STUDY ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8219) to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Lahaina National Heritage Area, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8219

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 "Lahaina National Heritage Area Study Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) STATE.—The term "State" means the State of Hawaii.

(3) STUDY AREA.—The term "study area" means the census-designated place of Lahaina in Maui County in the State.

SEC. 3. LAHAINA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA STUDY.

The Secretary, in coordination with the County of Maui and in consultation with State and local historic preservation officers, State and local historical societies, State and local tourism offices, and other appropriate organizations and governmental agencies, shall carry out, in accordance with section 120103(a) of title 54, United States Code, a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area as a National Heritage Area, to be known as the "Lahaina National Heritage Area".

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