

MT. ANDREA LAWRENCE DESIGNATION ACT OF 2010

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. RAHALL, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 5194]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 5194) to designate Mt. Andrea Lawrence, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 5194 is to designate Mt. Andrea Lawrence in California.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Andrea Mead Lawrence was born in 1932 in Rutland County, Vermont, where she developed a life-long passion for winter sports and an appreciation for the environment. She competed in alpine skiing events in two World Championships and three Winter Olympic Games. In the 1952 Olympics in Oslo, Norway, she won two Gold Medals in the slalom and giant slalom, making her the first American to win two Olympic golds in alpine skiing. She was inducted into the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1958 at the age of 28, and was again honored when she was chosen to light the Olympic torch at the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley, California.

In 1968, she moved her family to Mammoth Lakes, a small ski town in California on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevadas, an area known for its rugged beauty, remoteness and close proximity to the spectacular Yosemite National Park. Inspired by the natural splendor of this area, she dedicated the rest of her life to protecting the cultural and natural treasures of the Eastern Sierras.

As part of this effort, she founded “Friends of the Mammoth,” an organization dedicated to protecting the wildness and serenity of the Mammoth Lakes area. The small ski area had been “discovered” by Southern California weekend skiers, and development and visitation soared placing increased pressure on the resources of the remote and tiny town. Ms. Lawrence fought for better planning and conservation measures to protect both the character of the town and the natural values of the area.

Ms. Lawrence was elected to, and served for 16 years, on the Mono County Board of Supervisors. There she worked tirelessly for environmental issues, including the protection and restoration of Mono Lake, known for its unique and productive salt-water ecosystem. She also served as a member of the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District, which sought to reduce pollution caused by the draining of Owens Lake by the Metropolitan Water District in Southern California.

In the final years of her life, she founded the Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers in 2003, a non-profit that in her words would “serve as the institutional basis for integrating economic vitality and ecological integrity within the Eastern Sierra.” As a longtime advocate of wilderness, she testified in 2008 before the Mono Country Board of Supervisors in support of the Eastern Sierra and Northern San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act, legislation that was enacted as part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (P.L. 111–11) the day before she died on March, 31 2009.

H.R. 5194 would designate Peak 12,240 as “Mt. Andrea Lawrence.” The mountain is located 0.6 miles northeast of Donohue Peak on the northern border of the Ansel Adams Wilderness (Inyo National Forest) and Yosemite National Park.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 5194 was introduced by Representative Howard “Buck” McKeon (R–CA) on April 29, 2010. The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. At a hearing on June 10, 2010 before the Subcommittee, representatives from the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of the Interior testified in support of the legislation.

On July 22, 2010, the Subcommittee was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5194 and the full Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources’ oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article IV, section 3 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. General Performance Goals and Objectives. As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to designate Mt. Andrea Lawrence in California.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

H.R. 5194—Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act of 2010

H.R. 5194 would designate a currently unnamed peak on the northern border of the Ansel Adams Wilderness and Yosemite National Park in California as Mt. Andrea Lawrence. Any new maps or regulations created by the federal government would be required to include the new name.

Based on information from the National Park Service, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5194 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting H.R. 5194 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 5194 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sarah Puro. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

EARMARK STATEMENT

H.R. 5194 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.

