



**THE REPUBLICAN
STUDY COMMITTEE**

1. [H.R. 2740 – Rabbi Michael Ber Weissmandl Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2017](#)
2. [H.R. 4033 - National Geologic Mapping Act Reauthorization Act](#)
3. [H.R. 5787 - Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2018, as amended](#)
4. [H.R. 6064 - To rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the Congressman Lester Wolff National Wildlife Refuge](#)
5. [H.R. 5636 - Flatside Wilderness Enhancement Act, as](#)
6. [S. 440 - To establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota](#)
7. [S. 2074 - To establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Jamestown Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, and for other](#)
8. [H.R. 6146 - Cottonwood Land Exchange Act of 2018, as amended](#)
9. [Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2615 - Gulf Islands National Seashore Land Exchange Act](#)
10. [H.R. 5706 - World War II Pacific Sites Establishment Act](#)
11. [H.R. 6666 - To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant to States and local governments easements and rights-of-way over Federal land within Gateway National Recreation Area for construction, operation, and maintenance of projects for control and prevention of flooding and shoreline](#)
12. [H.R. 6651 - PEPFAR Extension Act of 2018, as](#)
13. [H.Res. 1055 - To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia](#)
14. [H.Res. 1052 - Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration, and utilization](#)
15. [H.R. 6018 - Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act of 2018, as amended](#)

H.R. 2740 – Rabbi Michael Ber Weissmandl Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2017 (Rep. Velazquez, D-NY)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on November 13, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires a 2/3 majority for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2740](#) would award the Congressional Gold Medal, posthumously, to Rabbi Michael Ber Weissmandl for his valor during World War II.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not yet available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

Rabbi Michael Ber Weissmandl was a key figure working to save Jewish people in Slovakia from the Nazi regime. He created an underground organization, "The Working Group," which raised money to pay ransoms to Nazi officials in order to delay mass deportations and participated in numerous strategic acts, including the bombing of railroad tunnels to hinder the transportation of people to concentration camps. In 1945, Rabbi Weissmandl [arrived](#) in America and immediately began work to aid Holocaust survivors, giving them a home and establishing the Yishiva of Nitra in Mount Kisco, New York.

This legislation would authorize the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Rabbi Weissmandl, recognizing his valor during WWII. The Weissmandl Committee would be permitted to accept the award on his behalf.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2740 was introduced on May 25, 2017, and was referred the House Committee on Financial Services.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .”

H.R. 4033 — National Geologic Mapping Act Reauthorization Act (Rep. Lamborn, R-CO)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4033](#) would reauthorize the [National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program](#) through 2023.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 4033 would cost \$246 million over the 2018-2022 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. The bill reauthorizes the National Cooperative Mapping Program at \$64 million a year, which is consistent with the current appropriation.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 4033 would reauthorize the [National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program](#) (NCGMP) through 2023. The program is currently set to expire at the end of the fiscal year.

The NCGMP consists of federal, state, and educational components, through which geological mapping is funded.

The House Report (H. Rept. 115-515) accompanying H.R. 4033 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4033 was introduced on October 12, 2017, and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. A mark-up session was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent on December 13, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: “Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution. “

H.R. 5787 — Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2017 (Rep. Dunn, R-FL)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5787](#) would replace 35 [Coastal Barrier Resources System](#) maps within the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 5787 would have no significant effect on spending subject to appropriation. The bill could increase premium collections of the National Flood Insurance Fund by less than \$1 million annually. Since the bill could affect direct spending, paygo would apply, but the net change in direct spending would be negligible in the 2019-2028 period.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

Some conservatives may be pleased that the bill would add, on net, about 18,000 acres to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, which protects taxpayers and coastal ecosystems by prohibiting federal subsidies (such as the National Flood Insurance Program) for development on covered coastal lands (while not prohibiting such development as long as developers and property owners bear the costs). Some conservatives may be concerned that the bill would exclude from the System about 500 structures that are currently included, which would make them eligible for federal subsidies. Despite receiving a [\\$16 billion bailout](#) just last year, the National Flood Insurance Program remains more than [\\$20 billion in debt](#).

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5787 would replace 35 [Coastal Barrier Resources System](#) maps within the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System.

The bill would require digital versions of these maps be made available on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website. Determinations of whether land is inside or outside the system shall not be made by the digital maps, but the maps designated by this bill. The bill requires a report to be submitted to congress on the progress and challenges of transitioning to digital maps within 180 days of enactment. The report must include a timetable for the completion of the digitization of all maps related to the system.

The Coastal Barrier Resources System bans federal subsidies, including flood insurance, from being given to all land within the system in an effort to discourage development on coastal barriers. Developing coastal barriers could result in the loss of property or life from storms that impact these areas. The current [system](#) includes 3.3 million acres in 23 states and territories. However, according to a 2016 report from the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#), maps of the system that are currently on record include developed property that should not be included within the system. This has made it impossible for affected property owners to obtain flood insurance. This bill would codify new maps that have been revised by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. According to [CBO](#), the bill would add, on net, about 18,000 acres to the System (making those areas ineligible for federal subsidies), while excluding about 500 structures that are currently a part of the System (making them eligible for federal subsidies like the National Flood Insurance Program).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5787 was introduced on June 20, 2018, and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. A markup was held on June 13, 2018, and the bill was reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: “Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.”

H.R. 6064 — To rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the Congressman Lester Wolff National Wildlife Refuge. (Rep. Suozzi, D-NY)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 6064](#) would rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the Congressman Lester Wolff National Wildlife Refuge.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) implementing H.R. 6064 would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 6064 would rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the Congressman Lester Wolff National Wildlife Refuge.

[Former Congressman Lester Wolff](#) was an eight term Member of the House of Representatives from New York, serving from 1965 to 1981. While in Congress, Wolff was the chairman of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs where he worked to solidify Chinese-American relations. Prior to congress, Wolff was a founder of The Civil Air Patrol. In 2014, Wolff received the Congressional Gold Medal for his heroic service. Today, Wolff continues his work in politics as a consultant. At 99 years of age, he is the oldest former member of Congress.

The House Report (H. Rept. 115-986) accompanying H.R. 6064 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 6064 was introduced on June 8, 2018, and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. A mark-up session was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent on September 17, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power ``to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof".

H.R. 5636 – Flatside Wilderness Enhancement Act (Rep. Hill, R-AR)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5636](#) would add 640 acres to the [Flatside Wilderness](#), located in Arkansas. The additional acreage would be designated the Bethune Woods-Flatside Wilderness.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 5636 would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** Some conservatives may be concerned the bill would add 640 acres to the Flatside Wilderness. The federal government's landholding constitutes over one-quarter of the U.S. landmass, and much of it is poorly managed. The National Park Service, in particular, suffers from a severe backlog of maintenance requirements on existing lands.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5636 would add 640 acres to the [Flatside Wilderness](#), located in Arkansas. The additional acreage would be designated the Bethune Woods-Flatside Wilderness.

[Congressman Ed Bethune](#) was a three term member from Arkansas. He was the first Republican to hold the seat in over 100 years. As a freshman congressman, he was elected President of the Republican class of new members. Prior to congress he served as a Marine as a sergeant. He later received his Law degree from the University of Arkansas. Bethune continued to serve his country by joining the FBI as a special agent.

According to the committee [report](#), the U.S. Forest Services believes the addition of the land will make a more logical and manageable boundary.

The House Report (H. Rept. 115-989) accompanying H.R. 5636 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5636 was introduced on April 26, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. A mark-up session was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent on September 26, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2: The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needfull rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state."

S. 440 — A bill to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota. (Sen. Hoeven, R-ND)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[S. 440](#) would require the conveyance of certain recreation land and permitted cabin land to the Dickerson Parks & Recreation Department in Dickerson, North Dakota, and the conveyance of the game and fish headquarters to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) implementing S. 440 would increase offsetting receipts and associated direct spending, since under the bill certain land could be sold and the funds spent without appropriation, so paygo would apply. However, the net effect on the budget would be negligible. CBO estimates the net proceeds from land sales to be about \$4 million, which will be used to maintain the Dickerson Dam and Reservoir. *(Note: the CBO score mistakenly states that the funds will be used for deferred maintenance projects at the Jamestown Dam and Reservoir. The bill text refers to the Dickerson Dam and Reservoir.)*

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** Conservatives may be concerned the bill would allow funds to be used by the Secretary of the Interior without further appropriation by Congress.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

S. 440 would require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain recreation land and permitted cabin land to the Dickerson Parks & Recreation Department in Dickerson, North Dakota, within five years of enactment and at no cost. The Dickerson Parks & Recreation Department is required to pay for all conveyance costs.

The department is required to manage the recreation land for recreation and public access purposes, as a fish and wildlife habitat, or to preserve the national character of the land. The permitted cabin land must be managed for cabins or recreational residences or for the previously outlined recreational purposes. Should the land be used in a manner inconsistent of the requirements outlined in this bill, the land shall revert back to the federal government.

If any parcel of the permitted cabin land is sold, it must be sold at fair market value, with the proceeds of the sale, minus any preparation costs, paid to the secretary. Improvements made upon the land shall not be included in the appraised fair market value.

Funds paid to the secretary for conveyed land are available without further appropriation for the operation of Dickerson Dam and Reservoir.

The bill would require the secretary to convey the game and fish headquarters, about ten acres of land, to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department within five years of enactment. If the land is used in a manner that is inconsistent with the purposes of the game and fish headquarters, the land shall revert back to the federal government. According to the Senate [report](#), the land is currently being leased from the Bureau of Reclamation.

The conveyances authorized by this bill must be made subject to: (1) valid existing rights; (2) operational requirements of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin Program; (3) any flowage easement reserved by the U.S.; (4) reservations described in the "Management Agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation, et al., for the Development, Management, Operation, and Maintenance of Lands and Recreation Facilities at Dickinson Reservoir"; (5) oil, gas and other mineral rights; (6) a deed restriction prohibiting the building of any new permanent structure on property below 2,430.6 feet; and, (8) the granting of certain applicable easements.

The Senate Report (S. Rept. 115-313) accompanying S. 110, can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

S. 440 was introduced in the Senate on February 17, 2017, passed by unanimous consent on October 4, 2018, and was sent to the House.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

A constitutional authority statement is not required for bills that originate in the Senate.

S. 2074 — A bill to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Jamestown Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, and for other purposes. (Sen. Hoeven, R-ND)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[S. 2074](#) would require the conveyance of certain recreation land and permitted cabin land to the Stutsman County Park Board, in Jamestown, North Dakota, and the conveyance of the game and fish headquarters to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) implementing S. 2074 would increase offsetting receipts and associated direct spending, since under the bill certain land could be sold and the funds spent without appropriation, so paygo would apply. However, the net effect on the budget would be negligible. CBO estimates the net proceeds from land sales to be about \$7 million, which will be used to maintain the Jamestown Dam and Reservoir.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** Conservatives may be concerned the bill would allow funds to be used by the Secretary of the Interior without further appropriation by Congress.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

S. 2074 would require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain recreation land and permitted cabin land to the Stutsman County Park Board, in Jamestown, North Dakota, within five years of enactment and at no cost. The Stutsman County Park Board is required to pay for all conveyance costs.

The board is required to manage the recreation land for recreation and public access purposes, as a fish and wildlife habitat, or to preserve the national character of the land. The permitted cabin land must be managed for cabins or recreational residences or for the previously outlined recreational

purposes. Should the land be used in a manner inconsistent of the requirements outlined in this bill, the land shall revert back to the federal government.

If any parcel of the permitted cabin land is sold, it must be done so at fair market value, with the proceeds of the sale, minus any preparation costs, paid to the secretary. Improvements made upon the land shall not be included in the appraised fair market value.

Funds paid to the secretary for conveyed land are available without further appropriation for the operation of Jamestown Dam and Reservoir.

The bill would require the secretary to convey the game and fish headquarters, about six acres of land, to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department within five years of enactment. If the land is used in a manner that is inconsistent with the purposes of the game and fish headquarters, the land shall revert back to the federal government. According to the Senate [report](#), the land is currently being leased from the Bureau of Reclamation.

The conveyances authorized by this bill must be made subject to: (1) valid existing rights; (2) operational requirements of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin Program; (3) any flowage easement reserved by the U.S.; (4) reservations described in the "Management Agreement between the United States of America and Stutsman County Park Board for the Management, Development, Operation and Maintenance of Recreation and Related Improvements and Facilities at Jamestown Reservoir Stutsman County, North Dakota"; (5) oil, gas and other mineral rights; (6) a deed restriction prohibiting the building of any new permanent structure on property below 1,454 feet; and, (8) the granting of certain applicable easements.

The Senate Report (S. Rept. 115-314) accompanying S. 110, can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

S. 2074 was introduced in the Senate on November 2, 2017. The bill passed by unanimous consent on October 4, 2018, and was sent to the House.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

A constitutional authority statement is not required for bills that originate in the Senate.

H.R. 6146 — Cottonwood Land Exchange Act of 2018, as amended (Rep. Gosar, R-AZ)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 6146](#) would require the Secretary of Agriculture to accept a land exchange offer from Yavapai County, Arizona, in which 369 acres of land would be conveyed to the federal government, in exchange for 80 acres of land within the [Coconino National Forest](#).

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 6146 would reduce direct spending by about \$2,500 over the 2019-2028 period, so paygo would apply. The bill would not affect revenue.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 6146 would require the Secretary of Agriculture to accept a land exchange offer from Yavapai County, Arizona, in which 369 acres of land would be conveyed to the federal government, in exchange for 80 acres of land within the [Coconino National Forest](#).

Yavapai County would be required to pay all costs associated with the conveyance, including staff time, if requested by the secretary. The bill would require the value of land to be appraised. If the value of the federal land exceeds the value of the county land, the county is required to make a cash equalization payment. If the value of the county land exceeds the value of the federal land, no cash equalization payment is allowed, and the surplus value of the federal land shall be considered a donation to the federal government.

Land that is conveyed to the federal government are withdrawn from all forms of appropriation and disposal, and the [Geothermal Steam Act](#), and shall become part of the Cococino National Forest.

The House Report (H. Rept. 115-895) accompanying H.R. 6146 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 6146 was introduced on June 19, 2018, and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. A mark-up session was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent on July 18, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (the Property Clause).

Under this clause, Congress has the power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States.

By virtue of this enumerated power, Congress has governing authority over the lands, territories, or other property of the United States- and with this authority Congress is vested with the power to all owners in fee, the ability to sell, lease, dispose, exchange, convey, or simply preserve land.

The Supreme Court has described this enumerated grant as one "without limitation" *Kleppe v New Mexico*, 426 U.S. 529, 542-543 (1976) ("And while the furthest reaches of the power granted by the Property Clause have not been definitely resolved, we have repeatedly observed that the power over the public land thus entrusted to Congress is without limitation.")

Historically, the federal government transferred ownership of federal property to either private ownership or the states in order to pay off large Revolutionary War debts and to assist with the development of infrastructure. The transfers codified by this legislation are thus constitutional. "

Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2615— Gulf Islands National Seashore Land Exchange Act (Rep. Palazzo, R-MS)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2615](#) would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the National Park Service (NPS), to convey to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 5699 a parcel consisting of approximately 1.5 acres located within the Gulf Islands National Seashore in Jackson County, Mississippi, and acquire in exchange a parcel of real property, consisting of approximately 2.2 acres and located in Jackson County, Mississippi.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 2615 would cost no more than \$500,000, subject to appropriation. Since the bill could affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go would apply. The bill would not affect revenues.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 2615 passed the House on November 28, 2017. The Senate amended the bill by adding a definitions section and reorganizing the provisions of the bill.

H.R. 2615 would allow the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the National Park Service (NPS), to convey a 1.5 acre parcel of land located in the [Gulf Islands National Seashore](#) in Mississippi, to the [Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5699](#). The VFW Post 5699 would be required to convey, in exchange, a 2.2-acre parcel of land to the Secretary of the Interior.

The two parcels must be independently appraised. Should the values of the parcels be unequal, the values must be equalized by an adjustment of the acreage to be exchanged or a cost payment. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5699 would be required to cover all administrative costs related to the conveyance.

The exchange must be processed using a quit claim deed or other legal instrument upon terms agreed upon by the Secretary of the Interior and the VFW Post 5699.

The land received by the Secretary of the Interior would be added to the Gulf Islands National Seashore.

According to the [report](#) accompanying H.R. 2615, “[the] Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5699 in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, owns a 3.3-acre lot adjacent to Gulf Islands National Seashore’s Davis Bayou Area. The Post’s property is essentially landlocked, with the only reasonable access via a one-lane dirt road across National Park Service property.” The bill would formalize an existing informal land use agreement allowing the VFW Post 5699 permanent access to the road.

The House Report (HR-115-302) accompanying H.R. 2615 can be found [here](#).

H.R. 2615 contains similar language to [H.R. 4119](#), which passed the House in the 114th Congress by voice-vote on March 22, 2016. The RSC’s legislative bulletin for H.R. 4119 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2615 was introduced on May 23, 2017. On July 26, 2017, the bill was marked up and ordered to be reported by the Committee on Natural Resources by unanimous consent. The bill passed the House under suspension on November 28, 2017 and was sent to the Senate. The bill passed the Senate with amendment by voice vote on October 11, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill’s sponsor: “Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article IV, Sec. 3, Clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States.)”

H.R. 5706 — World War II Pacific Sites Establishment Act (Rep. Hanabusa, D-HI)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

H.R. 5706 would remove the Pearl Harbor National Memorial from the existing [World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument](#), establish the Pearl Harbor National Memorial in Hawai'i as a separate unit of the National Park System, and redesignate the Honouliuli National Monument, as designated by President Barack Obama in 2015, as the Honouliuli National Historic Site.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 5706 would have an insignificant cost over the 2019-2023 period. Spending would be subject to appropriation.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** The bill would not result in a change of management of either site, as both sites are already managed by the National Park System.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5706 would remove the Pearl Harbor National Memorial from the existing [World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument](#) and establish the Pearl Harbor National Memorial in Hawai'i as a separate unit of the National Park System.

The purposes of the national memorial would be to preserve, interpret, and commemorate the history of World War II in the Pacific from the events leading to the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, to peace and reconciliation.

The bill would also redesignate the Honouliuli National Monument, as designated by President Barack Obama in 2015, as the Honouliuli National Historic Site.

The purposes of the historic site would be to preserve and interpret the history associated with the internment of Japanese and other civilians during World War II in Hawai'i, the impacts of martial law on Hawaiian society, and the experiences of prisoners of war at the Honouliuli internment site.

According to the committee [report](#), the bill does not affect the management of either the Pearl Harbor National Memorial or the Honouliuli National Historic Site, as redesignated.

The House Report (H. Rept. 115-991) accompanying H.R. 5706 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5706 was introduced on May 5, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. A mark-up session was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent on September 26, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article I, Section 8." No specific enumerating clause was cited.

H.R. 6666 — To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant to States and local governments easements and rights-of-way over Federal land within Gateway National Recreation Area for construction, operation, and maintenance of projects for control and prevention of flooding and shoreline erosion. (Rep. Donovan, R-NY)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration November 13, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 6666](#) would allow for the Secretary of the Interior to grant to state or local governments easements or rights-of-way over federal land within the [Gateway National Recreation Area](#) for construction and operation of projects to prevent flooding and shoreline erosion.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 6666 would insignificantly increase net cost over the 2019-2023 period. The bill would not affect direct spending or revenues, so paygo would not apply.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 6666 would allow for the Secretary of the Interior to grant to state or local governments easements or rights-of-way over federal land within the [Gateway National Recreation Area](#) for construction and operation of projects to prevent flooding and shoreline erosion. The easements and rights-of-way may be granted without charge, except for processing costs.

According to the committee [report](#), the easement that is authorized by this bill will allow for the construction of a seawall to defend against severe coastal flooding and wave forces. Construction costs will be shared by federal and non-federal entities, and the operation, maintenance and repair of the seawall will be managed by the state of New York after completion.

The House Report (H. Rept. 115-995) accompanying H.R. 6666 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 6666 was introduced on August 10, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. A mark-up session was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent on September 26, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article I Section VIII of the United States Constitution." No specific enumerating clause was cited.

H.R. 6651 – PEPFAR Extension Act of 2018 (Rep. Smith, R-NJ)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

November 13, 2018, under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 6651](#) would extend certain authorities, limitations, and reporting requirements for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

COST:

According to the [Congressional Budget Office](#), enactment of this legislation would cost \$15 million over the 2019-2023 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

Enacting this legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6651 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

[H.R. 6651](#) would extend certain authorities, limitations, and reporting requirements for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

This legislation would extend reporting requirements for the Inspector General of the Department of State and Broadcasting Board of Governors, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Agency for International Development to coordinate and conduct oversight of PEPFAR programs. The bill would also extend a reporting requirement related to HIV/AIDS treatment providers.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This legislation was introduced on August 3, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The legislation was marked up on September 27, 2018 and reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No stated Administration position available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution."

H.Res. 1055 – To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia (Rep. Donovan, R-NY)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

November 13, 2018, under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.Res. 1055](#) would affirm strong United States-Liberia ties.

COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate is not required for resolutions.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

[H.Res. 1055](#) would affirm strong United States-Liberia ties.

Specifically, this resolution would affirm the U.S. commitment to helping the Liberian people promote peace, prosperity, and democracy through the reconciliation process. This resolution urges the Government and people of Liberia to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, including the establishment of a war crimes tribunal, and supports efforts of the State Department and USAID to support the rule of law, effective governance, and a strong civil society. This resolution also includes findings that recognizes their significant contributions to our nation and the role they have played in building a more peaceful, democratic, and prosperous Liberia.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This resolution was introduced on September 7, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The resolution was marked up on September 27, 2018 and was reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No stated Administration position available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

Constitutional authority statements are not required for resolutions.

H.Res. 1052 – Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration, and utilization (Rep. Castro, D-TX)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

November 13, 2018 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H. Res. 1052](#) would affirm United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration, and utilization.

COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate is not required for resolutions.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

[H. Res. 1052](#) would affirm United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration, and utilization

This resolution would recognize the United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration, and utilization, including on terrestrial research, commercial activities, and human and robotic space exploration; encourages the Department of State to support cooperation with Australia on space research, including multilateral efforts; and supports cooperation with Australian allies to contribute to our mutual prosperity and security. The resolution also includes findings related to Australia-U.S. space cooperation.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This resolution was introduced on September 6, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The resolution was marked up on September 27, 2018 and was reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No stated Administration position available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

Constitutional authority statements are not required for resolutions.

H.R. 6018 – Tran-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act of 2018 (Rep. McCaul, R-TX)

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

November 13, 2018, under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 6018](#) would codify the federal Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership.

COST:

According to the [Congressional Budget Office](#), this legislation would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2018-2023 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting this legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6018 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** This legislation codifies a program which is already in place.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** This legislation codifies a program which is already in place.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

[H.R. 6018](#) would codify the federal Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership.

The TSCTP was [established](#) in 2005 through a joint effort by the Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Department of Defense to assist partners in the West and North Africa increase their immediate and long-term capabilities to address terrorist threats and prevent the spread of violent extremism.

The bill would require a comprehensive interagency strategy on counterterrorism efforts in North and West Africa.

This legislation would require certain reporting to Congress after five years of enactment evaluating the efforts of the partnership.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This legislation was introduced on June 6, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The legislation was marked up on September 27, 2018 and reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No stated Administration position available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution."

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