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H.R. 4511 — Gold Star Families Voices Act (Rep. Smith, R-NJ)

CONTACT: [Rebekah Armstrong](#), 202-226-0678

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration September 6, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4511](#) would amend the [Veterans' Oral History Project Act](#) to allow for the collection of video and audio recordings from immediate family members of certain members of the armed forces.

COST:

The [Congressional Budget Office](#) (CBO) estimates enacting H.R. 4511 would increase spending over the 2017-2021 period by \$0.6 million. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues, and so pay-as-you-go procedures do 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:

This bill would amend the Veterans' Oral History Project by allowing the Director of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to include video and audio recordings of biographical histories by immediate family of members of the armed forces who are missing in action or died as a result of their service. Under current law, video and audio recordings were only collected from the veteran who served during a period of war.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced by Representative Smith and referred to the House Committee on House Administration. A mark-up was held on May 17, 2016, and the bill was reported out by voice vote.

Read the committee report [here](#).

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. No specific enumerating clause was included.

H.R. 2830 — To Make Technical Amendments to Update Statutory References to Certain Provisions Classified to Title 2, United States Code (Rep. Goodlatte, R-VA)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on September 6, 2016 under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2830](#) would provide for technical corrections to Title 2 of the United States Code.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting H.R. 2830 would have no budgetary impact.

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:

[Title 2 of the United States Code](#) pertains to all laws that govern Congress and the legislative branch. This bill would make only technical changes to the code, reorganizing chapters 3 and 4 into eleven new chapters.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2830 was introduced on June 18, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, where it was reported by voice vote on November 18, 2015.

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 18.

H.R. 2831 — To Make Technical Amendments to Update Statutory References to Provisions Classified to Chapters 44, 45, 46, and 47 of Title 50, United States Code, as amended (Rep. Goodlatte, R-VA)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on September 6, 2016 under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2831](#) would provide for technical corrections to certain chapters of [Title 50 of the United States Code](#).

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting H.R. 2831 would have no significant effects 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. 2831 would make technical amendments to update statutory references in Title 50 as it pertains to war and national defense. As the code has expanded to incorporate new statutes, the existing code has become [increasingly](#) cluttered. Matters classified to Title 50 include national security, various intelligence community authorities, the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2831 was introduced on June 18, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, where it was reported amended by voice vote on December 2, 2015.

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 18.

H.R. 2832 — To Make Technical Amendments to Update Statutory References to Certain Provisions Classified to Title 52, United States Code (Rep. Goodlatte, R-VA)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on September 6, 2016 under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2832](#) would provide for technical corrections to [Title 52 of the United States Code](#), which pertains to voting and elections.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting H.R. 2832 would have no budgetary impact.

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. 2832 would make technical corrections to Title 52 of the U.S. Code. Specifically, it would make technical corrections to provisions pertaining to uniformed and overseas citizen absentee voting, voting accessibility for the handicapped and elderly, election administration, and federal election campaign finance.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2832 was introduced on June 18, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, where it was reported amended by voice vote on December 2, 2015.

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 18.

H.R. 5578 — Survivors' Bill of rights Act of 2016 (Rep. Walters, R-CA)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on September 6, 2016 under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5578](#) would affirmatively establish a set of rights for survivors of sexual assault pertaining to federal criminal cases, including the right to forensic evidence collection, storage, and information about ongoing investigations. Funding for obligations incurred as a result of these rights would be authorized to be drawn from the Crime Victims Fund. The bill would also provide grants for the dissemination of information regarding survivors' rights and direct the Department of Justice to create a working group to develop best practices pertaining to the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that the cost for the working group would total less than \$500 thousand annually. CBO estimates that the Crime Victims Fund is already fully obligated under current law, and that no funds would be available to provide for any obligations incurred under this bill. Any such additional funding would require additional discretionary or mandatory spending.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** Yes. It establishes new programs with costs covered under the Crime Victims Fund.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** Yes. The bill would create unfunded requirements for state and local law enforcement to store and collect evidence.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

[H.R. 5578](#) would establish a set of rights for survivors of sexual assault including the testing and storage of forensic evidence, and prior notification of the destruction of such evidence. It would establish a working group with the consultation of the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to create best practices pertaining to the care of sexual assault survivors and the treatment of forensic evidence. It would allow for the dissemination of [sexual assault survivor notification grants](#) to alert victims of sexual assault of criminal proceedings. Most of the costs for new programs other than evidence storage requirements would be authorized to be covered under the Crime Victims fund, which is permanently appropriated. However, such funds are unlikely to be available in the account and additional appropriations or collections would be required to meet any obligation incurred.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5578 was introduced on June 24, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, where it was reported by voice vote on July 7, 2016.

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 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 8.

H.R. 3881 — Cooperative Management of Mineral Rights Act of 2015 (Rep. Thompson, R-PA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 3881](#) would repeal the requirement within federal land in the Alleghany National Forest for developers of privately-owned oil and gas deposits allow the Forest Service to sell timber to be cut as part of such development prior to beginning work.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting the bill would affect direct spending by changing the timing of timber receipts; however, CBO estimates that any such effects would be negligible. Enacting H.R. 3881 would not affect revenues. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3881 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

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. 3881 would repeal section 17 of the [Mineral Leasing Act](#) (30 U.S.C. 226) and 2508 of the [Energy Policy Act of 1992](#) regarding certain Departments of Agriculture and Interior requirements for the development of oil and gas deposits to include regulations on exploration techniques, leasing terms, and royalties. These sections require developers to allow the government to sell timber that must be cut as part of the development of the privately held mineral rights prior to any development.

The bill clarifies that nothing in it would construed or interpreted to limit, modify, or otherwise affect the existing requirement to provide in writing 60-day advance notice of specific development activities, or limit existing Forest Service authority. According to the CBO, “the bill would repeal a provision in current law that allows the Forest Service to sell any timber removed to make way for oil and gas development in the Alleghany National Forest directly to the firm developing the resources. Over the last five years, the agency sold timber valued at \$3 million using that direct sale authority.”

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 3881 was introduced on November 3, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On June 15, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution which gives Congress the power "to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several states, and within the Indian Tribes."

H.R. 4510 — Bolts Ditch Access and Use Act, as amended (Rep. Polis, D-CO)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4510](#) would require the U.S. Forest Service to provide a special use authorization to the town of Minturn, Colorado to allow the town to manage and maintain a headgate and ditch segment used to divert water to Bolts Lake, within the Holy Cross Wilderness in Eagle County, Colorado.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that the bill would increase offsetting receipts from annual fees associated with the authorization by about \$150 a year; therefore pay-as-you-go procedures apply. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues. CBO estimates that enacting the bill would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

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. 4510 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture, through the U.S. Forest Service, to permit by special use authorization nonmotorized access and use, of the Bolts Ditch headgate and the Bolts Ditch within the Holy Cross Wilderness, Colorado for the purposes of the diversion of water and use, maintenance, and repair by the town of Minturn, Colorado. The House report (H. Rept. 114-689) accompanying H.R. 4510 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4510 was introduced on February 9, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 14, 2016 the bill was ordered to be reported by the committee.

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 I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 (relating to the power of Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States) and clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, section 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. 3480 — Fort Frederica National Monument Boundary Expansion Act (Rep. Carter, R-GA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 3480](#) would authorize the expansion of the [Fort Frederica National Monument](#) on St. Simons Island, Georgia increasing the maximum acreage from 250 to 305 acres.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that the cost of acquiring certain properties that are adjacent to the Fort Frederica monument would be about \$1 million. Enacting H.R. 3480 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do 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. 3480 would authorize the expansion of the Fort Frederica National Monument on St. Simons Island, Georgia, increasing the maximum acreage from 250 to 305 acres. The Secretary of the Interior would be authorized to acquire the land and interests in land by donation or purchase with donated or appropriated funds from willing sellers only. No non-federal property would be allowed to be included in the Fort Frederica National Monument without the written consent of the owner. The Secretary of the Interior would be prohibited from acquiring by condemnation or eminent domain any land or interests in land under the bill. Nothing in H.R. 3480, the establishment of the Fort Frederica National Monument, or the management plan for the Fort Frederica National Monument would be construed to create buffer zones outside of the Monument. The House report (H. Rept. 114-701) accompanying H.R. 3480 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 3480 was introduced on September 10, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 25, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by the committee.

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 I, Section 8, Clause 18 The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

H.R. 3839 — Black Hills National Cemetery Boundary Expansion Act, as amended (Rep. Noem, R-SD)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 3839](#) would require the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to transfer 200 acres of land to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to expand the Black Hills National Cemetery in South Dakota.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting the legislation would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Because enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do 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. 3839 would require BLM to transfer approximately 200 acres of land adjacent to Black Hills National Cemetery, South Dakota to the jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans Affairs. As soon as practicable after the date of the bill's enactment, the Secretary of the Interior would be directed to publish in the Federal Register a notice containing the legal descriptions of the public lands withdrawn, deemed property, and transferred to the VA. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs would additionally be directed to reimburse the Secretary of the Interior for reasonable costs incurred by the Secretary of the Interior in implementing the transfer, including the costs of any surveys.

Upon a determination by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that all or a portion of the lands withdrawn, deemed property, and transferred would not be used for cemetery purposes, the Secretary would be required to notify BLM of such determination. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs would then be required to transfer administrative jurisdiction of the lands to the Secretary of the Interior. The Department of Veterans Affairs would be responsible for costs of any decontamination of the lands.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 3839 was introduced on October 27, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On June 15, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by unanimous consent.

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 4, Section 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. 4202 — Fort Ontario Study Act (Rep. Katko, R-NY)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4202](#) would require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in Oswego, New York.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the legislation would cost about \$250,000; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting H.R. 4202 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do 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. 4202 would require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in Oswego, New York. The Secretary would be required to: (1) evaluate the national significance of the site; (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the site as a unit of the National Park System (NPS); (3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the lands by federal, state, or local governmental entities, or private and nonprofit organizations; (4) consult with interested federal, state, or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit organizations or any other interested individuals; (5) determine the effect of the designation of the site as a unit of NPS on existing commercial and recreational uses and the effect on state and local governments to manage those activities; (6) identify any authorities, including condemnation, that may compel or allow the Secretary to influence or participate in local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-federal land if the site is designated a unit of the NPS; and (7) identify cost estimates for any federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives. The Secretary would be required to report the findings of the evaluation to Congress.

The House report (H. Rept. 114-688) accompanying H.R. 4202 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4202 was introduced on December 9, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 14, 2016, the bill was reported by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Clause 2 of Section 3 of Article IV of the Constitution: The Congress shall have the Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or any particular State."

H.R. 4245 — To exempt importation and exportation of sea urchins and sea cucumbers from licensing requirements under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Rep. Pingree, D-ME)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4245](#) would exempt the import and export of sea urchins and sea cucumbers from licensing requirements under the [Endangered Species Act of 1973](#).

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that any net effects on direct spending would be negligible. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues, and would reduce offsetting receipts, which are treated as reductions in direct spending, and the associated direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4245 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

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. 4245 would require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to amend section [14.92 of title 50](#), Code of Federal Regulations, to clarify that sea urchins, sea cucumbers, squid, octopus, and cuttlefish harvested in waters under the jurisdiction of the United States, are fishery products exempt from the export permission requirements under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Any person would be authorized to engage in business as an exporter of such fish or wildlife without procuring permission or an export license under the Endangered Species Act.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4245 was introduced on December 11, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On June 15, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Clause 1 of Section 8 of the US Constitution Amendment XVI to the Constitution"

H.R. 4789 — To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a structure for visitor services on the Arlington Ridge tract, in the area of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (Rep. Beyer, D-VA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4789](#) would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a structure for visitor services on the Arlington Ridge tract, in the area of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the bill would cost about \$1 million over the 2017-2021 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting H.R. 4789 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do 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. 4789 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to construct a structure for visitor services to include a public restroom facility on the Arlington Ridge tract in the area of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial. The original authorization for the memorial did not include authority to construct any such auxiliary structures. The House report (H. Rept. 114-690) accompanying H.R. 4789 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4789 was introduced on March 17, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 14, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported by the committee.

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 4, Section 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. 5577 — Innovation in Offshore Leasing Act (Rep. Graves, R-LA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on September 6, 2016 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5577](#) would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct offshore oil and gas lease sales through Internet-based live lease sales.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the bill would cost about \$2 million over the 2017-2021 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. H.R. 5577 could affect offsetting receipts from bonus payments, which are treated as reductions in direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues. CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits by more than \$5 billion in one or more of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

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. 5577 would amend [Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act](#) (43 U.S.C. 1337) by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), to conduct lease sales through Internet-based, sealed-bidding methods. Lease sales would ensure a publicly and freely accessible digital delivery of the bid reading process, such as live Internet streaming, and an option for bidders to submit bids electronically as well as other specific requirements. The Secretary would be required to publicly disclose statistical data regarding each lease sale, on the day the sale is executed, and ensure all data regarding lease sales publicly available and easily accessible, free of charge, on the Internet, including for download and aggregation in machine readable format.

The Secretary of the Interior would be directed to issue a request for information from each company present for bidding at the ten most recent oil and gas lease sales conducted under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, in order to provide the bidding public sufficient opportunity to share innovative ideas, methods, and concerns regarding Internet based leasing.

Not later than 18 months after the bill's enactment, the Secretary of the Interior would be required to conduct at least one Internet-based lease sale for leasable acreage in the Gulf of Mexico. Not later than 90 days after the third Internet-based lease sale the Secretary of the Interior would be mandated to analyze all such Internet-based lease sales and transmit to Congress a thorough analysis of the sales.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5577 was introduced on June 24, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 13, 2016 the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by unanimous consent.

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, section 3 of the Constitution of the United States"

NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*