

The letter referred to is as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, September 25, 1996.

Hon. FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,
U.S. Senator, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: We have been working for months on an omnibus territories bill which we would like to get through the House and the Senate before the 104th Congress adjourns. A copy of that legislation is enclosed.

As you can see, we have been making a good faith effort to include provisions which both houses have been working on during this Congress. It was brought to our attention this week, however, that there is opposition to Section 8 of the legislation which would provide for a commission to study American Samoa's 96-year relationship with the U.S. and the options available to improve the territory's future governmental and economic relationship with the United States.

The Commission for Samoa is similar to the federal study commissions we have established for the Native Americans, Native Alaskans and the Native Hawaiians. Additionally, the legislation has been pending in the House for four years, and it has the support of Samoa's Delegate, the Governor, and a majority of Samoa's residents.

We support all eight of the provisions in this bill, and ask for your support so that we can provide this assistance to the territories.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Resources.

ELTON GALLEGLY,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Native American and Insular Affairs.

ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,
Senior Democratic Member, Subcommittee on Native American and Insular Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1332, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill just considered.

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

There was no objection.

CORRECTION REGARDING LEGISLATION TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER SUSPENSION OF THE RULE TODAY

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 525, the following suspension is expected to be considered today: H.R. 3632, Patient Reviews in Nursing Facilities. The bill was noticed earlier with an incorrect number. The correct number is H.R. 3632.

□ 1315

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES PRESERVATION

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 543) to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Estonia, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 543

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 "National Marine Sanctuaries Preservation Act".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES ACT.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431-1445a).

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES ACT.

Section 313 (16 U.S.C. 1444) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 313. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this title—

"(1) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 1997;

"(2) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 1998; and

"(3) \$18,000,000 for fiscal year 1999."

SEC. 4. MANAGEMENT, RECOVERY, AND PRESERVATION PLAN FOR U.S.S. MONITOR.

The Secretary of Commerce shall, within 12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, prepare and submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a long-range, comprehensive plan for the management, stabilization, preservation, and recovery of artifacts and materials of the United States Ship Monitor. In preparing and implementing the plan, the Secretary shall to the extent feasible utilize the resources of other Federal and private entities with expertise and capabilities that are helpful.

SEC. 5. PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF CERTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Section 315(e)(3) (16 U.S.C. 1445a(e)(3)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", except that in the case of a meeting of an Advisory Council established to provide assistance regarding any individual national marine sanctuary the notice is not required to be published in the Federal Register".

SEC. 6. ENHANCING SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES.

(a) INCORPORATION OF EXISTING PROVISION.—Section 316 (16 U.S.C. 1445 note) is redesignated as section 317, section 2204 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program

Amendments Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 5049) is moved so as to appear in the National Marine Sanctuaries Act following section 315, and that moved section is designated as section 316 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

(b) AMENDMENT OF INCORPORATED SECTION.—Section 316, as moved and designated by subsection (a) of this section, is amended as follows:

(1) Subsections (a), (g), and (h) are struck, and subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) are redesignated as subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e), respectively.

(2) In subsection (a), as so redesignated, the matter preceding paragraph (1) is struck and the following is inserted:

"(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may establish a program consisting of—"

(3) In subsection (a)(5), as so redesignated—
(A) "establishment" is struck and "solicitation" is inserted; and

(B) "fees" is struck and "monetary or in-kind contributions" is inserted.

(4) In subsection (a)(6), as so redesignated—

(A) "fees" is struck and "monetary or in-kind contributions" is inserted;

(B) "paragraph (5)" is struck and "paragraphs (5) and (6)" is inserted;

(C) "assessed" is struck and "collected" is inserted; and

(D) "in an interest-bearing revolving fund" is struck.

(5) In subsection (a)(7), as so redesignated—

(A) "and use" is inserted after "expenditure";

(B) "fees" is struck and "monetary and in-kind contributions" is inserted; and

(C) "and any interest in the fund established under paragraph (6)" is struck.

(6) In subsection (a), as so redesignated, paragraphs (5), (6), and (7) are redesignated in order as paragraphs (6), (7), and (8), and the following new paragraph is inserted after paragraph (4):

"(5) the creation, marketing, and selling of products to promote the national marine sanctuary program, and entering into exclusive or nonexclusive agreements authorizing entities to create, market or sell on the Secretary's behalf;"

(7) The following new sentence is added at the end of subsection (a), as so redesignated: "Monetary and in-kind contributions raised through the sale, marketing, or use of symbols and products related to an individual national marine sanctuary shall be used to support that sanctuary."

(8) In subsection (e), as so redesignated—

(A) paragraph (2) is struck;

(B) in paragraph (1), "(1)" is struck, and subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) are redesignated as paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4); and

(C) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, "fee" is struck and "monetary or in-kind contribution" is inserted.

(9) In each of subsections (b), (c), and (d), as so redesignated, by striking "subsection (b)" and inserting "subsection (a)".

SEC. 7. HAWAIIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY.

(a) INCLUSION OF KAHOO LAWE ISLAND WATERS.—Section 2305 of the Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary Act (16 U.S.C. 1433 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "(A)" and inserting "(a)"; and

(B) by striking "the area described in subsection (b) is" and inserting "the area described in subsection (b)(1) and any area included under subsection (b)(2) are";

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

"(2)(A) Within 6 months after the date of receipt of a request in writing from the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission for

inclusion within the Sanctuary of the area of the marine environment within 3 nautical miles of the mean high tide line of Kahoolawe Island (in this section referred to as the 'Kahoolawe Island waters'), the Secretary shall determine whether those waters may be suitable for inclusion in the Sanctuary.

"(B) If the Secretary determines under subparagraph (A) that the Kahoolawe Island waters may be suitable for inclusion within the Sanctuary—

"(i) the Secretary shall provide notice of that determination to the Governor of Hawaii; and

"(ii) the Secretary shall prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement, management plan, and implementing regulations for that inclusion in accordance with this Act, the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969."; and

(3) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) EFFECT OF OBJECTION BY GOVERNOR.—(1)(A) If, within 45 days after the date of issuance of the comprehensive management plan and implementing regulations under section 2306, the Governor of Hawaii certifies to the Secretary that the management plan, the implementing regulations, or any term of the plan or regulations is unacceptable, the management plan, regulation, or term, respectively, shall not take effect in the area of the Sanctuary lying within the seaward boundary of the State of Hawaii.

"(B) If the Secretary considers that an action under subparagraph (A) will affect the Sanctuary in such a manner that the policy or purposes of this title cannot be fulfilled, the Secretary may terminate the designation under subsection (a). At least 30 days before that termination, the Secretary shall submit written notice of the termination to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

"(2)(A) If, within 45 days after the Secretary issues the documents required under subsection (b)(2)(B)(ii), the Governor of Hawaii certifies to the Secretary that the inclusion of the Kahoolawe Island waters in the Sanctuary or any term of that inclusion is unacceptable—

"(i) the inclusion or the term shall not take effect; and

"(ii) subsection (b)(2) shall not apply during the 3-year period beginning on the date of that certification.

"(B) If the Secretary considers that an action under subparagraph (A) regarding a term of the inclusion of the Kahoolawe Island waters will affect the inclusion or the administration of the Kahoolawe Island waters as part of the Sanctuary in such a manner that the policy or purposes of this title cannot be fulfilled, the Secretary may terminate that inclusion."

(b) LIMITATION ON USER FEES.—The Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary Act (16 U.S.C. 1433 note) is further amended by redesignating section 2307 as section 2308, and by inserting after section 2306 the following new section:

"SEC. 2307. LIMITATION ON USER FEES.

"(a) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not institute any user fee under this Act or the National Marine Sanctuaries Act for any activity within the Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary or any use of the Sanctuary or its resources.

"(b) USER FEE DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'user fee' does not include—

"(1) any fee authorized by section 310 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act;

"(2) any gift or donation received under section 311 of that Act; and

"(3) any monetary or in-kind contributions under section 316 of that Act."

SEC. 8. FLOWER GARDEN BANKS BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.

(a) MODIFICATION.—Notwithstanding section 304 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1434), the boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, as designated by Public Law 102-251, are amended to include the area described in subsection (d), popularly known as Stetson Bank. This area shall be part of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary and shall be managed and regulated as though it had been designated by the Secretary of Commerce under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

(b) DEPICTION OF SANCTUARY BOUNDARIES.—The Secretary of Commerce shall—

(1) prepare a chart depicting the boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, as modified by this section; and

(2) submit copies of this chart to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(c) APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS.—Regulations issued by the Secretary of Commerce to implement the designation of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary shall apply to the area described in subsection (d), unless modified by the Secretary. This subsection shall take effect 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) AREA DESCRIBED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the area referred to in subsections (a), (b), and (c) is the area that is—

(A) generally depicted on the Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service map titled "Western Gulf of Mexico, Lease Sale 143, September 1993, Biologically Sensitive Areas, Map 3 of 3, Final";

(B) labeled "Stetson" on the High Island Area South Addition diagram on that map; and

(C) within the 52 meter isobath.

(2) MINOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary of Commerce may make minor adjustments to the boundaries of the area described in paragraph (1) as necessary to protect living coral resources or to simplify administration of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary and to establish precisely the geographic boundaries of Stetson Bank. The adjustments shall not significantly enlarge or otherwise alter the size of the area described in paragraph (1), and shall not result in the restriction of oil and gas activities otherwise permitted outside of the "no activity" zone designated for Stetson Bank as that zone is depicted on the Minerals Management Service map entitled "Final Notice of Sale 161, Western Gulf Mexico, Biological Stipulation Map Package".

(e) PUBLICATION OF NOTICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall, as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, publish in the Federal Register a notice describing—

(A) the boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, as modified by this section, and

(B) any modification of regulations applicable to that Sanctuary that are necessary to implement that modification of the boundaries of the Sanctuary.

(2) TREATMENT AS NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES ACT.—A notice published under paragraph (1) shall be considered to be the notice required to be published under section 304(b)(1) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1434(b)(1)).

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Amounts may be appropriated to carry out

this section under the authority provided in section 313 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, as amended by this Act.

SEC. 9. MISCELLANEOUS TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) Section 301(b)(2) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431(b)(2)) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon.

(b) Section 302 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1432) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting a semicolon; and

(2) in paragraph (7) by striking "and" after the semicolon at the end.

(c) Section 307(e)(1)(A) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1437(e)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting "of 1980" before the period at the end.

(d) Section 2109 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program Amendments Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 5045) is amended by striking the open quotation marks before "Section 311".

(e) Section 2110(d) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program Amendments Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 5046) is deemed to have amended section 312(b)(1) of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1443(b)(1)) by inserting "or authorize" after "undertake".

(f) The material added to the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 by section 2112 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program Amendments Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 5046)—

(1) is deemed to have been added by that section at the end of title III of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972; and

(2) shall not be considered to have been added by that section to the end of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972.

(g) Section 2202(e) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program Amendments Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 1433 note) is amended by striking "section 304(e)" and inserting "304(d)".

(h) Section 304(b)(3) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1434(b)(3)) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C);

(2) by moving the text of subparagraph (A) so as to begin at the end of the line on appears the heading for paragraph (3);

(3) by moving clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) 2 ems to the left, so that the left margins of clauses (i) and (ii) are aligned with the left margin of paragraph (3);

(4) by striking "(A) In" and inserting "In";

(5) by striking "(i)" and inserting "(A)"; and

(6) by striking "(ii)" and inserting "(B)".

SEC. 10. NORTHWEST STRAITS.

No designation of an area in the Northwest Straits in the State of Washington as a national marine sanctuary under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act shall take effect unless that designation is specifically authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11. DESIGNATION OF GERRY E. STUDDS STELLWAGEN BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY.

The Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary shall be known and designated as the "Gerry E. Studds Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary". Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to that national marine sanctuary shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Gerry E. Studds Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Pursuant to the rule, the

gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from Hawaii [Mr. ABERCROMBIE] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair will recognize the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].

(Mr. SAXTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

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

Mr. Speaker, today we are considering H.R. 543. With one exception, this bill is identical to H.R. 3487 which passed the House on September 4. That one change deletes a provision which is unacceptable to the other body.

On May 16, I, along with the gentleman from California [Mr. FARR], introduced this bill to reauthorize the National Marine Sanctuaries Act through fiscal year 1999.

The National Marine Sanctuaries Act is implemented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through the National Marine Sanctuary Program. The mission of this program is to protect significant marine environmental and cultural resource while ensuring the continuation of all compatible public and private uses. To accomplish this, the program oversees a system of specifically-managed marine areas. These areas include highly valuable environmental and historical features.

Over the past 21 years, Mr. Speaker, 14 national marine sanctuaries have been designed off our Nation's shores, from Massachusetts to Florida, in the Gulf of Mexico, and in Hawaii. Two more are active candidates for designation, one in the Great Lakes and one in the State of Washington.

The bill authorizes funding for the National Marine Sanctuaries Program through fiscal year 1999; directs the Secretary of Commerce to prepare and submit to Congress a long-range plan for the management, recovery and preservation of the U.S.S. *Monitor*; authorizes the Secretary to designate sponsors for the sanctuary program to create, market, and sell symbols and products to promote them; and designates that the money collected from those items sold at the sanctuaries can be retained for use by those sanctuaries.

The bill also adds a Stetson Bank to the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in Texas; simplifies the designation process for a minor addition to the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, and prohibits user fees in that sanctuary; and requires Congressional approval for designation of a sanctuary in the Northwest Straits in the State of Washington. These are small changes that will allow the system to operate more efficiently and be more responsive to the public's concerns.

Mr. Speaker, finally, I would just like to note that inasmuch as there is a strong rumor here that the House will adjourn sine die somewhere be-

tween now and midnight, that makes today the final day in the 104th Congress. By coincidence, it is also the final day in a 24 year-long distinguished career of our good friend and colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. STUDDS.

So it is fitting that this bill rename the Stellwagon Bank National Marine Sanctuary in honor of our colleague, who, for 22 years, was an active member of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee and, during those 22 years, has more accomplishments than I care to remember at this point, and of course, for the last 2 years he has worked diligently as my counterpart on the Subcommittee on Fish, Wildlife and Oceans of the Committee on Resources.

It is through his very, very diligent efforts and hard-working attitude that I have profited much for the last 12 years during my time here, have learned much, and have been able to call the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS] a great friend and wonderful colleague and, in many instances, a teacher to me with regard to the issues that we have dealt with in those two committees.

So it is my pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to make the recommendation that we all vote "aye" today on this bill, inasmuch as it does redesignate this sanctuary, which GERRY STUDDS actually helped to create himself, and, of course, this reauthorization of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act this year will demonstrate our collective commitment to protecting and wisely managing our Nation's marine natural resources.

Therefore, I ask all Members on both sides of the aisle to vote affirmatively on this bill today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

(Mr. ABERCROMBIE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

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

Mr. Speaker, want to thank the chairman as well and associate myself with all of his remarks, and particularly with those regarding the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS].

I am pleased to note, for whatever pleasant irony there might be, that literally the last provision of this bill is the naming of the sanctuary after the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS]. So I trust that all Members will recognize and abide by the request of the chairman.

I have little to add, Mr. Speaker, but rather to supplement just briefly. As indicated, we are asking the House to sign compromise language reauthorizing the National Marine Sanctuaries bill back from the other body in the hope that it will send the bill to the President before adjournment.

This bill contains all that the bill we passed previously does. It embodies the

House-Senate compromise, as had been indicated, that has bipartisan support. And I want to state that for the record. It most certainly is acceptable to the administration.

I want to emphasize that it provides a generous 3-year reauthorization for the program and contains many of the miscellaneous provisions, some of which the chairman pointed out, principally, to enhance the management of individual marine sanctuaries and to give NOAA the authority to raise private funds for sanctuary activities. I think the latter is particularly important.

All around, this is the kind of legislation that has been the rule rather than the exception from our Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans for much the same reasons as outlined by the chairman. I commend him for his hard work and the cooperation of him and the staff and the cooperation of many other individuals on the subcommittee and Committee of the Whole for this bill and the many others that we have had come before us.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no more requests for time at this point, and if the gentleman is prepared to yield back, I am prepared to do the same.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say to the chairman what a great pleasure it has been, once again, to be able to work with him, and I look forward to it again. That is by way of sympathetic magic.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much the gentleman's remarks and obviously have enjoyed working with him as well.

Mr. Speaker, I will yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 543, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to reauthorize the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.