

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such record votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

ASIAN ELEPHANT CONSERVATION
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 700) to reauthorize the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Page 4, strike out all after line 12 down to and including line 19 and insert:

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—

(1) The matter under the heading "MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND" in title I of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (16 U.S.C. 4246; 112 Stat. 2681–237), is amended—

(A) by striking "section 5304 of" and all that follows through "section 6 of the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997" and inserting "section 5 of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5304), part I of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4211 et seq.), and section 5 of the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4264)";

(B) by striking "16 U.S.C. 4224" and inserting "section 2204 of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4224)";

(C) by striking "16 U.S.C. 4225" and inserting "section 2205 of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4225)"; and

(D) by striking "16 U.S.C. 4211" and inserting "section 2101 of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4211)".

(2) Effective on the day after the date of enactment of the African Elephant Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2001 (107th Congress)—

(A) section 2104(a) of the African Elephant Conservation Act is amended by striking "this Act" and inserting "this title"; and

(B) section 2306(b) of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4245(b)) is amended by striking "this Act" each place it appears and inserting "this title".

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS
FOR NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE
FOUNDATION.

Section 10(a)(1) of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3709(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking "2003" and inserting "2005"; and

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking "\$20,000,000" and inserting "\$25,000,000".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Gilchrest) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST).

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

This legislation was introduced by our distinguished colleague the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and it was overwhelmingly approved by the House on June 12. This measure will extend the Asian Elephant Conservation Act at its existing authorization level.

Since its enactment in 1997, Congress has appropriated \$2.9 million to fund 46 conservation projects in 12 range countries. These funds, which are the only continuous source of money for the Asian elephants, have had a dramatic, positive impact on the ongoing international struggle to save this flagship species from extinction.

While many Americans were thrilled by the recent birth of an Asian elephant at the National Zoo, it is essential that natural habitat be preserved and protected for these animals. This is a fundamental goal of H.R. 700 because the battle to save the irreplaceable species is far from won.

During consideration in the other body, a number of technical corrections were made to the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. We have reviewed those modifications and support them.

Furthermore, the other body extended the authorization for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for 2 years and corrected a mistake made last year in their authorization levels. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation was created by Congress in 1984 to conserve fish, wildlife and plants and the habitats on which they depend.

In nearly 20 years, the Foundation has funded over 5,000 projects which have restored nearly 20 million acres of habitat, and over 11,000 miles of streams and waterways have been enhanced. In addition, the Foundation has been extremely successful in leveraging limited public dollars with corporate, private and other nonprofit funds. By any objective standard, the foundation has done an effective job of promoting healthy populations of fish, wildlife and plants.

I support these improvements and I urge an aye vote on H.R. 700 so that we can send this important legislation to the President for his signature, and I urge an aye vote on this legislation.

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

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY PRESIDENT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, your committee on the part of the House to join a like committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has been assembled and is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make has performed that duty.

The President asked us to report that he will be pleased to deliver his message at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, January 29, 2002, to a joint session of the two Houses.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I second the thoughts of the majority leader, and both Democrats and Republicans will welcome the President here on Tuesday night for the State of the Union.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the committee.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

I rise in support, Mr. Speaker, of H.R. 700, a bill to reauthorize the Asian Elephant Conservation Act.

I would also like to recognize and applaud the bill's sponsor, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), for his continued leadership in protecting these magnificent, yet imperiled animals.

Unlike African elephants, the steep decline in the population of Asian elephants was not widely known until 1997. Sadly, we have learned that this population, at one time flourishing, is now fragmented into ever-shrinking remnant populations scattered across 13 countries throughout Southern and Southeast Asia.

Fortunately, the Asian Elephant Conservation Act has helped range states the address the multiple threats which have contributed to the decline of this keystone species in the wild.

Grants initiated under the Asian Elephant Conservation Program have provided valuable financial assistance to impoverished areas.

These funds have supported a wide assortment of projects within range states, including conservation, planning, scientific research, education and community outreach, as well as anti-poaching and law enforcement activities.

Progress on the ground is being made. That is why this legislation is fully supported by the administration and by many international conservation organizations, including the World Wildlife Fund and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 700 is virtually the same legislation that the House passed earlier this year by the lopsided vote of 401 to 15. The other technical amendments made by the other body to H.R. 700 are noncontroversial, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to reauthorize this important wildlife program.

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

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), the author of the legislation. (Mr. SAXTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST) for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, during the years that I have been involved in this issue, from

time to time folks come to me and say why are you concerned about the situation involving the Asian elephants. I just wanted to take a few minutes this morning to explain why that is and how we got to where we are with this program that has been quite successful.

Mr. Speaker, in 1997 I introduced this bill because I became startled to learn that there were less than 40,000 Asian elephants living in the wild. Furthermore, nearly 50 percent of those elephants were living in various national parks in India, while the remaining animals were scattered in fragmented populations in 12 other countries in South and Southeast Asia.

Mr. Speaker, it occurred to me that with the rapid decline in the population of this species, it is not without reason that one could conclude that they would actually some day, in the not too distant future, become extinct unless something was done by the variety of people who care about issues involving wildlife.

The primary reason for this serious decline in population is the loss of essential habitat. That should be no surprise to anyone. It is no secret that elephants and man are in direct competition for the same resources. In most cases, it was the elephants who lost.

In addition, Asian elephants are poached for their bones, hide, meat and teeth and are still captured for domestication, and conflicts between elephants and people are escalating at an alarming rate.

Furthermore, it was clear that millions of Americans were not aware of the plight of Asian elephants and, in addition, range countries lacked the financial resources to help conserve this flagship species.

Without an international effort, the future of the Asian elephant was in serious jeopardy, and in response to this problem, along with a number of other Members, we proposed the establishment of the Asian Elephant Conservation Fund. The concept was modeled after the highly successful African Elephant Conservation Fund.

The fundamental goal of this legislation was to obtain a small amount of Federal assistance for on-the-ground conservation projects. Fortunately, this important legislation was overwhelmingly approved by both bodies and was finally signed into law in 1997.

Under the provisions of this act, \$25 million could be set aside for the Asian elephant conservation funds until September 30, 2002. In fact, some \$2.9 million in Federal funds have been allocated and these moneys have been matched by an additional \$1.1 million in private donations.

These funds have been used to underwrite 46 conservation projects in 12 range countries to help benefit the Asian elephant population. While the early indication is that the worldwide population of Asian elephants has stopped its precipitous decline, it is unrealistic to believe that \$3 million can save the species from extinction.

We have been successful but we are not finished. Nevertheless, this law has sent a powerful message to the international community that we must not allow this flagship species to disappear from the wild.

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The United States must continue to play its crucial leadership role. So I am pleased to have introduced this reauthorization and am hopeful that it will again pass the House of Representatives and be signed into law by the President.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I would like to once again commend the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) for his passion on this issue and his leadership at the committee.

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to also compliment the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) for his effort on this issue, and the staff, and all those who helped push this bill through. I urge my colleagues to vote "aye" on this legislation.

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the Asian Elephant Conservation Act, H.R. 700. This important measure will help protect the future of the Asian elephant by supporting and providing resources to conservation programs around the world.

The Center for Elephant Conservation, located in my congressional district in Polk County, Florida, is dedicated to the conservation, breeding, and scientific study of Asian elephants. The Center for Elephant Conservation, sponsored through private funding from Ringling Brothers, is a global focal point for the worldwide study of the Asian elephant. Knowledge developed at the conservation center is shared with veterinary scientists dedicated to the preservation of the Asian elephant around the world.

With fewer than 50,000 Asian elephants left internationally, the animal has been placed on the Endangered Species Act. The captive breeding program at the Elephant Conservation Center, however, is one of the most successful in the world, with over 12 elephant births in the last decade and is dedicated to the care and husbandry of elephants.

The Asian Elephant Conservation Reauthorization Act would enable critical conservation efforts to continue to protect endangered species for future generations. Since 1997 when the bill was first authorized, over 27 conservation grants, matched in private funding, have been designated in nine different countries for the protection of the Asian elephant.

The Act, which extends authorization to 2007, will continue to help preserve the future of the Asian elephant by supporting programs for the promotion of elephant conservation, resettlement of elephants, education on population dynamics and feeding patterns and other important elephant conservation programs.

Please join me in support of the Asian Elephant Conservation Reauthorization Act and help to preserve the future of the Asian elephant.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 700.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

TUMACACORI NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION ACT OF 2001

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2234) to revise the boundary of the Tumacacori National Historical Park in the State of Arizona, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2234

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 "Tumacacori National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—*The Congress finds the following:*

(1) *Tumacacori Mission in southern Arizona was declared a National Monument in 1908 in recognition of its great historical significance as "one of the oldest mission ruins in the southwest".*

(2) *In establishing Tumacacori National Historical Park in 1990 to include the Tumacacori Mission and the ruins of the mission of Los Santos Angeles de Guevavi and the Kino visita and rancharia of Calabazas, Congress recognized the importance of these sites "to protect and interpret, for the education and benefit of the public, sites in the State of Arizona associated with the early Spanish missionaries and explorers of the 17th and 18th centuries".*

(3) *Tumacacori National Historical Park plays a major role in interpreting the Spanish colonial heritage of the United States.*

(b) PURPOSES.—*The purposes of this Act are—*

(1) *to protect and interpret the resources associated with the Tumacacori Mission by revising the boundary of Tumacacori National Historical Park to include approximately 310 acres of land adjacent to the park; and*

(2) *to enhance the visitor experience at Tumacacori by developing access to these associated mission resources.*

SEC. 3. BOUNDARY REVISION, TUMACACORI NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, ARIZONA.

Section 1(b) of Public Law 101-344 (16 U.S.C. 410ss(b)) is amended—

(1) *by inserting after the first sentence the following new sentence: "The park shall also consist of approximately 310 acres of land adjacent to the original Tumacacori unit of the park and*