

emigrants of the Willies and Martin handcart companies lost their lives in an early fall snowstorm. Those who perished were buried where they died, and many were placed in common graves because of the tremendously difficult and trying conditions.

Many members of these two handcart companies began their trek to Salt Lake City in Europe, and others joined them in the eastern United States. They sought a new life in the American West and the freedom to practice their religion. This loss of life was one of the most tragic events in the entire westward migration on the California, Oregon and Mormon trails and mid-nineteenth century America.

It is obvious that this site holds a special significance for the many descendants of those who survived this ordeal, many of whom are Latter-day Saints. But it is also a holy place as well for other members of the church who give special honors to their pioneer heritage.

Madam Speaker, the church's interest in acquiring this site is consistent with the Federal Government's interest in public access and preservation of this important site. The church has an interest in preserving this place as an authentic historic site. It has an interest in maintaining relics and evidences of the Mormon, Oregon, California, and Pony Express trails that pass through the area. The church also has an interest in making the area accessible to visitors in a way that will preserve the historic significance of the place. Furthermore, I believe that the church's commitment to this site is likely to be much greater than that of the Federal Government, and as a result the area will be better preserved and better cared for under Latter-day Saint stewardship than under Federal control.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I do not see this legislation for the transfer of this particular piece of land to be establishing any precedent for the sale or transfer of other Federal lands. Clearly this is a unique situation. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has an interest that is very similar to the Federal interest to preserve, protect and provide public access to the site. This land transfer makes eminent sense, but it clearly does not change any Federal policies or practices regarding the protection and preservation of public lands.

Madam Speaker, I commend my colleague from Utah, Mr. HANSEN, for introducing this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4103, 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.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### SHOSHONE NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL MANAGEMENT ACT

Mr. HANSEN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 3936) to designate and provide for the management of the Shoshone National Recreation Trail, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3936

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHOSHONE NATIONAL TRAIL.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) APPROPRIATE SECRETARY.—The term “appropriate Secretary” means—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture when referring to land under the jurisdiction of that Secretary; and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior when referring to any land except that under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

(2) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map entitled “James V. Hansen Shoshone National Trail” and dated April 5, 2002.

(3) TRAIL.—The term “Trail” means the system of trails designated in subsection (b) as the James V. Hansen Shoshone National Trail.

(b) DESIGNATION.—The trails that are open to motorized use pursuant to applicable Federal and State law and are depicted on the Map as the Shoshone National Trail are hereby designated as the “James V. Hansen Shoshone National Trail”.

(c) MANAGEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the appropriate Secretary shall manage the Trail consistent with the requirements of a national recreation trail in accordance with—

(A) the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.); and

(B) other applicable laws and regulations for trails on Federal lands.

(2) COOPERATION; AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall cooperate with the State of Utah Department of Natural Resources and appropriate county governments in managing the Trail. The appropriate Secretary shall make every reasonable effort to enter into cooperative agreements with the State of Utah Department of Natural Resources and appropriate county governments (separately, collectively, or in any combination, as agreed by the parties) for management of the Trail.

(3) PRIMARY PURPOSE.—The primary purpose of this Act is to provide recreational trail opportunities for motorized vehicle use on the Trail. The Trail shall be managed in a manner that is consistent with this purpose, ensures user safety, and minimizes user conflicts.

(4) ADDITION OF TRAILS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The appropriate Secretary may add trails to the Trail in accordance with the National Trails System Act and this Act. The Secretary shall consider the Trail a national recreation trail for the purpose of making such additions.

(B) REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITION OF TRAILS ON NON-FEDERAL LAND.—If a trail to be added to the Trail is located on non-Federal land, the appropriate Secretary may add the trail only if the owner of the land upon which the trail is located has—

(i) consented to the addition of the trail to the Trail; and

(ii) entered into an agreement with the appropriate Secretary for management of the additional trail in a manner that is consistent with this Act.

(5) NOTICE OF OPEN ROUTES.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall ensure that the public is adequately informed regarding the routes open

for the Trail, including by appropriate signage along the Trail.

(d) NO EFFECT ON NON-FEDERAL LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect ownership, management, or other rights related to any non-Federal land or interests in land, except as provided in an agreement related to that land entered into by the landowner under subsection (c)(4)(B)(ii).

(e) ACQUISITION OF LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND.—The appropriate Secretary may acquire land and interests in land for the purposes of the Trail only from willing owners.

(f) MAP ON FILE; UPDATED.—The Map shall be—

(1) kept on file at the appropriate offices of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(2) updated by the appropriate Secretary whenever trails are added to the Trail.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 3936, which I introduced, would designate and provide for the management of approximately 337 miles of existing trails, already open to OHV use in northern Utah on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and adjacent BLM lands.

It would also allow that, consistent with the National Trails System Act, additional segments might be added administratively on Federal land at a later point, and that trails on non-Federal lands might be added once local communities have identified the most appropriate access points and local trails. Once these additional segments are added, it is expected that there will be approximately 500 miles of trails in the system. In addition, the bill I bring to the floor today also contains an amendment to insert the proper map title and to clarify how the agencies may add additional segments under the National Trails System Act.

In recent years Utah has seen a dramatic increase in the number of registered off-highway vehicles. This growth has presented Federal and State land managers with the difficult challenge of finding and identifying appropriate places to ride for this growing group of recreationalists. Experience has shown when an organized system of trails has been identified, it becomes easier to direct these recreational activities to appropriate places and to protect the areas where OHV riding would not be appropriate.

This bill is a proactive attempt to handle this growing recreational activity. In fact, as meetings were held with local community leaders, it was interesting to note that the concept was supported not only by locally elected officials, but also by some local conservationists who, while not generally