

thereof and supplemental thereto, the Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this section as the "Secretary"), through the Bureau of Reclamation, and in consultation and cooperation with the El Dorado Irrigation District, is authorized to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a project on Alder Creek in El Dorado County, California, to store water and provide water supplies during dry and critically dry years for consumptive use, recreation, in-stream flows, irrigation, and power production.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) TRANSMISSION.—Upon completion of the study authorized by subsection (a), the Secretary shall transmit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing the results of the study.

(2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report shall contain appropriate cost sharing options for the implementation of the project based upon the use and possible allocation of any stored water.

(3) USE OF AVAILABLE MATERIALS.—In developing the report under this section, the Secretary shall use reports and any other relevant information supplied by the El Dorado Irrigation District.

(c) COST SHARE.—

(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of the feasibility study authorized by this section shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the study.

(2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION FOR NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The Secretary may accept as part of the non-Federal cost share the contribution such in-kind services by the El Dorado Irrigation District as the Secretary determines will contribute to the conduct and completion of the study.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$3,000,000 to carry out this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3597, authored by the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study on constructing a water storage project on Alder Creek in El Dorado County in California. The goal of the storage project is to provide water supplies during dry and critically dry years.

Like many areas in the western United States, El Dorado County faces constant water supply shortages. In light of drought and growing environment and human needs, many believe more traditional storage is needed. Supporters believe this project, in conjunction with water conservation measures, will augment the local water district's water supply, increase downstream habitat flows, and add hydropower resources. This project is an excellent example of a local agency working to secure safe and dependable water supplies for future generations. I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to the consideration of this measure.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, 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. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3597, 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.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION ACT

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4606) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation and in coordination with other Federal, State, and local government agencies, to participate in the funding and implementation of a balanced, long-term groundwater remediation program in California, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4606

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 "Southern California Groundwater Remediation Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION.—The term "groundwater remediation" means actions that are necessary to prevent, minimize, clean up, or mitigate damage to groundwater.

(2) LOCAL WATER AUTHORITY.—The term "local water authority" means a currently existing (on the date of the enactment of this Act) public water district, public water utility, public water planning agency, municipality, or Indian Tribe located within the natural watershed of the Santa Ana River in the State of California.

(3) REMEDIATION FUND.—The term "Remediation Fund" means the Southern California Groundwater Remediation Fund established pursuant to section 3(a).

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION.

(a) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF REMEDIATION FUND.—There shall be established within the Treasury of the United States an interest bearing account to be known as the "Southern California Groundwater Remediation Fund".

(2) ADMINISTRATION OF REMEDIATION FUND.—The Remediation Fund shall be administered by the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation. The Secretary shall administer the Remediation Fund in cooperation with the local water authority.

(3) PURPOSES OF REMEDIATION FUND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the amounts in the Remediation Fund, including interest accrued, shall be used by

the Secretary to provide grants to the local water authority to reimburse the local water authority for the Federal share of the costs associated with designing and constructing groundwater remediation projects to be administered by the local water authority.

(B) COST-SHARING LIMITATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not obligate any funds appropriated to the Remediation Fund in a fiscal year until the Secretary has deposited into the Remediation Fund an amount provided by non-Federal interests sufficient to ensure that at least 35 percent of any funds obligated by the Secretary for a groundwater remediation project are from funds provided to the Secretary for that project by the non-Federal interests.

(ii) NON-FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY.—Each local water authority shall be responsible for providing the non-Federal amount required by clause (i) for projects under that local water authority. The State of California, local government agencies, and private entities may provide all or any portion of the non-Federal amount.

(iii) CREDITS TOWARD NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—For purposes of clause (ii), the Secretary shall credit the appropriate local water authority with the value of all prior expenditures by non-Federal interests made after January 1, 2000, that are compatible with the purposes of this section, including—

(I) all expenditures made by non-Federal interests to design and construct groundwater remediation projects, including expenditures associated with environmental analyses, and public involvement activities that were required to implement the groundwater remediation projects in compliance with applicable Federal and State laws; and

(II) all expenditures made by non-Federal interests to acquire lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, disposal areas, and water rights that were required to implement a groundwater remediation project.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW.—In carrying out the activities described in this section, the Secretary shall comply with any applicable Federal and State laws.

(c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ACTIVITIES.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect other Federal or State authorities that are being used or may be used to facilitate remediation and protection of the groundwater the natural watershed of the Santa Ana River in the State of California. In carrying out the activities described in this section, the Secretary shall integrate such activities with ongoing Federal and State projects and activities. None of the funds made available for such activities pursuant to this section shall be counted against any Federal authorization ceiling established for any previously authorized Federal projects or activities.

(d) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITS.—The Secretary shall ensure that all funds obligated and disbursed under this Act and expended by a local water authority, are accounted for in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and are subjected to regular audits in accordance with applicable procedures, manuals, and circulars of the Department of the Interior and the Office of Management and Budget.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Remediation Fund \$50,000,000. Such funds shall remain available until expended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4606, authored by the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the funding and implementation of a balanced, long-term groundwater remediation program in California. H.R. 4606 establishes the Southern California Basins Groundwater Remediation Fund within the U.S. Treasury to provide Federal cost-share monies to remediate groundwater supplies in the Santa Ana watershed. I urge adoption of this measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend first the sponsor of the bill, the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA), for bringing forth this very important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA).

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4606, the Southern California Groundwater Remediation Act.

First of all, I would like to thank our minority leader and our majority leader for supporting this bill. Our majority leader happened to go in the Inland Empire to see what is going on in that area, and I appreciate that.

The Southern California Groundwater Remediation Act is a long-term solution to helping cities in Southern California remove perchlorate from their drinking water. Perchlorate groundwater contamination has become a crisis in Southern California. This includes my hometown of Rialto in California.

Perchlorate is a main ingredient in rocket fuel. It has been found in drinking water supplies in 40 States, including California. It has been linked to thyroid damage and may be especially harmful to infants and developing fetuses and the 1.2 million women of childbearing age in San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange counties.

It is also harmful to those with weak immune systems, such as seniors and AIDS patients. There is a legal and moral obligation to provide safe and healthy water. Today, these obligations are in jeopardy. The hard-working families in these areas are not at fault and should not have to pay for these problems. We must protect the consumer. Southern California, and particularly the Inland Empire, has been greatly impacted by perchlorate. Perchlorate has been detected in 182 sources in the counties served by the Santa Ana River watershed.

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There is a perchlorate plume in the Inland Empire in California that is 7 miles long. It has affected 20 wells in San Bernardino County and jeopardized the water supplies of 500,000 residents.

The economic burden on these communities is almost as much of a concern as the potential health effects.

H.R. 4606 authorizes \$50 million in much-needed assistance. It is modeled after a successful program in the San Gabriel Basin in southern California that has also suffered from perchlorate-polluted water. And it is similar to H.R. 4459, a bill introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO) that deals with perchlorate in northern California and passed this House last week.

I urge my colleagues to support this urgent bill for southern California so we can tell these communities that help is on the way. I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO), the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) for their support of H.R. 4606 and for moving this legislation forward quickly.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4606, 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.

MONTANA WATER CONTRACTS EXTENSION ACT OF 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5009) to extend water contracts between the United States and specific irrigation districts and the City of Helena in Montana, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5009

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 "Montana Water Contracts Extension Act of 2004".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF WATER CONTRACTS.

(a) AUTHORITY TO EXTEND.—The Secretary of the Interior may extend each of the water contracts listed in subsection (b) until the earlier of—

(1) the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the date on which the contract would expire but for this section; or

(2) the date on which a new long-term water contract is executed by the parties to the contract listed in subsection (b).

(b) EXTENDED CONTRACTS.—The water contracts referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) Contract Number 14-06-600-2078, as amended, for purchase of water between the United States of America and the City of Helena, Montana.

(2) Contract Number 14-06-600-2079, as amended, between the United States of

America and the Helena Valley Irrigation District for water service.

(3) Contract Number 14-06-600-8734, as amended, between the United States of America and the Toston Irrigation District for water service.

(4) Contract number 14-06-600-3592, as amended, between the United States and the Clark Canyon Water Supply Company, Inc., for water service and for a supplemental supply.

(5) Contract number 14-06-600-3593, as amended, between the United States and the East Bench Irrigation District for water service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

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

H.R. 5009, authored by our distinguished committee colleague from Montana (Mr. REHBERG), extends five Bureau of Reclamation water service contracts with the city of Helena, Montana, and nearby irrigation districts for up to 2 years. These extensions are needed mainly to complete necessary Endangered Species Act studies on the Missouri River. Furthermore, these extensions will allow for continued water deliveries while providing more time for the Federal Government and contract holders to negotiate new long-term contracts.

I urge the adoption of the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, we have no objection to the consideration of this measure.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, 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. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5009.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AINSWORTH UNIT, NEBRASKA WATER CONTRACT EXTENSION

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5016) to extend the water service contract for the Ainsworth Unit, Sandhills Division, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, Nebraska.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5016

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