

“(d) COMPENSATION.—Voting members of the panel shall be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses, such as travel and per diem, incurred in the performance of such duties.”.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 307 of the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), as redesignated by section 2, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 307. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 for the purposes of carrying out this Act.”.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NOAA LAND SALE

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 5350) to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange certain National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration property located Norfolk, Virginia, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Senate amendment:

On page 4, after line 20, insert:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Commerce, through the Under Secretary and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), is authorized to enter into a land lease with Mobile County, Alabama for a period of not less than 40 years, on such terms and conditions as NOAA deems appropriate, for purposes of construction of a Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center facility, provided that the lease is at no cost to the government. NOAA may enter into agreements with state, local, or county governments for purposes of joint use, operations and occupancy of such facility.

Mr. RAHALL (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from West Virginia?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST VERTICAL ASCENT OF THE FACE OF EL CAPITAN IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1474) recognizing the 50th anniversary of the first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan in Yosemite National Park and honoring the historic climbing feat of

the original climbing team, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1474

Whereas November 12, 2008, will mark the 50th anniversary of the first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan in Yosemite National Park;

Whereas in 1890 Yosemite National Park was established as the third National Park of the United States;

Whereas Yosemite National Park is commonly referred to as “The Crown Jewel of the National Park System;”

Whereas Yosemite National Park is recognized as the “Climbing Mecca” of the world;

Whereas El Capitan is the world's tallest free-standing granite monolith, with a summit elevation of 7,569 feet above sea level;

Whereas Wayne Merry, George Whitmore, and Warren J. Harding, the original climbing team, with the assistance of Wally Reed, Allen Steck, Bill “Dolt” Feuerer, Mark Powell, John Whitmer, Rich Calderwood, and the ground support team of Bea Vogel and Ellen Searby, completed the first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan on November 12, 1958;

Whereas the first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan was accomplished on the Nose Route, recognized as one of the most famous climbing routes in the world;

Whereas November 8, 1958, marks the date when the final push towards the summit of El Capitan was spurred on due to deteriorating weather conditions;

Whereas the first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan was accomplished in 47 days in expedition style;

Whereas the first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan was accomplished by the original climbing team using fixed ropes that linked established camps along the way;

Whereas the original climbing team relied heavily on aid climbing, using rope, pitons, and expansion bolts to make it to the summit;

Whereas thousands of rock climbers have reached the summit of El Capitan since 1958 using the identical Nose Route; and

Whereas on November 8, 2008, there will be an event in Yosemite National Park celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 50th anniversary of the momentous first vertical ascent of the face of El Capitan in Yosemite National Park; and

(2) honors the historic climbing feat of the original climbing team.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENDING AUTHORIZATION OF DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of

the bill (H.R. 7017) to amend Public Law 100-573 to extend the authorization of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7017

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

SECTION 1. EXTENDED AUTHORIZATION OF DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION.

Section 5 of Public Law 100-573 (16 U.S.C. 460a note) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 5. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.

“The Commission shall terminate on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.”.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. RAHALL

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. RAHALL:

On page 2, line 3, strike “1 year” and insert “21 years”.

Mr. RAHALL (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEMA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2007

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of the Senate bill (S. 2382) to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to quickly and fairly address the abundance of surplus manufactured housing units stored by the Federal Government around the country at taxpayer expense, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2382

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 “FEMA Accountability Act of 2007”.