

Harris County. His area was pretty devastated, along with the northwest part where Congressman McCAUL represents, and a number of other folks. But there is a reason why we are called the coastal plain in the Houston area, because when it floods, we fill up the bayous, we fill up the rivers, and the only place it goes is in our businesses and in our homes. That is why this amendment is so important.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and protect our most vulnerable communities.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank, again, the chairperson, the ranking member, and the Rules Committee as well.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 25 OFFERED BY MS. HERRERA BEUTLER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 25 printed in House Report 114-790.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 1. WATERCRAFT INSPECTION STATIONS.
Section 104 of the River and Harbor Act of 1958 (33 U.S.C. 610) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may establish, operate, and maintain new or existing watercraft inspection stations to protect the Columbia River Basin to be located in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington at locations, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with such States with the highest likelihood of preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species at reservoirs operated and maintained by the Secretary. The Secretary shall also assist the States referred to in this paragraph with rapid response of any Quagga or Zebra mussel infestation.”

(B) in paragraph (3) by inserting “Governors of the” before “States”; and

(2) in subsection (e) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) assist the States in early detection of Quagga and Zebra mussels;”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 892, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is a simple technical correction to clarify congressional intent to assist Northwestern States in prevention and monitoring of aquatic invasive species.

Western States are seeing a troubling spread of quagga and zebra mussels, which are an invasive species that quickly destroy infrastructure for hy-

dropower, water supply, filtration systems, and fisheries.

Once this species becomes established and spreads, it is difficult and very costly to eradicate. In some States, invasive mussels are already costing industries and businesses hundreds of millions of dollars in damage and repair.

For communities in the Columbia River basin, an infestation would be devastating to production of clean, renewable hydropower, which means steep rate hikes for families and businesses that are located in our region and are currently thriving due to the low cost of energy.

Communities would also suffer severe damages to fisheries and boats, putting all users and recreators of the Columbia and Snake River systems at risk.

Prevention is the first line of defense and the cheapest tool to use against invasive species. Watercraft inspection stations are particularly crucial in successful monitoring and detection. These stations intercept thousands of boats from all over the country to inspect and decontaminate.

This is why Congress authorized funds under the 2014 WRRDA to support watercraft inspection stations that protect the Columbia River basin from mussel invasion. Unfortunately, these funds have yet to actually reach the stations due to an ambiguity in the law.

This amendment simply clarifies that funds authorized under WRDA are intended to assist in establishing new watercraft inspection stations and support coverage for existing stations in Northwestern States.

Mr. Chairman, this is a good-government amendment to ensure that Federal funds are being used for the purpose for which Congress intended.

I urge adoption of the amendment.

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition, although I do not oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from Oregon is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentlewoman for bringing this forward.

We are one of the last refuges in the United States free of the zebra mussel, which is incredibly destructive and expensive. This will help us protect the integrity of our vital riverine resources.

I thank the gentlewoman for bringing this forward, and I fully support it.

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

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for the support. Let's get this amendment moving.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER).

The amendment was agreed to.

□ 1930

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAMALFA) having assumed the chair, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5303) to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADVISORY BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 703 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 903), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Social Security Advisory Board for a term of 6 years, effective October 9, 2016:

Ms. Kim Hildred, Alexandria, Virginia

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 114(b) of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1103), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development for a term of 6 years:

Mr. GREGG HARPER, Pearl, Mississippi

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2340

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STIVERS) at 11 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.