

To:	House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Members
From:	House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Staff
Date:	February 14, 2022
Subject:	Markup on 14 Bills: H.R. 1546 (Carter), H.R. 3525 (Meng), H.R. 3540
	(Sarbanes), H.R. 4458 (Huffman), H.R. 4677 (Tonko), H.R. 5973 (Dingell), H.R.
	6023 (Costa), H.R. 6142 (Ryan), H.R. 6199 (Smith), H.R. 6201 (Watson
	Coleman), H.R. 6337 (Neguse), H.R. 6434 (Obernolte), H.R. 6435 (McMorris
	Rodgers), H.Res. 641 (Newhouse)

The Natural Resources Committee will hold a markup on 14 bills on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. EST** online via Cisco WebEx. The 14 bills include H.R. 1546 (Carter), H.R. 3525 (Meng), H.R. 3540 (Sarbanes), H.R. 4458 (Huffman), H.R. 4677 (Tonko), H.R. 5973 (Dingell), H.R. 6023 (Costa), H.R. 6142 (Ryan), H.R. 6199 (Smith), H.R. 6201 (Watson Coleman), H.R. 6337 (Neguse), H.R. 6434 (Obernolte), H.R. 6435 (McMorris Rodgers), and H.Res. 641 (Newhouse).

Member offices are requested to notify Baylee Seeman (<u>Baylee.Seeman@mail.house.gov</u>) by **4:30 p.m. EST on Tuesday, February 15, 2022**, if their Member intends to participate in person in the hearing room or remotely from his/her laptop from another location. Amendments and submissions for the record must be submitted through the Committee's electronic repository at <u>HNRCDocs@mail.house.gov</u>. Please contact David DeMarco

(<u>David.DeMarco@mail.house.gov</u>) or Everett Winnick (<u>EverettWinnick@mail.house.gov</u>) should any technical difficulties arise.

#### I. KEY MESSAGES

- Bills expected to move by Regular Order are:
  - H.R. 3540 (Sarbanes): This bill would reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) with a lower requirement for the percentage of federal cost share.
  - H.R. 4458 (Huffman): This bill would establish a new grant program at NOAA to conserve, restore, or manage kelp forests.
  - H.R. 4677 (Tonko): This bill would create a new grant program to manage New York and New Jersey watershed projects.
  - H.R. 5973 (Dingell): This bill would reauthorize the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 at a higher funding level
- Bills expected to move by unanimous consent are: H.R. 1546 (Carter), H.R. 3525 (Meng), H.R. 6023 (Costa), H.R. 6142 (Ryan), H.R. 6199 (Smith), H.R. 6201 (Watson

Coleman), H.R. 6337 (Neguse), H.R. 6434 (Obernolte), H.R. 6435 (McMorris Rodgers), and H.Res. 641 (Newhouse).

#### II. EXPECTED LEGISLATION

#### H.R.1546 (Carter), Combating Online Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2021

H.R. 1546 would reauthorize the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking (Task Force) through October 7, 2026. The bill would require the Task Force to develop recommendations and establish a working group to address wildlife trafficking on the internet. These recommendations must be included in the annual report to Congress.

H.R. 1546 has also been referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The bill has one cosponsor, Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA). Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed <u>here</u> and the hearing memo may be viewed <u>here</u>. *The Ranking Member supports this bill and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

Staff contacts: Kiel Weaver (<u>Kiel.Weaver@mail.house.gov</u>) or Annick Miller (<u>Annick.Miller@mail.house.gov</u>).

## H.R. 3525 (Meng), Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act

New Smithsonian museums are typically preceded by the establishment of commissions authorized to study the proposals. Since 2001, Congress has authorized three such commissions for the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Museum of the American Latino, and the National Women's History Museum. Most recently, Congress enacted legislation in 2020 to establish the National Museum of the American Latino and the American Women's History Museum. In addition to constructing two new museums, the Smithsonian is facing additional major financial issues including a facilities maintenance backlog approaching \$1 billion; identified collections storage needs (a Smithsonian study found 47 percent of storage space is considered inadequate); a \$900 million renovation of the National Air and Space Museum expected to conclude this year; and ongoing rehabilitation of the Smithsonian portfolio could pose significant additional challenges. In the past, David Skorton, former Secretary of the Smithsonian, stated that the Smithsonian did not have the capacity to handle a new museum given these challenges.<sup>2</sup>

H.R. 3525 would establish a Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture. The Commission would report recommendations for a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of Asian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hearing Before the U.S. House Committee on Administration entitled "Oversight of the Smithsonian Institution," "Statement of Cathy L. Helm, Inspector General, Smithsonian Institution," Sep. 18, 2019, https://docs.house.gov/meetings/HA/HA00/20190918/109929/HHRG-116-HA00-Wstate-HelmC-20190918-U1.pdf.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Hearing Before the U.S. House Committee on Administration entitled "Markup: Committee Franked Mail Resolution; Hearing: The Smithsonian Institution's Priorities," Statement of Dr. David J. Skorton, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution," Mar. 28, 2017, https://docs.house.gov/meetings/HA/HA00/20170328/105769/HHRG-115-HA00-Wstate-SkortonD-20170328.pdf.

Pacific American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., develop a fundraising plan, and submit a legislative plan of action to establish and construct the museum. The Commission may also convene a national conference relating to the museum.

An amendment will be offered to remove the authorization of appropriations for the Commission and to fully ensure that the commission assesses the feasibility and financial impact of adding a new museum to the Smithsonian's portfolio in light of their backlog and existing construction docket. The amendment is expected to be included in the unanimous consent package. *The Ranking Member supports this bill, as amended, and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The hearing memo for H.R. 3525 prepared by Committee Republican staff may be viewed here.

Staff contact: Terry Camp (Terry.Camp@mail.house.gov) (202-603-5382)

#### H.R. 3540 (Sarbanes), Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2021

H.R. 3540 would reauthorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office through Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 at various annual funding levels totaling \$78.9 million. According to NOAA, in FY21 the Chesapeake Bay Office executed \$5.4 million in funding for Chesapeake Bay programs including oyster restoration activities, funding for partners, workforce, rent, vessel and buoy maintenance, and other operational costs. The Chesapeake Bay Office also executed an additional \$2.7 million for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) grant program in coordination with NOAA's Office of Education. *The Ranking Member is opposed to the bill in its current form and the bill is expected to move through regular order*.

The bill has sixteen cosponsors, including one Republican (Rep. Rob Wittman, R-VA). Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed <u>here</u> and the hearing memo may be viewed <u>here</u>.

Staff contacts: Kiel Weaver (<u>Kiel.Weaver@mail.house.gov</u>) or Annick Miller (<u>Annick.Miller@mail.house.gov</u>).

# **H.R. 4458 (Huffman)**, To establish a grant program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to award grants to eligible entities for the purpose of carrying out projects on the conservation, restoration, or management of kelp forest ecosystems. *KELP Act.*

The bill would create a new grant program under NOAA authorized at \$250 million over five fiscal years for the "conservation, restoration, or management of kelp forest ecosystems." The program would require a 15 percent non-federal funding match that can be waived at the discretion of the NOAA Administrator. Chairman Grijalva will offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS) for this bill, which does not make substantive changes. *The Ranking Member opposes this bill and it is expected to move through regular order.* 

Sponsored by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA), the bill has 9 Democrat cosponsors. Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed <u>here</u> and the hearing memo may be viewed <u>here</u>.

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#### H.R. 4677 (Tonko), New York-New Jersey Watershed Protection Act

H.R. 4677 would require the Secretary of the Interior, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), to create a New York-New Jersey Watershed Restoration Program (Program) and accompanying grant program. The bill would authorize a total of \$300 million from FY 2022 through FY 2025, of which at least 75 percent (\$225 million) must be used for grants that have a 75 percent federal cost share. The remaining \$75 million can be used by the USFWS to implement the requirements of the Program.

Chairman Grijalva will offer an ANS for this bill, which would lower the authorization levels to \$150 million for FYs 2022 through 2025, allow other federal funds (as long as they are not from the Department of the Interior) to be used as matching funds, and allow the Secretary to waive any fund matching requirements. *The Ranking Member opposes this bill and it is expected to move through regular order.* 

The bill has twenty-six cosponsors, including two Republicans. Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed <u>here</u> and the hearing memo may be viewed <u>here</u>.

Staff contacts: Kiel Weaver (<u>Kiel.Weaver@mail.house.gov</u>) or Annick Miller (<u>Annick.Miller@mail.house.gov</u>).

## H.R. 5973 (Dingell), Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Reauthorization Act of 2021

H.R. 5973 would reauthorize the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Reauthorization Act (GLFWRA) at the current funding level of \$8 million annually through FY 2027 and require an additional report to Congress before December 31, 2027. The USFWS has not provided the Natural Resources Committee with an overdue congressionally mandated report (due before December 31, 2021) describing the actions taken to solicit and review proposals to restore fish and wildlife in the Great Lakes, the results of proposals implemented, and progress toward accomplishment of the goals Congress provided for the USFWS's activities in the Great Lakes. *The Ranking Member is opposed to the bill in its current form and the bill is expected to move through regular order.* 

The bill has three cosponsors: Reps. Darin LaHood (R-IL), David Joyce (R-OH), and Paul Tonko (D-NY). Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed <u>here</u> and the hearing memo may be viewed <u>here</u>.

Staff contacts: Kiel Weaver (<u>Kiel.Weaver@mail.house.gov</u>) or Annick Miller (<u>Annick.Miller@mail.house.gov</u>).

#### H.R. 6023 (Costa), Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2021.

A semipostal stamp is a postage stamp that is sold at a higher rate than the normal price for an ordinary first-class stamp. This bill would require the United States Postal Service (USPS) to sell the Multinational Species Conservation Fund Semipostal Stamp. USPS would be required to notify the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives when all copies have been sold. In 2010, the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act (P.L. 111-241) directed the USPS to issue a first-class mail stamp and that any amounts collected from the sale of the stamps would support the USFWS's Multinational Species Conservation Funds (Funds) provide grants to projects benefiting elephants, rhinos, tigers, great apes and marine turtles in their natural habitats<sup>4</sup> and, according to the USFWS, stamp sales had raised more than \$5.7 million for the Funds as of 2019.<sup>5</sup> The authorization for offering the stamp expired in 2017, at which point USPS suspended the sale, despite still having more than 49 million printed and unsold stamps on hand at the time.<sup>6</sup>

In 2019, the Committee passed a version of this bill by unanimous consent. The bill was subsequently passed by the House under suspension and by voice vote.<sup>7</sup> The current bill has twenty-seven cosponsors, including two Republicans. *The Ranking Member supports this bill and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed <u>here</u> and the hearing memo may be viewed <u>here</u>.

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#### H.R. 6142 (Ryan), National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study Act of 2021

The Buckeye Trail is a system of trails extending approximately 1,454 miles around the State of Ohio. The Buckeye Trail passes through many of the most scenic locations in the state, such as the Hocking Hills region and Cuyahoga Valley National Park. This bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility and suitability of designating the Buckeye Trail as a National Scenic Trail. There are currently 11 National Scenic Trails nationwide and they are intended to provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and also for conservation of scenic,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Public Law 111-24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service International Affairs, Multinational Species Conservation Acts, <u>https://www.fws.gov/international/laws-treaties-agreements/us-conservation-laws/multinational-species-conservation-acts.html</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> H. Rept. 116-285, <u>https://www.congress.gov/congressional-report/116th-congress/house-report/285</u> <sup>6</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/2019/11/20/house-section/article/H9086-1</u>

historic, natural, or cultural qualities.<sup>8</sup> Following completion of a feasibility study, Congress must again act before new National Scenic Trails are designated. These designations often include specific provisions concerning land acquisition and trail use policies.

At the legislative hearing, the National Park Service (NPS) testified in support of the bill, but recommended a technical correction. An amendment will be offered to amend the long title of the bill consistent with the NPS recommendations. The amendment is expected to be adopted in the unanimous consent package. *The Ranking Member supports this bill, as amended, and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The hearing memo for H.R. 6142 prepared by Committee Republican staff may be viewed here.

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#### H.R. 6199 (Smith), Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act

In 2020, Congress passed the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act and established the Ste. Geneviève National Historical Park in Missouri. The Historical Park preserves the history of Ste. Geneviève, the first permanent European settlement in Missouri. The enabling statute specified that the Historical Park could not be officially established until sufficient land had been acquired to constitute a manageable unit. To that end, NPS entered into a general agreement with the City of Ste. Geneviève to utilize an existing, city-owned welcome center. The city would like to donate the welcome center to NPS to serve as a permanent visitor center for the Historical Park.

This bill would authorize the Secretary to acquire, by donation, the welcome center and adjoining parking lot owned by the city and expand the boundary of the Historical Park to include this addition. A companion bill has been introduced by Senator Blunt (R-MO) as S. 3338. At the legislative hearing, the NPS testified in support of the bill. *The Ranking Member supports this bill and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The hearing memo for H.R. 6199 prepared by Committee Republican staff may be viewed here.

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#### H.R. 6201 (Watson Coleman), National Liberty Memorial Preservation Act

In 1986, Congress first authorized the establishment of the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial to honor the 5,000 courageous slaves and free Black persons who served as soldiers or provided civilian assistance during the American Revolution.<sup>9</sup> After decades of legislative extensions and failure to raise sufficient private capital, Congress provided new authorization in 2013 to a new non-profit organization, the National Mall Liberty Fund D.C., to construct a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Congressional Research Service, Report 43868, "The National Trails System: A Brief Overview," Mark K. DeSantis & Sandra L. Johnson, Feb. 20, 2020, <u>https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R43868</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Congressional Research Service, Report R43744, "Monuments and Memorials Authorized Under the Commemorative Works Act in the District of Columbia: Current Development of In Progress and Lapsed Works," Jacob R. Straus, Jan. 11, 2022 <u>https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R43744</u>.

commemorative work honoring the same individuals proposed by the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial in what is now commonly referred to as the "National Liberty Memorial."<sup>10</sup> This authorization for the commemorative work lapsed in 2021. This bill would extend, through September 30, 2027, the authorization for the National Mall Liberty Fund D.C. to construct a commemorative work in Washington, D.C. A companion bill has been introduced by Senator Grassley (R-IA) as S. 3334. At the legislative hearing, the NPS testified in support of the bill. *The Ranking Member supports this bill and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The hearing memo for H.R. 6201 prepared by Committee Republican staff may be viewed here.

Staff contact: Terry Camp (Terry.Camp@mail.house.gov) (202-603-5382)

#### H.R. 6337 (Neguse), Biking on Long-Distance Trails Act

The outdoor recreation economy accounted for nearly 2 percent of gross domestic product (\$374.3 billion) in 2020 and more than 4 million jobs.<sup>11</sup> Biking is one of the fastest growing sectors in the outdoor recreation economy. From April 2019 to April 2020, nationwide sales of mountain bikes rose by 150 percent.<sup>12</sup> Market Research Future predicted the mountain bike market will grow by 10 percent worldwide between now and 2027.<sup>13</sup> With this huge increase in mountain bike sales, many trails on public lands are replete with riders. The BOLT Act, H.R. 6337, is intended to meet the needs of biking enthusiasts by increasing the number of long-distance biking trails on federal lands. To accomplish this goal, the bill would direct the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture to 1) identify at least 10 long-distance bike trails; 2) identify at least 10 areas in which there is an opportunity to develop or complete long-distance bike trails; and 3) coordinate with stakeholders on the feasibility of, and resources necessary for, completing the development of such trails.

A companion bill has been introduced by Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM) as S. 3264. At the legislative hearing, the Department of the Interior testified in support of the bill, but recommended some technical amendments. An amendment will be offered to clarify the responsibilities of the Secretaries under the bill. The amendment is expected to be included in the unanimous consent package. *The Ranking Member supports this bill, as amended, and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The hearing memo for H.R. 6337 prepared by Committee Republican staff may be viewed here.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account, U.S. and States, 2020," Patricia Washington, Jeannine Aversa & Stanislaw Rzeznik, Nov. 9, 2021. <u>https://www.bea.gov/news/2021/outdoor-recreation-satellite-account-us-and-states-2020</u>. Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, "New economic report showcases outdoor recreation economy's strength & resiliency during difficult year," <u>https://recreationroundtable.org/bea-2020-orsa-</u>

release/#:~:text=The%20Bureau%20of%20Economic%20Analysis,and%20creates%204.3%20million%20jobs. <sup>12</sup> Bike Retailer and Industry News, "Bike market skyrockets, with sales up 75% in April," Jun. 16, 2020,

https://www.bicycleretailer.com/studies-reports/2020/06/16/bike-market-skyrockets-sales-75-april#.YfMMcerMKUm. <sup>13</sup> Market Research Future, "Mountain Bike Market Research Report: Information By Type (Cross Country Bikes, All Mountain Bikes, Downhill Bikes, Freeride Bikes, Dirt Jumping Bikes), Application (Racing, Leisure), and Region (North America, Europe, APAC, RoW) - Forecast till 2030" Oct. 2021, https://www.marketresearchfuture.com/reports/mountain-bike-market-5165.

#### H.R. 6434 (Obernolte), Japanese American World War II History Network Act

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, tens of thousands of Japanese Americans, including nearly 70,000 American citizens, were forcibly removed from the West Coast to ten relocation centers across the United States.<sup>14</sup> These Japanese Americans were imprisoned without trial and forced to relocate to some of the most desolate places in the country with what little personal belongings they could carry.<sup>15</sup> In recent decades, Congress and several presidential administrations conserved remnants of Japanese confinement sites through various means, including establishing units of the National Park System and through National Historic Landmark and National Register of Historic Places designations. Many sites related to Japanese American World War II history are now owned and maintained by State and local agencies, Tribal governments, or private non-profit organizations.

The Japanese American World War II History Network Act is intended to improve the visibility and public awareness of all sites (Federal, State, local, Tribal, and private) associated with the Japanese American experience during World War II. The bill would create a cohesive national network, coordinated by NPS, to produce and distribute educational materials, share resources, improve communication among related sites, and promote heritage tourism. Congress has established similar networks in recent years to connect geographically disparate sites associated with the Underground Railroad, the African American Civil Rights Movement, and the Reconstruction Era.

No additional federal funds would be authorized for the establishment of the network by this legislation. At the legislative hearing, the NPS testified in support of the bill. *The Ranking Member supports this bill and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The hearing memo for H.R. 6434 prepared by Committee Republican staff may be viewed here.

Staff contact: Terry Camp (Terry.Camp@mail.house.gov) (202-603-5382)

## **H.R. 6435 (McMorris Rodgers)**, To provide for the application of certain provisions of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 for fiscal year 2021

Historically, states and local governments were eligible to receive 25 percent of revenue generated on National Forest System (NFS) lands or 50 percent of revenue generated on certain BLM lands (Oregon and California lands and Coos Bay Wagon Road lands) within their jurisdiction for public purposes like schools or roads.<sup>16</sup> In response to substantially declining timber sales in the 1990s, as a result of federal actions such as the listing of the Northern Spotted Owl as an endangered species, and subsequent declines in timber revenues to states and counties, Congress enacted the "Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000"

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> National Archives and Records Administration, "Japanese-American Internment During World War II," Jan. 24, 2022.
<u>https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/japanese-relocation</u>.
<sup>15</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Congressional Research Service, Report R41303, "The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act: Background and Issues," Katie Hoover, Apr. 21, 2020, <u>https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R41303</u>.

(SRS) as a temporary, optional program of payments.<sup>17</sup> Counties with eligible lands can opt to receive either an SRS payment or the revenue-sharing payment described above.<sup>18</sup> However, the legislative authority to choose which type of payment a county would like to receive expired in FY 2013, essentially "locking in" counties to the option they selected in FY 2013.<sup>19</sup>

The recently passed "Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act" (Pub. L. 117-58, colloquially known as "the BIF") included a three-year extension of SRS. The reauthorization not only extended payments through FY 2023, but also reset the full funding amount used to calculate the SRS formula payments to equal the FY 2017 level of funding. The bill also re-instated elections for counties for the first time since FY 2013 so they could choose to switch between SRS payments and revenue-sharing payments. Additionally, counties could elect to allocate their payments between SRS Title I (funds schools and roads), Title II (funds federal land improvement projects), and Title III (funds community projects like wildfire preparedness) differently, as they were unable to do through FY 2013.

Under the statute, counties are required to make their payment election by August 1 and Title allocations by September 30 of each year. Unfortunately, due to statutory deadlines and technical drafting errors in the BIF, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is not able to open either of the elections processes for FY 2021, as statutory deadlines for elections had already passed by the time BIF was signed into law on November 15, 2020. As a result, all counties that receive revenue-sharing payments in the status quo will be forced to receive the SRS formula payment for FY 2021. Typically, the 10 percent of counties that elect to receive revenue-sharing payments do so because the payments they receive are higher than the SRS formula payment, meaning these counties will receive less funding. Under current law, funding allocations for every county will also be set to the default statutory allocation for FY 2021: 80 percent to Title I funding and 20 percent to Title II funding, with no funds allocated to Title III funding. This will negatively impact states and counties who benefit from flexibility in how their SRS payments are allocated. Finally, because the SRS payment formula takes into account how many counties opt-in to SRS payments, payments to counties across the board will be lower as more counties will be forced into SRS for FY 2021.

H.R. 6435 would amend current law to revert to the "locked in" FY 2013 elections and Title allocations for FY 2021 only. This will ensure that FY 2021 payments to states and counties follow the same elections as the FY 2020 payments, while still ensuring counties are able make new elections for FY 2022 and FY 2023, when the program is set to expire. This is consistent with previous SRS reauthorizations, which carried forward the elections and allocations made in FY 2013 for the period of the reauthorization. According to the USFS, this legislation must be signed into law by the first week of March so as to not delay the FY 2021 disbursements. *The Ranking Member supports this bill and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The hearing memo for H.R. 6435 prepared by Committee Republican staff may be viewed here.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Id. 90% of counties receive SRS payments, while only 10% receive revenue-sharing payments.

## **<u>H. Res. 641 (Newhouse)</u>**, Recognizing and celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Association of Conservation Districts and their commitment to our lands.

This non-binding House Resolution recognizes the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). NACD's mission is to promote responsible management and conservation of natural resources on all lands by representing locally led conservation districts and their associations through grassroots advocacy, education, and partnerships.<sup>20</sup> *The Ranking Member supports this resolution and it is expected to move by unanimous consent.* 

The bill has 33 cosponsors, including 20 Republicans. Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed <u>here</u> and the hearing memo may be viewed <u>here</u>.

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### III. EFFECT ON CURRENT LAW (RAMSEYER)

- <u>H.R. 1546</u>
- <u>H.R. 3540</u>
- H.R. 5973
- <u>H.R. 6023</u>
- <u>H.R. 6142</u>
- <u>H.R. 6199</u>