



Legislative Bulletin.....November 17, 2014

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H.R. 5069 - Federal Duck Stamp Act of 2014, as amended — (Fleming, R-LA)

Order of Business: [H.R. 5069](#) is scheduled for consideration on November 17, 2014, under a suspension of the rules, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill amends the [Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act](#) to increase the price of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp. This stamp funds the acquisition and conservation of easements for migratory birds. This bill increases the cost of the stamp from \$15 to \$25 for hunting years 2014 and beyond. In the event the Secretary determines the price of the stamp has caused a decrease in revenues, due to fewer purchases, the Secretary may reduce the price.

A subaccount under the “Migratory Bird Conservation Fund” is created where the Secretary of the Treasury will transfer all amounts in excess of \$15 that are received for the sale of each stamp sold for hunting years 2014 and beyond. The money collected in this subaccount will be used by the Secretary solely to acquire easements in real property in the United States for the conservation of migratory birds.

In addition, the bill requires the Secretary to include in each annual report a description of all activities conducted with regard to the promotion of stamp sales, an assessment of the status of wetlands conservation project, an analysis of the refuge lands opened and closed, the total number of acres of refuge land open for hunting and fishing, and a separate report on the hunting and fishing status of the lands added to the system.

Additional Background: The Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, commonly referred to as [Duck Stamps](#), are stamps produced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and are required to be purchased by hunters who hunt migratory water fowls. The Duck Stamp went into effect on July 1, 1934, due to concerns by conservationists of a decrease in wild ducks and geese. Since 1934, the sale of the Duck Stamp has generated more than \$800 million, which has been used to purchase or lease over [6 million acres](#) of wetlands in the United States in the [National Wildlife Refuge System](#). The current cost of the stamp (\$15) has remained the same since 1991.

Migratory waterfowl hunters over the age of 16 are required to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp (in addition to state hunting permits) every year. In addition, the stamp serves as an entrance pass for national wildlife refuges where admission is charged. The Duck Stamp is required for all hunting of migratory waterfowl, not just that which takes place on a wildlife refuge.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced by Representative Fleming on July 10, 2014, and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 30, 2014, the committee held a [mark-up](#), and the bill was reported out, as amended, by voice vote.

Outside Groups Opposition: American's for Prosperity is [key voting](#) “no” (analysis [here](#))

Outside Groups Support: [Ducks Unlimited](#)

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned about the increased federal land holdings made possible by the revenue increases in the bill. Ninety-eight cents out of every dollar of the Duck Stamp goes to the purchase or lease of wetland habitats.

Some conservatives may also view the fee increase as a tax, because it is required for hunting on non-federal land. Conversely, some conservatives may view the duck stamp as a user fee, because federal habitat easements and holdings benefit all hunters.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: [CBO](#) estimates that enacting H.R. 5069 would reduce the deficit by \$5 million over the 2015-2024 period. Collections from the sale of duck stamps are recorded in the budget as revenues, deposited in the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF), and later spent. Because the bill would affect direct spending and revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. In addition, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have no significant effect on discretionary spending.

CBO estimates there will be a reduction in the number of stamps sold due to the increase in price. It is important to note, the Secretary has the power to lower the cost of the stamp in the event of decreased revenues deposited in the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes, the revenue obtained through the sale of the Duck Stamp is used to acquire easements in real property for the preservation of migratory birds.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: H.R. 5069 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 5069 would impose a private-sector mandate, as defined in UMRA, on individuals required to obtain the stamp as a federal permit to hunt migratory waterfowl. Based on information from gaming officials at DOI, CBO estimates that the incremental cost of complying with the mandate would fall well below the annual threshold for private-sector mandates (\$152 million in 2014, adjusted annually for inflation).

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Constitutional Authority: According to the sponsor, “The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution, which states “The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.”

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H.R. 5468 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1103 USPS Building 1103 in Camp Pendleton, California, as the “Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office”— (Issa, R-CA)

Order of Business: [H.R. 5468](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1103 USPS Building 1103 in Camp Pendleton, California, as the “Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office.”

Additional Background: The Medal of Honor is this highest military honor awarded for acts of valor above the call of duty. There are three variations of the medal: one for the Army, one for the Air Force, and one for the Navy. Established in 1861, the medal was created for those who acted "conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity" in combat with an enemy of the United States. Since that time, [3,469 medals](#) have been awarded.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on September 15, 2014, by Representative Issa and was referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. The bill was reported out of the committee by voice vote on September 17, 2014.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: According to the sponsor, "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 7."

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H.R. 5331 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the "Colonel M.J. 'Mac' Dube, USMC Post Office Building"— (Cook, R-CA)

Order of Business: [H.R. 5331](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the "Colonel M.J. 'Mac' Dube, USMC Post Office Building."

Additional Background: [Col. Dube](#) enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1951 and served in the Korean War. After returning home, and serving in various other posts, he learned Vietnamese and was assigned as senior advisor to the 3rd Battalion Vietnamese Marine Corps, with which he participated in 46 combat operations and was wounded. In 1989, he retired from the Marine Corps as a Mustang Colonel with 38 years of service. Col. Dube's personal and unit decorations include the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, four Bronze Star Medals with Combat "V," four Purple Hearts, two Air Medals, the Joint Service Commendation Medal with Combat "V," Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V," the Army Commendation Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, four Presidential Unit Citations, three Navy Unit Citations, Army Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation, two Good Conduct Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, three Vietnam Crosses of Gallantry, and two Vietnam Honor Medals 1st Class.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on July 31, 2014, by Representative Cook and was referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. The bill was reported out of the committee by voice vote on September 17, 2014.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: According to the sponsor, "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3."

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H.R. 5386 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the “Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office”— (Wagner, R-MO)

Order of Business: [H.R. 5386](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the “Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office.”

Additional Background: Army Lieutenant Daniel P. Riordan died at the age of 24 due to wounds sustained after being hit by a roadside bomb while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on July 31, 2014, by Representative Wagner and was referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. The bill was reported out of the committee by voice vote on September 17, 2014.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: According to the sponsor, “Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 7. The Congress shall have Power * * * To establish Post Offices and post roads.”

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S. 1499 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 278 Main Street in Chadron, Nebraska, as the "Sergeant Cory Mracek Memorial Post Office" — (Johanns, R-NE)

Order of Business: [S. 1499](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 278 Main Street in Chadron, Nebraska, as the "Sergeant Cory Mracek Memorial Post Office."

Additional Background: Army Sgt. Cory R. Mracek, of Hay Springs, Nebraska, died on January 27, 2004, at the age of 26. He was killed serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom during an improvised explosive device attack near Iskandariyah, Iraq.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on September 12, 2013, by Senator Johanns and was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. The bill was reported out of the committee on November 6, 2013 and passed the Senate by unanimous consent on November 12, 2013.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Senate rules do not require the inclusion of a Constitutional Authority statement.

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S. 1093 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 130 Caldwell Drive in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, as the "First Lieutenant Alvin Chester Cockrell, Jr. Post Office Building" — (Cochran, R-MS)

Order of Business: [S. 1093](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 130 Caldwell Drive in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, as the "First Lieutenant Alvin Chester Cockrell, Jr. Post Office Building."

Additional Background: First Lieutenant [Alvin Chester Cockrell](#), Jr. was born on September 18, 1918, in Hazlehurst, Mississippi. In 1942, he was assigned to a mission in Guadalcanal, a location of intense fighting during WWII. First Lieutenant Cockrell was killed as he led his platoon in assaulting a strongly held Japanese position against heavy machine gun and rifle fire.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on June 4, 2013, Senator Cochran and was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. The bill was reported out of the committee on July 31, 2013 and passed the Senate by unanimous consent on August 1, 2013.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Senate rules do not require the inclusion of a Constitutional Authority statement.

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**S. 885 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the "Thaddeus Stevens Post Office"—
(Sanders, I-VT)**

Order of Business: [S. 885](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the "Thaddeus Stevens Post Office."

Additional Background: [Thaddeus Stevens](#) was born in Vermont and moved to Pennsylvania early in life. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1848, was a strong opponent of slavery, and fought for the rights of African Americans during Reconstruction. Following the Civil War, Stevens served on the Joint Committee on Reconstruction and played an important role in drafting both the 14th Amendment and the Reconstruction Act of 1867.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on May 7, 2013, by Senator Sanders and was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. The bill was reported out of the committee on July 31, 2013, and passed the Senate by unanimous consent on August 1, 2013.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Senate rules do not require the inclusion of a Constitutional Authority statement.

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S. 1512 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1335 Jefferson Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Specialist Theodore Matthew Glende Post Office"— (Schumer, D-NY)

Order of Business: [S.1512](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1335 Jefferson Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Specialist Theodore Matthew Glende Post Office."

Additional Background: Specialist Theodore Matthew Glende was killed on July 27, 2012, when his unit was attacked in Afghanistan. During the attack, he assisted his fellow soldiers, some wounded, to take shelter in a nearby structure. As he was assisting the medic to attend to the wounded, the shelter was fired upon by a mortar, mortally wounding Spc. Glende. Those who served with Spc. Glende that day credit him with helping to save five members of his unit.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on September 17, 2013, by Senator Schumer and was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. The bill was reported out of the committee on November 6, 2013 and passed the Senate by unanimous consent on November 12, 2013.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Senate rules do not require the inclusion of a Constitutional Authority statement.

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H.R. 5142 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Jackson Street in Rich Square, North Carolina, as the "Chief Joseph E. White, Jr. Post Office Building" — (Butterfield, D-NC)

Order of Business: [H.R. 5142](#) is scheduled to be considered on November 17, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: This bill will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Jackson Street in Rich Square, North Carolina, as the "Chief Joseph E. White, Jr. Post Office Building."

Additional Background: Chief White was a twenty-year veteran of the U.S. Navy and a twenty-year law enforcement veteran in Northampton County, NC. On July 16, 2000, while serving as Chief of Police for the Rich Square Police Department, Chief White was shot and killed five months before his retirement after he stopped a vehicle during an investigation of a possible drive-off at a local gas station.

Committee Action: This bill was introduced on July 17, 2014, by Representative Butterfield and was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The bill was reported out of the committee on September 17, 2014 by voice vote.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Position was available at this time.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available at this time, but only the costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Federal Encroachment into State or Local Authority in Potential Violation of the 10th Amendment?: No.

Does the Bill Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: According to the sponsor, “Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to the Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.”

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NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*

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