



H.R. 1075—To designate the United States Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry located at First Street and Pan American Avenue in Douglas, Arizona, as the "Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry" (Rep. Grijalva, D-AZ)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE: [H.R. 1075](#) IS EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERED ON APRIL 28, 2014, UNDER A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND PASS THE BILL, WHICH REQUIRES A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE FOR PASSAGE.

TOPLINE SUMMARY: This bill would name the [U.S. Customs Port of Entry](#) with Mexico located in Douglas, Arizona the Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry.

COST: A CBO cost estimate is not available.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand** the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No
- **Encroach** into State or Local Authority?: No
- **Delegate** Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch? No
- **Contain** Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: [Raul Hector Castro](#) served as Governor of Arizona and the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, Bolivia, and Argentina. Castro was born in Mexico, but grew up in Douglas, Arizona. He passed away in April at the age of 98.

COMMITTEE ACTION: H.R. 1075 was introduced on February 25, 2015, and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee. The Committee took no further action on the bill.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: U.S. Const. art. I, Sec. Sec. 1 and 8."

H.R. 651—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the "Sister Ann Keefe Post Office (Rep. Cicilline, D-RI)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE: APRIL 28, 2015 UNDER A SUSPENSION OF THE RULES WHICH REQUIRES TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR PASSAGE.

TOPLINE SUMMARY: This bill would designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the "Sister Ann Keefe Post Office."

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS: There are no substantive conservative concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

COST: 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.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: Sister Ann Keefe was a Rhode Island community activist and involved in organizations like Sophia Academy, City Arts for Youth, and Aids Care Ocean State. In addition, she is credited for co-founding dozens of community organizations, including the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence, AIDS Care Ocean State, and ProvidenceCityArts. She died on January 18, 2013.

COMMITTEE ACTION: This bill was introduced on February 2, 2015, by Representative Cicilline and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On March 25, 2015, the committee held a mark-up and the bill was reported out by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION: No statement of administration policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY: According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article 1, Section 8, Clause 7."

H.R. 1690— To designate the United States courthouse located at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the "Joseph F. Weis Jr. United States Courthouse" (Rep. Doyle, D-PA)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE: [H.R. 1690](#) IS EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERED ON APRIL 28, 2014, UNDER A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND PASS THE BILL, WHICH REQUIRES A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE FOR PASSAGE.

TOPLINE SUMMARY: This bill would designate the United States courthouse located at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the "Joseph F. Weis Jr. United States Courthouse."

COST: The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that H.R. 1690 would have no significant impact on the federal budget.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand** the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No
- **Encroach** into State or Local Authority?: No
- **Delegate** Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch? No
- **Contain** Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: According to the [Committee Report](#), "Joseph F. Weis Jr. served as a federal judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit from 1973 until assuming senior status in 1988 and served in that capacity until his death in 2014."

Identical legislation (H.R. 5146) was passed in the House in the 113th Congress on December 8, 2014, by voice vote.

COMMITTEE ACTION: H.R. 1690 was introduced on March 26, 2015, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The Committee marked up and reported the bill on [April 15, 2015](#), by voice vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 17 of the United States Constitution: To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of Particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings."

H.R. 172— To designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse" (Rep. Thompson, D-MS)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE: [H.R. 172](#) IS EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERED ON APRIL 28, 2014, UNDER A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND PASS THE BILL, WHICH REQUIRES A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE FOR PASSAGE.

TOPLINE SUMMARY: This bill would designate the U.S. courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse".

COST: The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that H.R. 172 would have no significant impact on the federal budget.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand** the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No
- **Encroach** into State or Local Authority?: No
- **Delegate** Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch? No
- **Contain** Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: According to the [Committee Report](#), "Mr. R. Jess Brown was a civil rights lawyer who worked against segregationist laws and was credited in the 1950s with filing the first civil rights suit in Mississippi." Brown passed away in 1989.

Identical legislation (H.R. 579) was passed in the House in the 113th Congress on December 8, 2014, by voice vote.

COMMITTEE ACTION: H.R. 1075 was introduced on January 6, 2015, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The Committee marked up and reported the bill on [April 15, 2015](#), by voice vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Clause 2 of Section 3 of Article IV of the Constitution: 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."

H.R. 373—Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act (Rep. Heck, R-NV)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE: SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION ON APRIL 28, 2015, UNDER A SUSPENSION OF THE RULES WHICH REQUIRES TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR PASSAGE.

TOPLINE SUMMARY: [H.R. 373](#) would direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to federal land for requests to conduct good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS: There are no major substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: A “good Samaritan search-and-recovery mission” is defined as a search for one or more missing individuals believed to be deceased at the time that the search is initiated. This bill would prohibit the secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture from requiring an eligible organization or individual to have liability insurance as a condition for accessing federal land, if the eligible organization or individual (1) acknowledges and consents in writing to the conditions set in the bill; or (2) signs a waiver to release the federal government from liability. If an access request is denied, the secretaries would be required to notify the eligible organization or individual of the reason for the denial, and any actions that the eligible organization or individual can take to meet the requirements for the request to be approved. The secretaries are additionally required to develop search-and-recovery-focused partnerships with search-and-recovery organizations and to submit a report to Congress not later than 180 days after the bill’s enactment.

COST: The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that the costs of expediting access to federal lands for search and recovery purposes would be minimal, and implementing the legislation would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

The House report (H. Rept. 114-75) accompanying H.R. 373 can be found [here](#). According to the committee report, “volunteer groups had to wait an unacceptable amount of time to navigate the federal bureaucracy before they could conduct their searches,” after a series of incidents in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

A corresponding bill ([S. 160](#)) was introduced in the Senate by Senator Heller (R-NV) on January 13, 2015. According to the House report, the purpose of the bill is to expedite the time it takes for search and rescue groups to gain access to federal land when conducting a mission.

COMMITTEE ACTION: This bill was introduced on January 14, 2015, and was referred to the House Committee Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION: No statement of administration policy is available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other

powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.

H.R. 984—To amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes (Rep. Fortenberry, R-NE)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE: APRIL 28, 2015 UNDER A SUSPENSION OF THE RULES WHICH REQUIRES TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR PASSAGE.

TOPLINE SUMMARY: H.R. 984 would amend the [National Trails System Act](#) to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail. This trail would extend approximately 550 miles from Niobrara, Nebraska, to Ponca City, Oklahoma, which follows the route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people during the federal Indian removal. The bill would also extend approximately 550 miles from Ponca City, Oklahoma, through Omaha, Nebraska, to Niobrara, Nebraska, which follows the return route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people. The feasibility study is to be completed no later than one year after the date of enactment.

COST: The [Congressional Budget Office](#) (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the legislation would cost about \$500,000 over the next two years, assuming availability of appropriated funds. H.R. 984 would not affect direct spending or revenues, and pay-as-you-go procedures do not

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS: There are no major substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: In the 113th Congress, H.R. 5086, To amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes, was passed by the House by voice vote.

National trails were established under the National Trails System Act of 1968, which included several types of trails, including scenic trails, historic trails, and recreation trails. Since that time, 11 national scenic trails and 19 national historic trails have been established by law. These trails are administered by the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management, depending on the trail.

The following [steps](#) are required to establish a national trail:

- An amendment to the National Trails System Act requesting a feasibility study;
- The feasibility study (usually conducted by the National Park Service);

- If the feasibility study recommends establishment, an act of Congress adding the trail to the National Trails System; and
- Once the trail is established, a comprehensive management and use plan, usually conducted by the trail's administering agency, outlining the roles of partners (including the federal government) and the full length of the trail.

[Chief Standing Bear](#) was the Chief of Ponca, a small Indian nation related to the Omaha. The influx of European-American settlers to Nebraska, in combination with pressure from the U.S. Government, forced the tribes located in Nebraska to give up their land, except for around the Niobrara River. Due to a mistake by the government, the land kept by the Ponca people was given to the Sioux in the 1868 Ft. Laramie Treaty. In 1875, the government admitted its mistake and suggested the Ponca move to Indian Territory in Oklahoma.

Standing Bear and other tribe members went to survey the land in Oklahoma. After determining the land was uninhabitable, the federal government told the tribe members they could walk the 500 miles home. During the course of Standing Bear's foot journey home, many of the Ponca people were moved to Oklahoma and died due to starvation and malaria, including Standing Bear's eldest son. Subsequently, Standing Bear attempted to bury his son in the Niobrara River valley. Before the funeral party reached the valley, the Secretary of the Interior Carl Schurz had Standing Bear arrested for leaving Indian Territory. In April 1879, Standing Bear sued for a writ of habeas corpus in U.S. District Court in Omaha, Nebraska. On May 12, 1879, Judge Elmer S. Dundy ruled that "an Indian is a person" within the meaning of habeas corpus. He stated that the federal government had failed to show a basis under law for the arrest and captivity.

COMMITTEE ACTION: This bill was introduced by Representative Fortenberry on February 13, 2015, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On March 24, 2015, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill, and the bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent on March 25, 2015.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION: No statement of administration policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY: According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "The constitutional authority for this bill is pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution."

H.R. 1324—Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2015 (Rep. Polis, D-CO)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE: SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION ON APRIL 28, 2015, UNDER A SUSPENSION OF THE RULES WHICH REQUIRES TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR PASSAGE.

TOPLINE SUMMARY: [H.R. 1324](#) would modify the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in Colorado to include an additional 92.95 acres of land.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS: There are no major substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.

- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: The Secretary of Agriculture would be required to include all federal land within certain boundaries in the Bowen Gulch Protection Area established under section 6 of the [Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993](#) (16 U.S.C. 539j). Nothing in the bill would open privately owned lands within the boundary to public motorized use.

A similar bill ([H.R. 4846](#)) was introduced in the 113th Congress on June 11, 2014 and passed the House by voice vote on November 13, 2014. H.R. 4846 would only authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to acquire non-Federal lands within the boundary by donation or exchange. This provision was removed from H.R. 1324.

The House report (H. Rept. 114-80) accompanying H.R. 1324 can be found [here](#). The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 4846 can be found [here](#). More on the Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION: This bill was introduced on March 4, 2015 and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION: No statement of administration policy is available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 (relating to the power of Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States) and clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

COST: The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the legislation would have no significant effect on the federal budget. CBO expects that any additional costs to revise brochures, maps, and signs to reflect the new boundary would not be significant because such revisions would take place in conjunction with scheduled reprinting and routine maintenance.

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