

THE PUBLIC ENTITLED TO EXPRESS VIEWS ON THE KAIPAROWITZ PLATEAU

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Utah [Ms. GREENE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. GREENE of Utah. Madam Speaker, it now appears more likely than not that tomorrow the President will announce that he has unilaterally decided to make sweeping changes to the management of nearly 2 million acres of Federal land. What process has brought us to this change?

There has been no environmental impact statement, there has been no compliance with FLPMA, there has been no compliance with NEPA, there have been no public hearings, there have been no congressional hearings, there has been no notice in the Federal Register and no public comment period to allow the people of this Nation the opportunity to comment on the President's proposal.

Instead, the President proposes to lock away nearly 2 million acres of land in Utah by Executive fiat by invoking the provision of the 1906 act known as the Antiquities Act to declare the largest national monument in the lower 48 States, and in doing so, the President will render worthless over 200,000 acres of Utah land belonging to the schoolchildren of Utah since 1896, set aside by this Congress to help finance the public education of the schoolchildren of Utah, not to mention what this decision will mean to other easements and rights-of-way existing in other lands in the area.

What is the President doing? It appears that the President is going to announce the creation of a new national monument on the Kaiparowitz Plateau of Utah. A national monument is a hard thing to argue against, and indeed the Utah delegation is not necessarily opposed to the idea of creation of a national monument in the State of Utah on the Kaiparowitz Plateau. The Kaiparowitz Plateau in places is beautiful, it is a unique environment, and it is for that reason that portions of the Kaiparowitz Plateau were included in the wilderness recommendation submitted by the Utah delegation in both the House and Senate this year.

Our disagreement with the President, however, is that it is not right, it is not democratic, with a small "d," it is not American to simply decide by one individual's decision to take 2 million acres of land and change the way it is used and managed for this generation and for generations of the future without an opportunity to allow the public to express their views. If the situation were reversed, if the President was announcing that 2 million acres of Federal land by his decision would be thrown open to development tomorrow, we would be outraged, and rightfully so.

My question to the President tonight is what is the President afraid of? What is he so afraid of in his proposal that he

has not allowed the Governor or the two Senators and the elected Representatives of the people of Utah to even see this proposal less than 24 hours before he intends to make it? Why will not the President allow the people of this Nation, the people of Utah, the people of the Kaiparowitz Plateau the opportunity to at least find out what it is the President proposes?

If the President can do it to Utah, he can do it to anyone, and, Madam Speaker, I would suggest to my colleagues in the House and in the Senate and the people across this country that the way to make decisions about our Federal resources, the way to make decisions about what kind of country we want to live in, the way to make decisions that impact the schoolchildren of this Nation is not to do it by stealth, is not to do it without involving the elected representatives of both parties in the decision.

Madam Speaker, regardless of what the terms of the President's announcement tomorrow may be, regardless of whether he has particular boundaries in mind or simply announces his intention to move forward, the point is that the President has done this more in the style of the old Soviet Union than in the tradition of democracy in America. It is the wrong way to make public policy and, Mr. President, I call on you to let the people have a chance to decide what to do with the lands we own.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I come before the House tonight to and I spoke earlier today about the lack of a national drug policy or strategy and failure of this administration to protect our young people. We now see skyrocketing drug use and abuse, and tonight I am here to talk about another thing that affects our young people, and that is their opportunity for the future, their opportunity to have jobs, their opportunity to have employment, their opportunity to have income in our society which has always provided such great opportunity.

You know, we have heard from this administration about the 10 million new jobs that are created, and in fact we need to just take a minute and look at those 10 million new jobs because I have talked to people that have 2 and some of them 3 of those 10 million new jobs. They are part-time jobs, they are low paying jobs, they are service jobs, and what in fact has happened they are not telling us.

The fact is that during the years from 1993 to 1995 we lost 8.4 million good paying jobs in this Nation, people who had good paying jobs in technical areas that paid a good living wage, and those jobs were destroyed, and they

have not been replaced. They have been replaced only by these part-time low paying jobs, and that is what I hear when I go back to my district; and that is not what I want for my children or for the children of America.

You know I heard the most startling news. First I hear the news on the drugs for our teens that are offered up by this administration. Now I see the trade deficit. This is the headline in the Washington Times: "The Trade Deficit Worse in a Year, Productivity Crawls Higher." Trade deficit, startling trade deficits; they are running \$10 billion a year.

That means every single month we are sending more and more money overseas and we are losing a trade war, and at the end of this session it galls me to see this happen, because we had a proposal, a good proposal, to reorganize our trade activities, our international trade activities, in Washington at the Federal level. Right now we have 19 agencies dealing with Federal trade.

This is the flow chart. This is the most disorganized, disjointed, unorganized mess you have ever seen: 19 agencies, right hand not knowing what the left hand is doing, spending \$3 billion taxpayer dollars, and we are getting our pants beat in the trade war. And this they reject, the President helped defeat it, the new Secretary of Commerce helped defeat it.

Instead you know what they have done for us? They negotiated lousy trade deals, and then I see in my district what those lousy trade deals have done.

You cannot see this very well, my colleagues, but this is an auction notice to sell equipment in my State near my district in Florida. It is because they have wiped out through negotiating a bad NAFTA agreement, giving up the opportunity for this Nation to produce agriculture to sell to its own people, and internationally we once led in agriculture. This is selling the equipment.

And do you know what the farmers told me that went to this sale? They did not buy the equipment; they were selling equipment. That there were people with cellular phones speaking in Spanish, and this equipment is being shipped to Mexico.

So here we see the fruits. They destroyed a good plan for organization to have some sense made out of our trade effort. Now we are selling through their bad efforts our equipment at nickels on a dollar overseas.

□ 1930

Madam Speaker, this is a national tragedy. What hope does this hold for our children: Lower-paying jobs, service jobs, part-time jobs, jobs without benefits? Here they are talking about \$5.15 an hour. That is what their goal is, to pay \$5.15 an hour, when in my State you get \$8.75 an hour for not working on welfare, and you get medical benefits in addition.