

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4035

Whereas, The citizens of Washington State place great value upon their natural heritage and desire to protect and enhance it; and

Whereas, The growing population of Washington State is placing growing demands on the state's natural resources available for recreation; and

Whereas, Because of this growing demand and its attendant impacts on the environment, the federal government is considering restrictions on public access to popular recreation sites in Washington's central Cascade Mountains; and

Whereas, Plum Creek Timber Company, L.P. presently owns numerous sites near the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area which are of surpassing recreational and environmental value; and

Whereas, Such lands are located in a "checkerboard" pattern of alternating sections, and configuration that presents both private and public land managers with difficulties in meeting their respective objectives; and

Whereas, Both sectors have stated a willingness to exchange lands to accommodate mutual interests; and

Whereas, The federal government and Plum Creek Timber Company are completing an environmental impact statement for an exchange of private and public lands in the Cascade Mountains; and

Whereas, This process has involved extensive public participation; and

Whereas, This exchange complements the President's Forest Plan; and

Whereas, This exchange, if completed as currently proposed, would transfer into public ownership up to 60,000 acres of private land while transferring into private ownership up to 40,000 acres of public land; and

Whereas, The United States Forest Service and Plum Creek Timber Company L.P., have worked toward this land exchange for over a decade, expending more than two million dollars in environmental studies and land analysis; and

Whereas, Time is of the essence because the longer it takes to complete the exchange, the less private land will be precluded from harvest activities;

Now, therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United States Government promptly complete the proposed Interstate 90 land exchange, thus securing the greatest possible environmental, recreational, and land-management benefits at the earliest possible time; be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the United States Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-440. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

Whereas, the coastal regions of the United States are fragile environmentally and under intense pressure from storms and natural disasters, population growth and, in some states, from onshore support activities that are necessitated by the development of the nation's oil and natural gas resources on the federal Outer Continental Shelf; and

Whereas, each year the federal government receives billions of dollars in revenues from the development of oil and natural gas resources on the federal Outer Continental Shelf, a capital asset of this nation; and

Whereas, the federal government does not share directly with the coastal states a meaningful share of these revenues, while the federal government does share with states fifty percent of the revenues from onshore federal mineral development; and

Whereas, at least a portion of the revenues from this capital asset of the nation should be reinvested in infrastructure and environmental restoration in the coastal regions of this nation; and

Whereas, states that host onshore activities in support of the offshore federal Outer Continental Shelf mineral development should receive a share of these revenues to offset state impacts of this development; and

Whereas, the Outer Continental Shelf Policy Committee of the United States Department of the Interior has recommended that all states, and the territories, should receive a portion of these revenues as an automatic payment annually pursuant to a formula based on proximity to offshore production, miles of shoreline and population; and

Whereas, members of Congress representing coastal states are preparing federal legislation to enact the proposal to share a portion of federal Outer Continental Shelf revenues with all coastal states and the territories; therefore, be it

Resolved that the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to support and adopt legislation to provide for the sharing of revenues generated through mineral exploration on the federal Outer Continental Shelf with coastal states and territories pursuant to a formula recommended by the Outer Continental Shelf Policy Committee; and be it further

Resolved that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana Congressional delegation.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BOND, from the Committee on Small Business:

Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. KYL (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 2087. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain works, facili-

ties, and titles of the Gila Project, and designated lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project, to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2088. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to grant an easement to Chugach Alaska Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2089. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers a credit against income tax for information technology training expenses paid or incurred by the employer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. JEFFORDS):

S. 2090. A bill to extend the authority of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to collect fees through 2003, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BENNETT:

S. Res. 231. A resolution to make a technical amendment to Senate Resolution 208; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. BROWNBAC, Mr. DODD, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. Con. Res. 97. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress concerning the human rights and humanitarian situation facing the women and girls of Afghanistan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KYL (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 2087. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain works, facilities, and titles of the Gila Project, and designated lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project, to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

WELLTON-MOHAWK TITLE TRANSFER ACT OF 1998

• Mr. KYL. Mr. President, today I introduced a bill to transfer title to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District in Yuma, Arizona from the Federal Government to the project beneficiaries. The repayment obligation for construction costs was fully satisfied as of May 30, 1987. This bill is the product of intensive negotiations between the project beneficiaries and the Bureau of Reclamation and will be the subject of a hearing in the Water and Power Subcommittee on June 9. At