

achievement would have ended so quickly, but while his tenure on the Kentucky Supreme Court was short, his legacy to Kentucky justice will endure forever.

INTRODUCTION OF SOUTHEAST ALASKA NATIVE LAND ENTITLEMENT FINALIZATION ACT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I, along with my distinguished colleagues, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ABERCROMBIE and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, introduce today the Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization Act. This legislation will redress the inequitable treatment of the Native Regional Corporation for Southeast Alaska—Sealaska Corporation—by allowing it to select its remaining land entitlement under Section 14 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, ANCSA, from designated Federal land in Southeast Alaska.

Congress enacted ANCSA in 1971 to recognize and settle the aboriginal claims of Alaska Natives to the lands that Alaska Natives had used since time immemorial for traditional, cultural, and spiritual purposes. ANCSA allocated 44 million acres and nearly \$1 billion to Alaska's Native people, to be managed by the 12 Regional Corporations, including Sealaska, and more than 200 Village Corporations. While Sealaska is one of the Regional Corporations with the largest number of Native shareholders, with 21 percent of all original Native shareholders, Sealaska received the smallest Regional Corporation land settlement—less than 1 percent of the total of all ANCSA lands.

ANCSA declared that the land settlement “should be accomplished rapidly, with certainty [and] in conformity with the real economic and social needs of [Alaska] Natives . . .” However, after more than 35 years since the passage of ANCSA, Sealaska has still not received conveyance of its full land entitlement. As a result of its small land entitlement, it is critical that Sealaska complete its remaining land entitlement under ANCSA in order to continue to meet the economic, social and cultural needs of its Native shareholders, and of the Native community throughout Alaska.

The Bureau of Land Management projects that Sealaska is entitled to receive between 355,000 and 375,000 acres pursuant to ANCSA. To date, 35+ years after ANCSA's enactment, Sealaska has secured conveyance of 290,000 acres. Accordingly, there are up to 85,000 acres remaining to be conveyed. ANCSA, however, limits Sealaska land selections to withdrawal areas surrounding certain Native villages in Southeast Alaska. The problem is that there are no lands remaining in these withdrawal areas that meet Sealaska's traditional, cultural, historic, or socioeconomic needs, and certain of those lands should more appropriately remain in public ownership. The selection limitations preclude Sealaska from using any of its remaining ANCSA land settlement to select places of sacred, cultural, traditional, and historic significance located outside the withdrawal areas that are critical to facili-

tate the perpetuation and preservation of Alaska Native culture and history. Moreover, selection from the withdrawal areas would not allow Sealaska to meet the purposes of ANCSA—to create continued economic opportunities for the Native people of Southeast Alaska. Further, more than 40 percent of the original withdrawal areas are salt water and, therefore, not available for selection.

Despite the small land base in comparison to all other Regional Corporations, Sealaska has provided significant economic benefits to not only Sealaska Native shareholders, but also to the other Native Corporations throughout Alaska. Pursuant to a revenue sharing provision in ANCSA, Sealaska distributes considerable revenues derived from its development of its natural resources—more than \$300 million between 1971 and 2005—to the other Native Corporations. Unless it is allowed to select land outside of the designated withdrawal areas, Sealaska will not be able to select land that would allow it to maintain its existing resource development and management operations, or provide continued economic opportunities for the Native people of Southeast Alaska and economic benefits to the broader Alaska Native community through the revenue sharing requirements under ANCSA.

The legislation presents a solution that would allow Sealaska to complete the conveyance of its land entitlement and enable the Federal Government to complete its statutory obligation to the Natives of Southeast Alaska, as promised under ANCSA. The elements of the legislation include the following:

Sealaska would be authorized to select its remaining ANCSA land entitlement from a pool of land outside the existing withdrawal areas established in ANCSA, a majority of which is on existing forest service roads which has second-growth timber land.

Sealaska would be authorized to use a majority of its remaining entitlement for economic development opportunities that would benefit its shareholders, the Southeast Alaska economy, and Native shareholders throughout Alaska.

The legislation would also allow Sealaska to use a portion of its remaining entitlement for sites with sacred, cultural, traditional, or historic significance and for remote Native Enterprise sites with traditional and recreational use value.

The legislation would allow the lands remaining in the withdrawal areas to remain in public ownership, almost all of which are roadless areas, old-growth timber lands, or land with important public interest value.

I thank my colleagues and urge your support for this important legislation for the Native people of Southeast Alaska.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Ms. CARSON. Madam Speaker, on Monday, September 17, 2007, I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 867, 868, and 869. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on each of these measures.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, according to Darrel Royal, there are only two sports in Texas—football and spring football. In coffee shops, barber shops and even in the beauty salons all across Texas, the talk is all the same—how's the team gonna be this year? It's that time of year, a time that folks in Texas and across the south prepare for all year long. Football in Texas is its own religion, where even your preacher cuts the sermon short on Sundays to get you home in time to watch the game. Nowhere else on earth will you find a culture so wrapped up in football like we are in Texas.

Proud Texans naturally believe everything is bigger and better in Texas—and that's because it is. And like most fathers, I am a proud dad. My son Kurt started playing football when he was 8 years old and I have watched him play every game from pee-wee football in Humble, Texas until he took the field wearing the purple and white of my alma mater, Abilene Christian University.

Throughout school, Kurt played quarterback. Quarterback is one of those positions that is tough on parents—it's all the frame or all the blame. Every time I saw him take the field wearing number 3, I saw that same little 8-year-old boy full of determination. It was that very determination that led to him walking on at ACU and earning a spot as a safety and becoming an Academic All Conference player. With this new position, came a new prayer for the Poe family. The word “interception” took on a whole new meaning for us.

I was a judge during that time and I would head out on Friday nights after court and drive all night to towns such as Kingsville, Canyon, Wichita Falls, Commerce, Las Cruces, New Mexico, and Ada, Oklahoma, and of course, Abilene, to get there for Saturday's game. There is nothing more fun than being in a stadium on that first crisp fall weekend and seeing your team, and your son, take the field to thousands of college fans chanting: W—I—L—D—C—A—T—S, purple, white, purple, white, fight, fight, fight!

Texas football is that of legend and legacy. It has spawned books, movies, and a TV series. A look into a way of life that is so unique, so Texan. It's the Junction Boys, the Tyler Rose, the last minute touchdown run by Vince Young of Texas against USC in the Rose Bowl National Championship game—I was there by the way with my son Kurt. What a game. What a memory.

Yes, Texans love their football—right down to the names they choose for their children to the cars they buy. I am sure there is some big executive up in Detroit wondering why they have to send so many maroon pickups to Texas. We may not have too many fall weddings on Saturdays, because they conflict with college football, but I am willing to bet that you have been to a wedding where the new Mr. and Mrs. took off down the aisle to the “Eyes of Texas” or got a big “Whoop!” after the preacher declared them husband and wife.

Now I am not one to say that we don't love our Texans and Cowboys. A smile still comes across my face when I think of the Astrodome

and those Luv Ya Blue days. But, professional football today just doesn't have that same thrill and excitement anymore. Sure, maybe up North it does since they don't have high school stadiums that hold 15,000 people, field turf, jumbotrons and the caliber of coaches and players we have in Texas.

But it's not just the facilities, what makes the game so special is the atmosphere of it all. It's the band, the drill team, the cheerleaders, the moms selling T-shirts, the school clubs hanging banners—the whole atmosphere is what makes the game great. The whole community comes together, people from all walks of life get together every weekend and share in the tears and cheers and root for their team to victory.

So this weekend and every weekend in the fall, Texas families put on school colors and head to the game. They grab some hot dogs and a coke and take part in one of Texas's finest traditions. You see some of those folks that you went to high school with and some of the same old guys sitting in the same seats they were in 20–30 years ago. The players, the coaches, the trainers, the cheerleaders, the drill team and all those people that volunteer their time to support the kids are all part of the excitement. Football in Texas is something special. It's the Texas Religion.

And That's Just the Way It Is.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN NICK
ANDRYUK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and gratitude that I stand before you today to recognize one of northwest Indiana's most dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizens, Captain Nick Andryuk. I have known Nick for many years, and he is one of the most passionate and involved citizens that I have ever known, especially when it comes to serving his country and to serving the young men and women of the First Congressional District. Since the mid-1970's, Nick has served the youth of the First Congressional District. Since 1985, he has done so as a member of my Military Academy Board. During this time, Nick has been a constant source of knowledge and insight for students interested in attending the Merchant Marine Academy and all other military academies. Recently, Nick informed me that he will be leaving northwest Indiana and relocating to Texas.

Nick Andryuk was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. Following his graduation from Brooklyn Technical High School in 1974, where he studied structural design, Nick chose to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in marine engineering with a minor in nuclear engineering. Upon his graduation, Nick was commissioned as an ensign in the Naval Reserves, specializing in surface warfare. Always seeking to broaden his horizons, Nick would continue his educational and occupational pursuits over the years to amass an impressive résumé, which includes a master's degree in business administration from Indiana University Northwest and a Professional Engineering License from the State of Indiana.

During his time in the Naval Reserves, Nick held various positions, including: administration officer, training officer, executive officer, and eight additional commanding officer positions. In 1985, Nick was named an engineering duty officer, and finally, in 1995, he was promoted to the esteemed rank of captain. While serving in his capacity as a captain, a position he held until his retirement from the Navy Reserves in June 2004, Nick also served as an explosive safety chief inspector.

While he has served his country and community in various capacities throughout his lifetime, Nick came to be known for not only his wisdom and his willingness to serve others, but also for his strong work ethic, a trait he undoubtedly developed during his career at Inland Steel, later Ispat Inland Steel. For over 26 years, Nick served in capacities ranging from assistant engineer to section manager. Following his retirement from Ispat Inland Steel in 2001, he went on to work as a project manager and engineering consultant with Superior Engineering from 2001 to 2007. In September 2007, Nick accepted a position as vice-president of operations with Zimmerman and Jansen, a company located in Humble, Texas. While he will surely be missed in northwest Indiana, his efforts and the impact he has had on the lives of many students in the First Congressional District are to be admired. I am sure Nick will continue to share his vast knowledge with prospective academy students in his new location, and I wish him well on his endeavors.

Madam Speaker, Captain Nick Andryuk is a friend who has selflessly given his time and efforts to the young men and women of the First Congressional District, and he has served his country with the utmost eagerness and dedication as a member of the Armed Forces. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending him for his lifetime of service and dedication, and I ask that you join me in wishing him the best of success, health, and happiness in the years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TURN-
ABOUT RANCH IN GARFIELD
COUNTY, UTAH, BILL

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Mr. MATHESON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would correct a drafting error that involves a 25-acre parcel of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, and land that is part of the Turn-About Ranch, which rehabilitates troubled youth.

An erroneous survey in January 1999 was the cause of this trespass conflict when Congress approved a major land exchange (P.L. 105–335) between the state of Utah and the border of the Grand Staircase Escalante (GSE) Monument. This legislation makes a minor boundary change to resolve the trespass conflict. It would grant the owners of the ranch the right to purchase the erroneously surveyed land at a fair market value, enabling this important and effective program for troubled youth to continue unimpeded.

The Turn-About Ranch has graduated approximately 500 troubled and at-risk teenagers

through an intense program of training and rehabilitation. The ranch also employs about 35 Garfield County residents. The Turn-About Ranch has strong support from the local community, and the Garfield County Commission, as well as approval from the parents of the troubled youth.

The government-owned land administered by the BLM surrounds the congressional action by passing this legislation in Congress. The land was historically used for agriculture and grazing purposes. The Townsend family purchased the ranch and then leased the land to the Turn-About Ranch, Inc., for the sole purpose of rehabilitating the troubled youth, and restoring the values and self-esteem of these wayward teens.

Madam Speaker, this legislation is a fair resolution to a technical problem. The Senate Energy Committee staff has expressed support for solving the problem, and the community is eager for this legislation to be passed. I hope Congress can implement this legislation and resolve this problem to continue helping our troubled adolescent teens.

INTRODUCTION FOR H.R. 3565, RE-
QUIRING RATE INTEGRATION
FOR WIRELESS COMMUNICA-
TIONS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce legislation that will require rate integration for wireless interstate toll charges. Specifically, this legislation, H.R. 3565, would amend Section 254(g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, to provide for rate integration of wireless long distance service within the United States, including the territories. This legislation, if enacted, would require uniformity in rates charged by cellular phone and other wireless service providers for calls and communications to and from Guam within the United States.

Section 254(g) directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) "to adopt rules to require that the rates charged by providers of interexchange telecommunication services to subscribers in rural and high cost areas shall be no higher than the rates charged by each such provider to its subscribers in urban areas."

Pursuant to Section 254(g), the FCC promulgated a regulation (FCC Order 98–347) to cover Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) as an interexchange service. CMRS includes Personal Communications Service (PCS) and cellular services. In defense of their Order, the FCC noted that "if Congress had intended to exempt CMRS providers, it presumably would have done so expressly as it had done in other sections of the [1996 Telecommunications] Act."

The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, however, subsequently vacated FCC Order 98–347, by ruling that interexchange telecommunication services do not encompass CMRS. In its ruling, the Court cited the phrase "interexchange telecommunications service" contained in Section 254(g). Since wireless telecommunications