with teddy bears. Students at Erickson are planning to plant a tree or flowers in honor of the short life of fourth grader Cullen Ethington, who will be memorialized by his classmates as a peer mediator who helped students resolve their disputes without violence.

School children are too often the victims of senseless gun violence. Gun violence results in injury and death, destroys families, and causes lasting psychological and emotional harm. In Michigan, each school is now forced to handle the trauma of children losing other children to gunfire. As many other school districts now know, violence and the fear of violence is not only tragic for individuals and families involved, it also interferes tremendously with the educational process. Students at Erickson, for example, are now spending time at school with trauma teams learning how to cope with death while their peers at other schools are learning about the pilgrims and practicing for the school play.

Congress must act now to end the proliferation of gun violence. Like young Cullen, we must not only make a pledge to live our lives without violence, but must also send a message to others that violence is never the answer.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the both the Ethington and the Lemons families.●

WILDERNESS DESIGNATIONS

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, given the recent creation of the Wilderness and Public Lands Caucus and the ongoing debate on public land management, I think that all views on this complicated and emotional issue are vital to the discussion. Therefore, I ask that a brief statement from the Wilderness Act Reform Coalition, a group from my home State of Idaho be printed in the RECORD for all Senators to read and consider.

The article follows:

THE WILDERNESS ACT REFORM COALITION

WHY WE ARE ORGANIZING

September 3, 1999 marks the 35th anniversary of the passage of the Wilderness Act. During those 35 years, it has never been substantively amended. Yet, the history of the application of the Wilderness Act to the public's lands and resources provides overwhelming evidence that it must be significantly reformed if the public interest is to be served.

September 3, 1999 also marks the launch of the Wilderness Act Reform Coalition (WARC), the first serious effort to reform this antiquated and poorly-conceived law. Much has changed since the Wilderness Act became law in 1964. Dozens of other laws have been passed since then to protect and responsibly-manage all of the public's lands and resources. Underpinning all of these laws—and guaranteeing their enforcement—is a public sensitivity and commitment to wise resource management which was not present two generations ago when the Wilderness Act was enacted.

Over this same time period our knowledge and understanding of how to accomplish this kind of wise and responsible resource management has increased exponentially. The demand side of the public's interest in their lands and resources has also increased exponentially. Recreation demand, for example, has increased far beyond what anyone could have anticipated 35 years ago and it has done so in directions which could not have been foreseen in 1964. Demand for water, energy and minerals, timber and other resources continues to go up as well.

All of this means that as the 21st Century dawns we find ourselves facing more complex natural resources realities and challenges than ever before in our history. Meeting these challenges while at the same time serving the broad public interest will require careful and thoughtful balancing of all resource values with other social goals. It will also require integrating them all into a comprehensive management approach which will provide the greatest good for the greatest number of Americans over the longest period of time.

These lands and resources, after all, belong to all of the American people. They deserve to enjoy the maximum benefits from them. Yet, the Wilderness Act, with its outdated, inflexible, and anti-management requirements, presently locks away over 100 million acres of the public's lands and resources from this kind of intelligent and integrated resource management. The inevitable result is the numerous negative impacts and damage to other resource values which are becoming increasingly apparent on the public's lands. The Wilderness Act remains frozen in another era. Due to the exponential changes which have occurred since it was passed, that era lies much further in the past than a mere 35 year linear time line would suggest.

OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Wilderness Act Reform Coalition is being organized by members of citizen's groups and local government officials who have experienced firsthand the limitations and problems the Wilderness Act has caused. It has a simple mission: to reform the Wilderness Act. In carrying out that mission, the Coalition has identified two primary goals towards which it will initially work.

The first goal is to make those changes in the wilderness law which are essential to mitigate the most serious resource and related problems it is causing. These problems range from prohibiting the application of sound resource management practices where needed to hampering important scientific research and jeopardizing our national defense.

The second goal of the coalition is to use the failings of the Wilderness Act to help educate the public, the media and policy makers on the fundamentals of natural resource management. Most of the ''conventional wisdom'' about natural resource management to which most of them presently subscribe is simply wrong. It is essential that the public be better educated on the facts, the realities, the challenges and the options before there can be any responsible or useful policy debate on the most fundamental problems with the Wilderness Act or, for that matter, any of the other federal management laws and policies which also need to be reformed. That is why the Coalition has chosen a comparatively limited reform agenda for this opening round in what we recognize ultimately must be a broader and more comprehensive national policy debate.

OUR REFORM AGENDA

The Coalition currently advocates the following reforms of the Wilderness Act:

1. Developing a mechanism to permit active resource management in wilderness areas to achieve a wide range of public benefits and to respond to local needs. The inability or unwillingness of managers to intervene actively within wilderness areas to deal with local resource management problems or goals has resulted in economic harm to local communities and damage to other important natural resource and related values and objectives. The Coalition supports the creation of committees composed of locally-based federal and state resource managers, local governments, local economic interests and local citizens which will initiate a process to override the basic non-management directive of the Wilderness Act on a case-by-case basis.

2. Establishing a mechanism for appeal and override of local managers for scientific research. Wilderness advocates often tout the importance of wilderness designation to science. The reality, however, is that agency regulations make it difficult or impossible to conduct many scientific experiments in wilderness, particularly with modern and cost-effective scientific tools. Important scientific experiments have been opposed simply because they would take place within wilderness areas. A simple, quick and cheap appeal process must be created for scientists turned down by wilderness land managers.

3. Making it clear that such things as use of mechanized equipment and aircraft landings can occur in wilderness areas for search and rescue or law enforcement purposes. There have been incidents where these have been prevented by federal wilderness managers.

4. Requiring that federal managers use the most cost-effective management tools and technologies. These managers have largely imposed upon themselves a requirement that they use the ''least tool'' or the ''minimum tool'' to accomplish tasks such as noxious weed control, wildfire control or stabilization of historic sites. In practice, this means that hand tools are often used instead of power tools, horses are employed instead of helicopters and similar practices which waste tax dollars.

5. Clarifying that the prohibition on the use of mechanized transportation in wilderness areas refers only to intentional infractions. This would be, in effect, the ''Bobby Unser Amendment'' designed to prevent in the future the current situation in which he is being prosecuted by the federal government for possibly driving a snowmobile into a wilderness area in Colorado while lost in a life-threatening blizzard.

6. Pulling the boundaries of wilderness areas and wilderness study areas (WSA's) back from roads and prohibiting ''cherrystemming.'' In many cases, the boundaries of wilderness areas and WSA's come right to the very edge of a road. Lawsuits have been filed or threatened against counties for going literally only a few feet into a WSA when doing necessary road maintenance work. It is clearly impossible to have a wilderness recreational experience in close proximity of a road. When formal wilderness areas are designated, the current practice is to pull the boundaries back a short distance from roads, depending on how the roads are categorized. That distance should be standardized and extended, probably to at least a quarter of a mile. The practice of ''cherrystemming,'' or drawing wilderness boundaries right along both sides of a road to its end, sometimes for many miles, is a clear violation of the intent of the Wilderness Act that wilderness areas must first and foremost be roadless. It must be eliminated.

7. Permitting certain human-powered but non-motorized mechanized transport devices in wilderness areas. This would include mountain bikes and wheeled ''game carriers'' and similar devices. The explosion of mountain biking was not envisioned by the Congress when the Wilderness Act was passed. Opening up those wilderness areas which are suitable to mountain biking would provide a high quality recreation experience to more of the Americans who own these areas. Use of these human-powered conveyances would also reduce pressure on these areas in a number of ways, such as by dispersing recreation use over a wider area. At the same time opening these areas can also reduce the current or potential conflicts between various recreation uses on land outside of designated wilderness. The impact on the land from these types of mechanized recreation uses would be minimal to non-existent. Their presence in wilderness areas would not cause problems on aesthetic grounds for any but the most extreme wilderness purists and they represent only a tiny fraction of the Americans who own these lands.

8. Requiring that the resource potential in all WSA's and any other land proposed for wilderness be updated at least every ten years. For example, mineral surveys and estimates of oil and gas potential completed on many of the WSA's on BLM-managed land which have been recommended for wilderness designation are now 10 to 15 years old and in some cases even older. These reviews were often not very thorough even by the standards and technology available then, much less what is available now. Before any additional land is locked up in wilderness, Congress and the American people should at least have the best and most up-to-date information on which to weigh the resource trade offs and make decisions.

9. Stating clearly that wilderness designation or the presence of WSA's cannot interfere with military preparedness. In a number of instances, conflicts related to military overflights of designated or potential wilderness areas, or to the positioning of essential military equipment on the ground in these areas, poses a threat or a potential threat to our defense preparedness. The Coalition will push for clarification that when considering the impacts of any mission certified by the military as essential to the national defense, wilderness areas or WSA's will be treated exactly the same as any other land administered by that agency.

10. Clarifying that wilderness designation or WSA designation will not in and of itself result in any management or regulatory changes outside the wilderness or WSA boundaries. This change is essential to prohibit federal agencies or the courts from taking actions to impose any type of ''buffer zones'' around these areas, including such things as special management of ''viewsheds'' or asserting wilderness-based water rights.●

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON MENTAL RETARDATION ILLINOIS CHAPTER'S 1999 DIRECT SERVICE PROFESSIONAL AWARD WINNERS

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to honor those who have enriched the lives of men and women with disabilities. Each year the Illinois chapter of the American Association on Mental Retardation recognizes the work of Illinoisans who have dedicated and committed their lives to helping people with disabilities.

These award winners live in Illinois and play an important role in the lives of Illinoisans with disabilities. A 1999 Direct Service Award winner is someone who devotes more than 50 percent of their time working hands-on with their client. These award winners work directly with their clients with commitment, sensitivity, professionalism, and patience. These qualities set them apart and increase their value to their patients.

It is important we recognize these individuals who go beyond the call of duty to improve the lives of others. We should note that these individuals do not only enrich the lives of those for whom they care, but enrich our lives as well. They represent the true spirit of community service.

It is my honor and privilege to recognize the achievements of the following distinguished Illinois direct service professionals: Linda Barnes, Karen Catt, Candace Fulgham, Ross Griswold, Delores Hardin, Cathey Hardy, Raterta Kalish, Eldora Madison, Anita Martin, Vickie Mckenny, Ida Mitchell, Michael Peters, Noreen Przislicki, Douglas S. Revolinski, Angelo Reyes, Karie Rosenown, Laureen Saathoff, Ruby Sandefur, Emma Smith, and Kathie Tillman. It is a privilege to represent these award winners in the United States Senate.

Again, I applaud them for their lifetime effort and their dedication to better the lives of others who are less fortunate. These distinguished men and women are heroes in their field, and I am proud to recognize their work.●

DAVID ''MOOSE'' MILLER

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to David ''Moose'' Miller, husband, father, friend, community leader, sports enthusiast, and owner of the nationally known watering hole, Moose's Saloon, who lost his life to cancer recently. Moose had battled cancer for the last year and convinced himself and others that he would beat it. Today, in Kalispell, Montana, family and friends are remembering Moose Miller and I would like to take a moment to make a special acknowledgement to such a great man.

Moose played football for the University of Montana, served his country in the U.S. Army, and with his wife, converted the Corral Bar to the famous Moose's Saloon. Swinging doors, sawdust on the floor, initials carved into the heavy tables, the best pizza around, and the rustic atmosphere attracted people from all walks of life and all ages. Whether you're from Kalispell, Montana, Peoira, Illinois, or Washington, D.C., you likely know someone who knows of Moose's Saloon and Moose Miller.

I had the privilege of knowing Moose. Moose not only owned and ran a successful business in the Flathead Valley, he gave back to the community in many ways. The Kalispell Chamber of Commerce honored him as its Great Chief in 1986, recognizing his years of community service. He and his ''elves'' made Christmas special for many people, especially the handicapped, each year for several years, he donated proceeds from the kitchen to support the March of Dimes, was an active supporter of the University of Montana and helped administer the Flathead Youth Foundation.

Moose is leaving behind a wife, Shirley; his children; Bruce, Wallis, Royce, Lexie, Lee and Aimee; his grandchildren, Zach, Anne, Lexie, Leah, Alicia, Hannah, and Zane; and his sister, Marcie.

I know that Moose will be missed by his family and friends, as well as the entire community. May God bless them all and may his memory live on.●

JOHN ''JACK'' J. DRISCOLL

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, on the occasion of his retirement as executive director of the Los Angeles World Airports, LAWA, I would like to recognize the important contribution Jack Driscoll has made to the City of Los Angeles and to the economy of Southern California over the past seven years.

Jack Driscoll was appointed executive director in December of 1992. His record of accomplishment can best be shown in the outstanding quality of management and development at the city's four airports: Los Angeles International, LAX, Ontario International, Palmdale Regional, and Van Nuys.

Under Mr. Driscoll's financial management, LAWA has increased its operating income by an overwhelming 329 percent through the combination of reorganization, streamlining measures, and renegotiating contracts with airport tenants. Revenues from non-aviation sources, including updated concessions and new vendor contracts, have nearly equaled revenues from aviation sources. In fact, leading investment rating agencies have rewarded LAX with their highest ratings for a stand-alone airport.

Even in adversity, Mr. Driscoll worked to maintain quality in service and operations. He was at the reins of LAWA during a major dispute between the City of Los Angeles and the airlines over landing fees. During litigation at LAX, he revived the dormant, 12-year-old plans to build new terminals at Ontario International Airport. With Mr. Driscoll's direction, this $270-million project was completed four months ahead of schedule and $26 million under budget. These new terminals put ONT in position to bring regional solutions to meet Southern California's ever-growing air transport needs and