

Acknowledged by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution as "a national ambassador for technological training," Dr. Skinner's work has included the development of a fast track for students seeking jobs in the information technology field. The program responded to shortages in high-tech workers by teaming higher education and the information technology industry. Students graduate from the program with an excellent education and the potential to obtain highly paid, high-skill jobs with nearly unlimited opportunities for future advancement.

Dr. Skinner continues to be a strong advocate for improving our higher education system and preparing our work force for the next century. His actions have moved Clayton College strides forward. The Clayton, GA community may be losing a valuable leader, but it will be to the benefit of the entire State of Georgia. Dr. Skinner will serve as president and chief executive officer of Georgia GLOBE (Global Learning On-Line for Business and Education).

Georgia GLOBE will use technologies such as the Internet and the Web to provide Georgians, especially nontraditional adult students, with greater access to continued education. I look forward to continuing to work with Dr. Skinner as he creates new goals to bring Georgians and Americans into the information age. It has been, and will continue to be, an honor working with a man of such vision and dedication.

CONCERNING THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, though derived of good intentions, the Federal Endangered Species Act has proven ineffective in achieving its desired objectives. Moreover, the law threatens the freedom and liberty of all Americans, but particularly rural Americans. As a Representative of the rural Fourth District of Colorado, I am grateful for the leadership of Colorado State Representative Steve Johnson, and Senator Mark Hillman upon passage of Colorado House Joint Resolution 99-1051.

The findings and recommendations of the Colorado General Assembly, as outlined in this important Resolution are imperative suggestions for this Congress. Accordingly Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD the official position of the State of Colorado regarding amendment of the Federal "Endangered Species Act of 1973." I furthermore urge my colleagues to act favorably upon the instructions offered by my Great State.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 99-1051

By Representatives Johnson, Alexander, Grossman, McKay, Miller, Smith; also Senators Hillman, Anderson, Congrove, Dennis, Epps, Evans, Lamborn, Musgrave, Owen, Powers, Tebedo, Teck.

CONCERNING AMENDMENT OF THE FEDERAL "ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT OF 1973"

Whereas, The "Endangered Species Act of 1973" (ESA) needs to be amended to encour-

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

age proactive species conservation efforts at the state level rather than reactive, burdensome, and costly efforts at the federal level; and

Whereas, Merely listing a species as threatened or endangered does little to conserve the species; and

Whereas, Many state programs such as Colorado's nongame program have been very successful in conserving species such as the boreal toad without a federal listing; and

Whereas, The ESA should provide incentives for states to adopt proactive approaches to avoid the listing of species under the ESA rather than penalizing such efforts; and

Whereas, The ESA should be amended to provide that a federal listing is not required where a state has already adopted a program to protect the species unless it is absolutely necessary to avoid nationwide extinction; and

Whereas, If a state has an effective program to protect a listed species in place, that program should be recognized as a reasonable and prudent alternative under the ESA, thereby providing a cost-effective means for species recovery, maintaining state jurisdiction over land and water resources, and allowing economic development to move forward, and

Whereas, States should not be penalized for efforts to enhance or establish populations of species by federal pre-emption once the species is listed, rather, such populations should qualify as experimental under the ESA, thereby maintaining control and regulation of the species by the state; and

Whereas, The ESA should not be applied retroactively, and projects in existence prior to the passage of the ESA that may come up for a federal permit or license renewal but do not involve an expansion of the project or an increase in the environmental impact of the project should not be subject to consultation under Section 7 of the ESA; and

Whereas, Federal implementation of the ESA to protect aquatic species must consider state water rights, and any recovery program should be structured to avoid or minimize intrusion into state authority over water allocation and administration; and

Whereas, The administration's "No Surprises" policy should be adopted as an amendment to the ESA so that permit holders and landowners have some assurance that once ESA requirements have been met, no further mitigation efforts will be required; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

That we, the members of the Sixty-second General Assembly, urge Congress to adopt these amendments to the federal "Endangered Species Act of 1973".

*Be it Further Resolved,* That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Colorado's Congressional delegation.

RUSSELL GEORGE,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JUDITH M. RODRIGUE,  
*Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.*

RAY POWERS,  
*President of the Senate.*

PATRICIA K. DICKS,  
*Secretary of the Senate.*

A NATIONAL MODEL FOR REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, sex, drugs and rock and roll were condemned thirty years ago and here we are today talking about trying to legislate morality when we should really be talking about are education and prevention programs to stop youth violence.

I want to show my colleagues what one of my communities has done \* \* \* the City of Salinas has just published their Strategic Framework to reduce youth violence in their community. It is the result of a community collaborative planning process involving core group members from the schools, social services, faith community, education, health and law enforcement, and the private sector. The intent of the Strategic Framework is to provide a snapshot of community assets and needs, and to chart out the kinds of long-term efforts needed to prevent and reduce violence.

I want to quote from the Mayor's letter, "The root causes of violence are varied and complex \* \* \* We can no longer afford a fragmented and uncoordinated approach to youth violence. This community needs to create multi-disciplinary partnerships, which share resources and transcend the compartmentalization and organizational limitations of the status quo."

Salinas' "Framework for Violence Prevention" is really a "one size fits all" approach that any community in the country can follow to find their own solutions for youth violence.

If we truly want to have an impact on reducing youth violence, I urge my colleagues to work with their local communities to initiate the kind of grass-roots assessment that Salinas did because we won't find the solutions to youth violence here in Washington.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 204, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, due to business in the District, I was unavoidably detained in Chicago. As a result, I missed roll votes number 210, 211, 212, 213.