

Government Participation Act of 2001 which would amend the National Environmental Policy Act, NEPA. This bill is designed to guarantee that federal agencies identify state, county and local governments as cooperating agencies when fulfilling their environmental planning responsibilities under NEPA.

NEPA was designed to ensure that the environmental impacts of a proposed federal action are considered and minimized by the federal agency taking that action. It was supposed to provide for adequate public participation in the decision making process on these federal activities and document an agency's final conclusions with respect to the proposed action.

Although this sounds simple and quite reasonable, NEPA has become a real problem in Wyoming and many states throughout the nation. A statute that was supposed to provide for additional public input in the federal land management process has instead become an unworkable and cumbersome law. Instead of clarifying and expediting the public planning process on federal lands, NEPA now serves to delay action and shut-out local governments that depend on the proper use of these federal lands for their existence.

The State and Local Government Participation Act is designed to provide for greater input from state and local governments in the NEPA process. This measure would simply guarantee that state, county and local agencies be identified as cooperating entities when preparing land management plans under NEPA. Although the law already provides for voluntary inclusion of state and local entities in the planning process, too often, the federal agencies choose to ignore local governments when preparing planning documents under NEPA. Unfortunately, many federal agencies have become so engrossed in examining every environmental aspect of a proposed action on federal land, they have forgotten to consult with the folks who actually live near and depend on these areas for their economic survival.

States and local communities must be consulted and included when proposed actions are being taken on federal lands in their state. Too often, federal land managers are more concerned about the comments of environmental organizations located in Washington, D.C. or New York City than the people who actually live in the state where the proposed action will take place. This is wrong. The concerns, comments and input of state and local communities is vital for the proper management of federal lands in the West. The State and Local Government Participation Act of 2001 will begin to address this troubling problem and guarantee that local folks will be involved in proposed decisions that will affect their lives.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 7

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 7, a bill to improve public education for all children and support lifelong learning.

S. 21

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to establish an off-budget lockbox to strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

S. 27

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cosponsors of S. 27, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide bipartisan campaign reform.

S. 88

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 88, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an incentive to ensure that all Americans gain timely and equitable access to the Internet over current and future generations of broadband capability.

S. 122

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 122, a bill to prohibit a State from determining that a ballot submitted by an absent uniformed services voter was improperly or fraudulently cast unless that State finds clear and convincing evidence of fraud, and for other purposes.

S. 123

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 123, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend loan forgiveness for certain loans to Head Start teachers.

S. 126

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 126, a bill to authorize the President to present a gold medal on behalf of Congress to former President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn Carter in recognition of their service to the Nation.

S. 135

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 135, a bill to amend title XVIII

of the Social Security Act to improve payments for direct graduate medical education under the medicare program.

S. 152

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 152, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the 60-month limit and increase the income limitation on the student loan interest deduction.

S. 170

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

S. 174

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 174, a bill to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the microloan program, and for other purposes.

S. 219

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. L. CHAFEE), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 219, a bill to suspend for two years the certification procedures under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in order to foster greater multilateral cooperation in international counternarcotics programs, and for other purposes.

S. 264

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 264, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand coverage of bone mass measurements under part B of the medicare program to all individuals at clinical risk for osteoporosis.

S. 271

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 271, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that the mandatory separation age for Federal firefighters be made the same as the age that applies with respect to Federal law enforcement officers.

S. 277

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 282

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 282, a bill to establish in the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice a position with responsibility for agriculture antitrust matters.

S. 283

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 283, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage.

S. 284

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 284, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to expand health care coverage for individuals.

S. RES. 16

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 16, a resolution designating August 16, 2001, as "National Airborne Day."

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 2. Mr. SMITH of Oregon submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 235, to provide for enhanced safety, public awareness, and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CARNAHAN, and Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 235, supra.

SA 4. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 235, supra.

SA 5. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. REED) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 235, supra.

SA 6. Mr. CORZINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 235, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 7. Mr. CORZINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 235, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 8. Mr. CORZINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 235, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 9. Mr. CORZINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 235, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 10. Mr. CORZINE (for himself, Mr. TORRICELLI, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 235, supra.

SA 11. Mr. NICKLES (for Mr. MCCONNELL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 14, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2. Mr. SMITH of Oregon submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 235, to provide for enhanced safety, public awareness, and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Following Subsection (b), AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE LIMITATION'S, insert the following:

“(c) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—

“(1) The interim regional price limitation, or cost-of-service based rate, shall not apply to any sale of electric energy at the wholesale rate for delivery in a state that—

“(A) has barred regulated utilities from passing through to retail consumers FERC-mandated wholesale rates, or

“(B) has instituted caps on the retail prices that regulated utilities can charge that are too low for the regulated utilities to recover costs on a cost-of-service based rate or that have resulted in the default of payments to other utilities within the region comprising the Western Systems Coordinating Council.

“(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, neither the Secretary nor the Commission may order the sale of electricity or natural gas into any state that meets the criteria set forth in subsection 1, unless there is a guarantee that the seller will be paid.

“(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, state public utility commissions within the region comprising the Western Systems Coordinating Council may require that regulated utilities under their respective jurisdictions meet the electricity demands of that utility's service area before making sales into any state that meets the criteria set forth in subsection 1.

“(d) INQUIRIES.—

“(1) The Commission is directed to undertake an examination to determine whether, within the region comprising the Western Systems Coordinating Council, any sale of electric energy at the wholesale rate in interstate commerce subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under part II of the Federal Power Act is unjust, unreasonable, or unduly preferential.

“(2) The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is directed to study whether the regulated utilities in states that meet the criteria set forth in Subsection (c)(1) are uncreditworthy, or have defaulted on payments, because of transfers of funds to parent holding companies or to subsidiaries beyond payments in accordance with any state deregulation statutes. The SEC is to report its findings to the House Committee on En-

ergy and Commerce and the Senate Committees on Commerce and Energy and Natural Resources within 120 days of enactment.”

Renumber the sequential subsections accordingly.

SA 3. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CARNAHAN, and Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 235, to provide for enhanced safety, public awareness, and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. . STUDY OF NATURAL GAS RESERVE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) In the last few months, natural gas prices across the country have tripled.

(2) In California, natural gas prices have increased twenty-fold, from \$3 per million British thermal units to nearly \$60 per million British thermal units.

(3) One of the major causes of these price increases is a lack of supply, including a lack of natural gas reserves.

(4) The lack of a reserve was compounded by the rupture of an El Paso Natural Gas Company pipeline in Carlsbad, New Mexico on August 1, 2000.

(5) Improving pipeline safety will help prevent similar accidents that interrupt the supply of natural gas and will help save lives.

(6) It is also necessary to find solutions of the lack of natural gas reserves that could be used during emergencies.

(b) STUDY BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Secretary of Energy shall request the National Academy of Sciences to—

(1) conduct a study to—

(A) determine the causes of recent increases in the price of natural gas, including whether the increases have been caused by problems with the supply of natural gas or by problems with the natural gas transmission system;

(B) identify any Federal or State policies that may have contributed to the price increases; and

(C) determine what Federal action would be necessary to improve the reserve supply of natural gas for use in situations of natural gas shortages and price increases, including determining the feasibility and advisability of a federal strategic natural gas reserve system; and

(2) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to Congress a report on the results of the study.

SA 4. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 235, to provide for enhanced safety, public awareness, and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 5, line 12, after “industry” insert “and employee organization”.

On page 34, line 9, strike “sections 60525” and insert “section 60125”.

On page 34, line 14, after “transferred” insert “to the Secretary of Transportation, as provided in appropriation Acts.”

On page 34, beginning in line 15, strike “fiscal year 2002, fiscal year 2003, and fiscal year 2004,” and insert “each of fiscal years 2002, 2003, and 2004.”

On page 34, line 21, strike “60125” and insert “60301”.