

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 13, 2001.

Hon. ANN M. VENEMAN,
Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY VENEMAN: I am enclosing a copy of a letter to the President from William R. Toor, Mayor of the City of Boulder, Colorado, regarding the new rules for management of inventoried roadless areas published in the Federal Register in January, 2000, and a resolution regarding those rules that was recently adopted by the Boulder City Council.

As you can see, Mayor Toor's letter and the City Council's resolution support these rules and urge their full implementation.

I join in that recommendation. I am convinced that these rules make good sense as a way to protect natural resources, provide more diverse recreational opportunities and preserve some of the undisturbed landscapes that are such a special part of Colorado and other Western states.

The new rules were developed through an extensive public process. They were the subject of both draft and final environmental impact statements. They were discussed at more than 600 public meetings and were the subject of more than 1.5 million public comments.

In my opinion, these rules reflect the highest standards of science-based public policy. Biologists tell us the inventoried roadless areas of the national forests are valuable for wildlife, and support ecosystem health and the full range of native species. They also are important sources of clean water for many communities like Boulder, in Colorado and other states, and provide a bulwark against the spread of invasive species, such as the many species of weeds that plague ranchers in our state and throughout the west.

And, above all, these special areas "possess social and ecological values and characteristics that are becoming scarce in an increasingly developed landscape," in the words of the final environmental impact statement.

The areas to be covered by the new rules were identified by detailed, on-the-ground studies that have been regularly updated and supplemented through the regular forest-planning process and additional studies focused on threatened and endangered species or other aspects of forest management.

For example, the Forest Service's latest Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest plan, developed with extensive public involvement, was completed in 1997. It identifies more than 300,000 acres of roadless areas—including some 40,000 acres in Boulder County alone. The new rules will apply to those areas and will simply mean that their roadless characteristics will be maintained. That forest is one of the closest to the Denver-metro area, so it is one of the most heavily used and affected. If we do not begin now to protect the unspoiled lands in that forest—and similar forests throughout Colorado and the West—we will lose forever the natural benefits and special qualities that they provide.

These rules will provide long-overdue protection for some of the most important parts of our federal lands. People in other states may have different reactions, but in view of the importance of the national forests for our state and our country I think they deserve the support of every Coloradan and should be retained by the Bush Administration.

Sincerely,

MARK UDALL.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CITY OF BOULDER,
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER,
Boulder, CO, February 26, 2001.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT BUSH, I am writing on behalf of the City of Boulder to voice our strong support for full and prompt implementation of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule published in the Federal Register on January 12, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3244).

On February 6, 2001 the Boulder City Council unanimously approved the attached Resolution asking you to reaffirm the commitment to designate more than 58 million acres of inventoried roadless areas. In particular, the City of Boulder has a great interest in the protection of roadless areas in the Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forests because of their proximity to Boulder and association with other public lands which are vital to protecting high quality native ecosystems and recreational opportunities.

On behalf of the City Council and the people of Boulder Colorado, I respectfully request that you direct the Secretary of Agriculture to initiate the process for protecting the 58 million acres designated in the Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM R. TOOR,
Mayor.

RESOLUTION NO. 875

A Resolution of the City Council for the City of Boulder, Colorado, in Support of the Executive Order Designating New Roadless Areas on United States Forest Service Lands.

Whereas, the City of Boulder strongly supports President Clinton's initiative to manage roadless areas on National Forest Land;

Whereas, the City of Boulder has a great interest in the protection of the Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forests because of their proximity to Boulder and association with other public lands which are vital to protecting high quality native ecosystems and recreational opportunities;

Whereas, the City of Boulder supports the proposal to restrict certain activities in unroaded portions of inventoried roadless areas, as identified in RARE II and existing forest plan inventories;

Whereas, it is well known that road construction and use in wildlife habitat areas can contribute significantly to habitat fragmentation and stress on wildlife species;

Whereas, the initiative restricts road construction and establishes protective criteria for managing roadless areas that will have positive impacts for biodiversity and enhanced plant and wildlife protection;

Whereas, over the course of a 13 month period, the U.S. Forest Service received 1.7 million letters, faxes, e-mails and postcards in support of the Clinton Administration's forest initiative, providing the strongest possible protection to National Forest roadless areas;

Whereas, on November 13, 2000, the Forest Service released its Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that supported the roadless area designation;

Whereas, on January 5, 2001 President Clinton signed the Record of Decision designating 58 and half million acres of public land as roadless areas;

Whereas, the Record of Decision has been suspended by President Bush;

Therefore, be it resolved that the City of Boulder reaffirms its commitment to full im-

March 15, 2001

plementation of the Executive Order designating 58 and half million acres of public land as roadless areas in perpetuity; and that the City of Boulder calls upon President Bush to reaffirm the executive order and not delay implementation of the Executive Order; and directs that copies of this Resolution be sent to the elected representatives of the residents of this municipality, including the U.S. Representative(s), U.S. Senators, and the President.

Passed and adopted this 6th day of February, 2001.

WILLIAM R. TOOR,
Mayor.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET M. CARROLL, MILLVILLE, MA, AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR'S JOHN H. CHAFEE AWARD FOR 2000

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Margaret M. Carroll and the announcement of her being named the recipient of the John H. Chafee Award, which was presented to her by the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission.

Ms. Carroll has given of herself generously over the years for the good of the Blackstone and Millville communities and this award appropriately recognizes her tireless efforts. Ms. Carroll served as a fine educator in the Blackstone-Millville school district for thirty-seven years. The many success stories of the students she taught serves as testament to her teaching ability. The many success stories of the students she taught serves as testament to her teaching ability. Also, Ms. Carroll has familiarized herself with the Blackstone River Valley to a level that is matched by no one. The river valley is forever in Ms. Carroll's debt for the dedicated service she has provided to it over the years. In addition to her efforts related to the river valley, she has volunteered throughout the Blackstone-Millville communities countless times and in various ways.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no one more fit to receive the John H. Chafee award than Ms. Margaret Carroll. I personally congratulate her and thank her for her dedicated service.

THE GENERATOR TARIFF
SUSPENSION ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation that would suspend the duty on the importation of replacement steam generators used in nuclear power plants.

Steam generators are necessary for the operation of nuclear power facilities. However, because they are no longer produced in the United States, domestic electric utilities must import replacement nuclear steam generators.

Despite the fact that there is neither a current nor any reasonable likelihood of future domestic manufacturing capability, a tariff is imposed on these imports. Prior to the conclusion of last year's Congress, a reduction in this tariff was included in the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act (H.R. 4868). Because a full repeal would have breached the limitation on revenue impact for the bipartisan miscellaneous trade bill, the original full repeal of the tariff was changed to a reduction to 4.9 percent.

This tariff should be removed. While providing no benefit to any domestic manufacturer, this expensive tax is borne directly by domestic consumers of electricity. The cost of the duty is passed on to the ratepayer through the state public utility commissions in rate-making proceedings. In short, the consumer pays this unnecessary tax directly and entirely. There is no domestic manufacturing industry to protect and the consumer derives no benefit from this tax. Except for raising a minor amount of revenue for the Treasury, this is a classic case of a tariff that serves no purpose other than to raise costs for consumers.

This tariff repeal legislation has enjoyed strong bipartisan support in both the House of Representatives and the other body. I ask my colleagues to join the effort again this year to eliminate this unneeded tariff by cosponsoring the Generator Tariff Suspension Act.

TRIBUTE TO SALVADOR LOPEZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize a very brave man who put his own personal safety at risk to protect the life of another. On March 5th Salvador Lopez saved a young 7 year old boy from serious injury or worse when the Postal Carrier rescued him from behind the wheel of a pickup truck that was fast heading toward a busy intersection. Mr. Lopez's gallant act deserves the recognition of this body. With this in mind, I would like to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following article from the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, written by Alex Taylor.

It was a nice day for delivering the mail. The sun was out and the temperature was mild. Salvador Lopez was having a pretty pleasant day on the job as the postman in the area of North Seventh and Orchard Avenue on Monday afternoon . . . Shortly after 3 p.m., Lopez had to leap off the sidewalk when he saw a car veering toward him traveling in the wrong direction on Orchard.

Behind the wheel were two wide eyes just barely gaping over the dashboard. Apparently 7-year-old Nicholas Reyes thought it was so nice out he'd go for his first-ever drive through the neighborhood. 'I was going down the sidewalk delivering the mail when I heard a noise,' said Lopez. 'I looked up and saw the car coming at me. I could see by the boy's eyes in the car that something was wrong, it was just the look on his face. I jumped out of the way.'

After narrowly missing Lopez, Reyes turned to the right and was driving across

Orchard. The vehicle he was driving headed toward a car stopped at the intersection. Lopez dropped his mail and dashed across the street to save the boy. He reached through the window and turned the wheel just before impact.

The car side-swiped the other car in the intersection, and was headed towards another vehicle when Lopez leaped back through the window and yanked on the emergency brake. He stopped the car just in time as it gently hit the next in line and came to a stop. Lopez estimated the boy had been idling along at about 5 mph to 10 mph.

The boy was taken to the hospital minutes later with minor injuries to his face. Lopez injured his ribs when diving through the window, but the injury was not serious . . .

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Salvador risked his health to save the life of this young boy. He has made us all—particularly his wife Gloria, his children Yma, Sergio, Isabelle, and Mario, and his co-workers at the Post Office—very proud.

AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON 77

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, during times of peace, there are unfortunately many who take our nation's armed forces for granted. In the process, not only do they forget the time-tested wisdom that preparing for war is the best way to avoid it, they also forget the contributions that military units make to the functioning of our republic.

One would be hard pressed to find a better example of this principle in action than Airborne Early Warning Squadron 77, or VAW-77.

VAW-77 performs a vital role in our defense structure, by providing the most valuable of all defense commodities: information. Its E-2C Hawkeye aircraft collect and synthesize the information our fighter and attack aircraft depend on to perform their roles. By performing this function, VAW-77's "Nightwolves" serve as the eyes and ears for surface ships and naval aviators during engagements and exercises.

Fortunately for our families, schools, and neighborhoods, the work of the Nightwolves goes beyond simply deterring America's military enemies from attacking our shores and national interests. During its five year existence, the squadron has deployed to the Caribbean ten times.

These deployments have resulted in the confiscation and destruction of several metric tons of cocaine and marijuana. These are drugs that will not be reaching America's streets due directly to the efforts of VAW-77.

We owe the men and women of VAW-77 a great debt for their service in this area, and I encourage others to join in thanking them for their dedication and success.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MIKE HARSHBARGER

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Mike Harshbarger who has retired from the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District after more than 31 years of service. Chief Harshbarger started with the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District on December 29, 1969 and retired on January 1, 2001.

Much has changed in firefighting since Chief Harshbarger started. Firefighting has become more complex and technical. Training levels have escalated and technology keeps changing. When the Chief first started, all he needed was a coat, gloves, and a pair of boots. Today, training is needed to deal with many modern hazards.

Chief Harshbarger has always subscribed to free thinking and is willing to listen to new ideas and suggestions. The Chief ran the fire department with the same philosophy as he ran his business, "Our customers, the people of the district, are first and foremost."

Chief Harshbarger rose to national recognition for his performance as head of the Amtrak rail crossing disaster scene on March 15, 1999. His work was chronicled in the August 2000, Readers Digest.

Chief Harshbarger lives in Bourbonnais Township with his wife Ellie. The Chief is the second generation in his family to serve with the fire department. His father, Lyle, was a long-time member of the fire department. On October 12, 2000, the Kankakee Elks Lodge #627 named the Chief "Citizen of the Year". No one in the 100 years of the Lodge has ever received this award.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize other institutions in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefitted and strengthened America's communities.

IN HONOR OF DAVID OCEGUEDA BRACKER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to David Ocegueda Bracker as he retires from his position as the Executive Director of a non-profit group in my district, Arriba Juntos. For the past three and a half years, David has led this agency through a time of transition and expansion. During his tenure with Arriba Juntos, he has helped low-income residents of San Francisco receive the training they need to find employment or to advance their careers. His inspirational leadership has had a profound effect on our city.

David has dedicated his entire professional life to public service. After receiving his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in social work from San Francisco State University, David began his career by working for four years at the organization from which he is now retiring,