

## Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting Proposed Legislation on Utah Public Lands Wilderness Designation

June 26, 1992

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)*

I am pleased to submit for congressional consideration and passage the "Utah Public Lands Wilderness Act".

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), (43 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.*), directs the Secretary of the Interior to review the wilderness potential of the public lands.

The review of the areas identified in Utah began immediately after the enactment of FLPMA and has now been completed. Approximately 3,258,250 acres of public lands in 95 areas in Utah met the minimum wilderness criteria and were designated as wilderness study areas (WSAs). These WSAs were studied and analyzed during the review process and the results documented in five environmental impact statements and five instant study area reports.

Based on the studies and reviews of the WSAs, the Secretary of the Interior recommends that all or part of 69 of the WSAs, totaling 1,958,339 acres of public lands, be designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. From these 69 WSAs, the Secretary proposes to designate 70 wilderness areas by dividing one WSA into two wilderness areas.

I concur with the Secretary of the Interior's recommendations and am pleased to recommend designation of the 70 areas (totaling 1,958,339 acres) identified in the enclosed draft legislation as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The proposed additions represent the diversity of wilderness values in the State of Utah. These range from the block-faulted mountains of western Utah to the entrenched sandstone canyons of the Colorado Plateau in southern and eastern Utah. These areas span a wide variety of Utah landforms, ecosystems, and other natural systems and features. Their inclusion in the wilderness system will improve the geographic distribution of wilderness areas in Utah, and will complement existing areas of congressionally designated wilderness.

They will provide new and outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation.

The enclosed draft legislation provides that designation as wilderness shall not constitute a reservation of water or water rights for wilderness purposes. This is consistent with the fact that the Congress did not establish a Federal reserved water right for wilderness purposes. The Administration has established the policy that, where it is necessary to obtain water rights for wilderness purposes in a specific wilderness area, water rights would be sought from the State by filing under State water laws. Furthermore, it is the policy of the Administration that the designation of wilderness areas should not interfere with the use of water rights, State water administration, or the use of a State's interstate water allocation.

The draft legislation also provides for access to wilderness areas by Indian people for traditional cultural and religious purposes. Access by the general public may be limited in order to protect the privacy of religious cultural activities taking place in specific wilderness areas. In addition, to the fullest extent practicable, the Department of the Interior will coordinate with the Department of Defense to minimize the impact of any overflights during these religious cultural activities.

I further concur with the Secretary of the Interior that all or part of 63 of the WSAs encompassing 1,299,911 acres are not suitable for preservation as wilderness.

Also enclosed are a letter and report from the Secretary of the Interior concerning the WSAs discussed above and a section-by-section analysis of the draft legislation. I urge the Congress to act expeditiously and favorably on the proposed legislation so that the natural resources of these WSAs in Utah may be protected and preserved.

Sincerely,

GEORGE BUSH

*June 26 / Administration of George Bush, 1992*

*Note: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dan Quayle, President of the Senate.*

## Designation of Marshall Jordan Breger as Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor

*June 26, 1992*

The President today directed Marshall Jordan Breger, of the District of Columbia, Solicitor for the Department of Labor, to perform the duties of the office of Assistant Secretary of Labor for Labor-Management Standards, effective June 29, 1992.

Since 1991, Mr. Breger has served as Solicitor at the Department of Labor. From 1985 to 1991, he served as Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States. He also served as Special As-

sistant to the President for Public Liaison at the White House, 1983–85.

Mr. Breger graduated from the University of Pennsylvania (B.A., 1967; M.A., 1967); Oriol College, Oxford University (B. Phil., 1970); and the University of Pennsylvania Law School (J.D., 1973). He was born August 14, 1946, in New York, NY. Mr. Breger is married, has two children, and resides in Silver Spring, MD.

## Nomination of Hugo Pomrehn To Be Under Secretary of Energy

*June 26, 1992*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Hugo Pomrehn, of California, to be Under Secretary of Energy. He would succeed John Chatfield Tuck.

Since 1967, Dr. Pomrehn has served in several positions with the Bechtel Corp., including vice president and manager of the Los Angeles Regional Office, 1990 to present; manager of special projects for quality management in San Francisco, 1989–90; and vice president and general

manager of Bechtel-KWU Alliance in Gaithersburg, MD, 1988–89.

Dr. Pomrehn graduated from the University of Southern California (B.S., 1960); George Washington University (M.S., 1965); and the University of Southern California (M.S., 1969; Ph.D., 1975). He served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, 1960–64. He was born July 8, 1938, in Chicago Heights, IL. Dr. Pomrehn is married, has three children, and resides in Westminster, CA.

## Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the Resignation of H. Lawrence Garrett III as Secretary of the Navy

*June 26, 1992*

President Bush accepts the resignation of Secretary of the Navy, H. Lawrence Garrett III. Secretary Garrett today submitted his letter of resignation to the President, accepting full responsibility for the Tailhook incident involving naval aviators.

President Bush today received a briefing by Secretary Cheney on the status of the Department of Defense investigations into the Tailhook incident. The Inspector General of the Navy has investigated the