

Exploration initiative, which I recently announced, to better understand the unexplored ocean areas.

This legislation establishes the Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program, which will support graduate students in oceanography, marine biology, and maritime archaeology. Much of the success of the National Marine Sanctuary Program is attributable to Dr. Foster's advocacy of the program and her tenure as the head of the program in its early years, and I am pleased that these scholarships will honor such a fine leader in ocean and coastal management. Throughout her career, Dr. Foster demonstrated a commitment to mentoring and supporting

women and minorities in the marine sciences. She will be greatly missed.

I congratulate the congressional supporters of this Act. I am pleased by the increased interest in our oceans and coastal resources and the recognition of the value of the continued protection and management of these areas. S. 1482 will be instrumental in helping to ensure our ocean legacy for future generations.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
November 13, 2000.

NOTE: S. 1482, approved November 13, was assigned Public Law No. 106-513.

Statement on Signing the Coastal Barrier Resources Reauthorization Act of 2000

November 13, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign into law S. 1752, the "Coastal Barrier Resources Reauthorization Act of 2000." This Act reauthorizes and amends the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA), which protects lives, property, and key coastal barrier habitat by prohibiting Federal subsidies for development and disaster relief on many of our Nation's coastal barriers.

First enacted in 1982, CBRA established the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS), which includes undeveloped coastal barrier habitats along the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Great Lakes, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Last year, these coastal barriers were renamed the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System in honor of the late Senator, who authored the original CBRA and this reauthorizing legislation and championed numerous other environmental laws throughout his distinguished career of public service. Today, CBRA protects over 3 million acres of coastal barrier habitat.

Coastal barriers provide a multitude of services that are foundations of a strong economy and healthy environment. For example, coastal barriers often help provide the conditions necessary to support productive and lucrative fisheries. They also provide essential habitat for threatened and endangered species and protect

the mainland from coastal storms, bearing the full force of storm surge and hurricane-level winds and shielding the mainland from the severest storm conditions. By limiting Federal subsidies such as flood insurance from units in the System, CBRA discourages development, keeping lives out of harm's way, protecting fish and wildlife habitat, and reducing wasteful expenditures of taxpayer dollars.

This Act contains a number of amendments that will improve the CBRS and implementation of the CBRA. One provision allows the voluntary addition of lands to the System, which could increase the amount of coastal barrier habitat protected by CBRA. The Act also codifies a set of mapping guidelines, which will help the public understand the criteria used to delineate parts of the System. Most significantly, this Act recognizes the value that digital mapping techniques can add to coastal protection and authorizes a digital mapping pilot program that will help integrate the CBRA with Federal, State, and local government planning tools.

Ultimately, I believe this technology will better serve the public and protect natural resources.

Naming the System after Senator Chafee was a fitting tribute to a man who worked so hard, and so successfully, to find common ground in

the struggle to protect and preserve the environment for future generations. Senator Chafee was very proud of CBRA, often stating his support during hearings of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, which he chaired. Given the laudable goals and achievements of CBRA, I am pleased that the Congress has reauthorized and strengthened the law. This Act reaffirms our Nation's commitment to pro-

tecting valuable coastal barrier habitat in this new century.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
November 13, 2000.

NOTE: S. 1752, approved November 13, was assigned Public Law No. 106-514.

Remarks and a Question-and-Answer Session With the APEC Business Advisory Council in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei November 15, 2000

The President. Good morning, and thank you, Dr. Hamdillah. Your Royal Highness, fellow leaders, Madam Ambassador, members of the Business Advisory Committee. I thank you all for your support of this process. And if I might, I'd like to say a special word of appreciation to the three members of ABAC from the United States, Sy Sternberg, Paul Song, and Ernie Micek.

I appreciate what the private sector involvement has done for APEC—for example, last year's auto dialog, which brought regulators and firms together to lower trade barriers. I hope we can do the same this year with the chemical industry dialog. I thank you for your ideas and for your impatience, reminding us always that none of these commitments made at APEC mean anything if we don't follow them with actions.

As you know, this has been a rather interesting week in the United States. [Laughter] And as a result, I did not arrive here until late last night. One of the things I think we have learned is that we should all be very careful about making predictions about the future. [Laughter] But I know I can safely predict that this will be my last APEC Summit. [Laughter] I just don't know who will be here next year. [Laughter]

Let me say a few words about the organization, if I might. I remember our first summit in 1993, the first leaders meeting in Washington State at Blake Island. Some of you were there. Before that, APEC had been doing good work but in a low-key way, I think largely unnoticed by many of the politic leaders among all the

countries here represented. I wanted to establish a mechanism to bring together the leaders of the most economically dynamic region in the world. I thought that together we could work to be better prepared for a world that was becoming more and more integrated, more and more interdependent, a world in which the Asia-Pacific region was destined to play a larger and larger role.

In 1993 we didn't use the word "globalization" very much, but that is what we were preparing for. And I think we knew the process inevitably would be about more than economics. By bringing our economies and our societies closer together, I believed then, and I hope all believe now, that we could advance not only prosperity but the cause of human freedom and our common ability to avert conflict in this vital part of the world.

By inviting the APEC leaders to Blake Island, I wanted to send a clear message, also, that Asia was even more important to the United States after the cold war. I believe that our partnership with Asia is stronger today than a decade ago and that Asia's future is brighter.

There is no longer any doubt that our link to this region is permanent, not passing. Our troops remain here as a force for stability. We have renewed our alliance with Japan. We have worked to preserve the peace in the two likeliest flashpoints of conflict, the Taiwan Strait and the Korean Peninsula.

In 1994, with our ally South Korea, we negotiated an agreement that froze North Korea's production of plutonium for nuclear weapons. And now President Kim Dae-jung has made his