

Whereas all but two states admitted to the Union since 1802 were denied the same rights of land ownership granted the state admitted earlier, and

Whereas art. I, sec. 8, of the Constitution of the United States of America makes no provision for land ownership by the federal government, other than by purchase from the states of land "... for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings"; and

Whereas acting contrary to the provisions of art. I, sec. 8, of the Constitution of the United States, the federal government withheld property from the states admitted since 1802, making them land poor and unable to determine their own land use and development policies; and

Whereas this action has made those states admitted since 1802 unequal to other states and subject to unwarranted federal control; and

Whereas restoration of property to which they are historically and constitutionally entitled would empower the land poor states to determine their own land use policies;

*Be it resolved*, That the Alaska State Legislature urges the 104th Congress of the United States to right the wrong and to transfer to the states, by fee title, any federally controlled property currently held within the states admitted to the Union since 1802; and be it

*Further resolved*, That the Congress is urged to then purchase from the newly empowered States land needed to meet the provision of art. I, sec. 8, United States Constitution.

Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Robert Dole, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; to members of the delegations in Congress of those States admitted to the Union since 1802; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE,  
Juneau, AK.

#### A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONCEPT OF TRANSFER OF THE TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST TO THE STATE OF ALASKA

RESOLUTION 95-12

Whereas, the existing 1979 Tongass Land Management Plan has been under revision since 1989, and;

Whereas, this lack of finality in the planning process has lead to instability in the economy and communities of southeast Alaska, and;

Whereas, national political input to the Tongass land management planning process has been a key problem in efforts to resolve conflicts on the Tongass;

Whereas, 85% of southeast Alaska households believe the timber industry is an important part of the region's economy, and;

Whereas, Southeast Conference believes that transfer of the Tongass National Forest to the people of Alaska is an important element in the quality of life in southeast Alaska;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, That Southeast Conference supports the concept of transferring the Tongass National Forest to the State of Alaska, thereby allowing maximum self-determination by the people of Alaska in resolving existing conflicts and bringing stability to our region.

Adopted in the City of Whitehorse this Twenty-First Day of September 1995.

J. ALLAN MACKINNON,  
President.

#### TESTIMONY OF COMMISSIONER WILLIE HENSLEY REGARDING TONGASS LEGISLATION (S. 1054)

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Willie Hensley. I am the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development. On behalf of Governor Tony Knowles and Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer, I thank you for this opportunity to share our views on S. 1054 and other issues concerning the Tongass National Forest.

The Knowles/Ulmer Administration is committed to assuring a healthy, diversified economy for Southeast Alaska—both for today and for the future. We are pleased that the Alaska Congressional delegation shares our goal in this regard. We differ with the delegation, however, on the methods and priorities to achieve this objective.

We recognize that Southeast Alaska's economy is, by virtue of the region's land base, inextricably linked to the Tongass National Forest. Consequently, balanced, sound management of the multiple-use Tongass is vital to the long-term social and economic well-being of the people and communities of Southeast Alaska.

To this end, the hallmarks which guide our policies in connection with the Tongass include:

1. informed decision-making and prudent management of our resources through the use of sound science;

2. multiple, balanced and sustainable use of the Tongass' rich resources, including conservation measures that reflect our concern for future generations of people who will depend on these resources;

3. a planning process that is inclusive of the many and varied interests associated with the Tongass and is designed to foster consensus; and,

4. maximum self-determination for the people of Southeast Alaska with respect to land management decisions which affect them, and a minimum of legislative prescriptions from Washington, D.C.

These are the criteria by which we evaluate Tongass policies.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN YOUNG: Just wanted to let you know there are a lot of us cutters out here depending on you. Its damn hard, when a guy doesn't know if he's going to have to pack out the next day because of an injunction. I know you have been trying hard and I wanted to say thanks for doing so. Please stay with it, cause you all we've got.

Thanks,

GARY BATCHELDER.

P.S. Right now I'm in a camp of about 50-60 men and I'm sure, I speak for them all.

WARD COVE, AK,  
July 24, 1995.

Congressman DON YOUNG,  
House of Representatives, Rayburn Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN YOUNG: This letter is to offer my congratulations on your continued support of the timber jobs in southeast Alaska. It is time the Forest Service considered the impact of people in the equation, not just bugs and birds. They have gotten so involved in protection, it has escaped their attention that the forest is a renewable resource for the use of all the people.

I encourage the wise use of our natural resources with a greater importance placed on people and jobs.

BOB ELLIOT.

PETERSBURG, AK,  
July 20, 1995.

Congressman DON YOUNG,  
House of Representatives, Rayburn Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN YOUNG: Thank you for your support of the forest industry in Southeast Alaska.

The forest industry is vital for the economy of Southeast Alaska, where 42% of forestry jobs have already been lost directly and indirectly because of the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. I urge you to work toward new legislation which will allow the forest industry to harvest timber, safeguard our forests from over harvesting and protect habitat. It seems like a lot to ask, but there must be a balance between the factions.

Does the Forest Service need to be restructured? What is their main objective? It does not seem to be managing the forests for the forest industry but for special interest groups, such as tourists and conservationists, who would lock up Alaska and throw the key away with no regard to the opinions of the local citizens. Personally, I feel the US Forest Service has become too large and wields too much power over their fellow citizens. In fact, they remind me of the IRS.

Thank you again for your efforts towards the forest industry and the dilemma it is in.

Sincerely,

MIKE LUHR.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNIVERSARY REMARKS

##### HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 1995

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to congratulate the Shelter Island Heights Fire Department for 100 years of dedicated service to the people of Shelter Island Heights. The residents of the Shelter Island Heights Fire District are very fortunate to have such a well-trained and devoted fire department. The Shelter Island Heights Fire Department worked hard to establish itself as one of the best departments in New York and has achieved an impeccable record.

The success of the fire department is a direct result of dedication and effective management displayed by its members. Under the leadership of Chairman Frederick J. Gurney the fire department has continued to play an active role in the life of the Southampton community. This leadership umbrella extends to the other members of the board of fire commissioners, Charles Williams, Eugene Tybaert, Louis Cicero and Richard Surozenski as well as the loyalty and hard work exemplified by Chief Officer Stuart Nicoll, First Assistant Larry Lechmanski and Second Assistant Dave Sharp. The Shelter Island Heights Fire Department consists of more than 35 volunteer fire fighters, containing no career employees, offering further evidence of their passion and commitment to the community they serve.

On Saturday, September 30, 1995, the Shelter Island Heights Fire Department celebrates its 100th anniversary, marking the culmination of a long, proud history by recognizing and honoring the efforts of those who have sacrificed and served the department and community. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask the rest of the House to join me in congratulating the fire department on achieving this momentous milestone. This is a much deserved tribute and I wish them all the best on their day of recognition and glory. They give of themselves because of the love and pride they share for their community, and we applaud their extraordinary service and efforts. These courageous individuals have truly earned this recognition. May they continue to

serve their community for another hundred years.

**PUNCH DRUNK AFTER ONLY ONE ROUND?**

**HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 1995*

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am outraged and dismayed that the Voting Rights Section of the United States Justice Department seems punch drunk after only one round. Is it that the lawyers over there have forgotten the rich and violent heritage that resulted in their employment?

The Voting Rights Act was won only after tears had been shed and blood had been spilt. People died for the passage of the Voting Rights Act. And that our country could survive the turmoil and emerge a better place for all of us is a tribute to our strength.

But the Justice Department is about to let us down. The headline in yesterday's Atlanta Constitution just about tells it all: Another majority-black district at risk. It reads, "The U.S. Justice Department has abandoned its defense of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District, and state attorneys on Monday admitted that race dictated the drawing of its lines—putting the future of another majority-black district in jeopardy."

Anybody can be a star when times are good. It was adversity that made Dr. Martin Luther King the strength of a nation. It was adversity that made John Lewis a hero to us all. Shame on you, Department of Justice. Shame on you!

**REVEREND DOCTOR V. SIMPSON TURNER**

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 1995*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a shining star in the great borough of Brooklyn, NY, the Rev. Doctor V. Simpson Turner, who this year celebrates his 30th year as senior pastor of the historic Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Brooklyn, NY.

Dr. Turner's achievements during his pastorate have been many, including the rebuilding in 1978 of a new church complex and education facilities, costing over \$2 million. Again, he oversaw the rebuilding of the church sanctuary after a devastating fire in 1986. In 1995, the Mt. Carmel Housing Development Corp. developed 78 units of housing, and in March of that year, 38 families realized their dreams of home ownership and moved into the Mt. Carmel town houses. The latest project undertaken by the church includes developing plans to build a home for the homeless near the church at a proposed cost of over \$3 million.

Other initiatives during the past 30 years have included: a homework center for youngsters of all ages, a high school equivalency program, a senior services and handicapped bus ministry, and a radio ministry.

In addition to pastoring Mt. Carmel Church, Dr. Turner has been active in numerous com-

munity organizations. He serves as president of the board of trustees of the Baptist Medical Center, and serves on the board of trustees of Gordon College, the Baptist home for the elderly, and the Brooklyn public library. His ecumenical involvement includes: chairman, Department of Communications, Council Churches of the city of New York; former president, North American Baptist Fellowship of the Baptist World Alliance; member of the board of directors, Religion in American Life; and, former president, Baptist Minister's Conference of Greater New York. Dr. Turner is also a member of Brooklyn Community Board #3. He is an adjunct professor of urban concerns at Alliance Theological Seminary, and he appears regularly as a radio and television host. Dr. Turner has traveled throughout the world as a featured preacher.

Dr. Turner has been honored by many community groups, including: the NYC Bureau of Child Welfare, the United Builders Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the YMCA. He was appointed by the Governor of the State of New York to the New York State Commission on Health Education and Illness Prevention.

Dr. Turner has a B.A. from Gordon College, an M.S. from Biblical Seminary of New York City; an M.T.S. from New York Theological Seminary; and a D.Min. from Drew University. He is the author of "Compassion for the City," used throughout the country as a textbook for students pursuing urban ministry. For 10 years, he served as editor of the Baptist Progress, the official journal of the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

Dr. Turner is married to Laura B. Turner, an educator, and they have two children.

I am pleased to bring the life and service of the Rev. Doctor V. Simpson Turner to the attention of my colleagues and commend him on a ministry well-served and a life well-lived.

**STATEMENT OF CAROL ANN DEVINE AS READ BY BIANCA JAGGER AT THE CONGRESSIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAUCUS ON SEPTEMBER 27, 1995**

**HON. ROBERT G. TORRICELLI**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 1995*

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following statement and recommend it to my colleagues:

On June 8, 1990, my husband, Michael Vernon DeVine, was kidnapped and almost completely decapitated by members of the Guatemalan military. Michael was a kind, gentle, and honest man. He devoted himself to our family and our business, and was a good friend to our neighbors in Popun, Peten where we lived. He was not politically active.

After Michael's assassination, many wonderful people supported my children and me in our efforts to find out who killed Michael and why, and to bring to justice those responsible for his murder. Remarkably, six soldiers were convicted and sentenced to 30 years in prison. One officer, Captain Hugo Contreras, was also convicted. The day that he was sentenced, Captain Contreras was allowed to escape from the military base at which he was held. As is typical in Guatemala, no other officer was held responsible. Anyone at all familiar with Guatemala

knows that it would be impossible for a group of low-ranking Guatemalan soldiers to travel by army vehicle 100 kms, as Michael's killers did, to murder a U.S. citizen without orders and promises of protection from their superiors. Several officers, including Colonel Guillermo Portillo Gomez, Julio Roberto Alpirez, and Mario Roberto Garcia Catalan, were clearly implicated in ordering the murder or the attempted cover-up, but they were never brought to justice.

In March of this year, I was stunned to learn that Congressman Robert Torricelli had received information that Colonel Alpirez, whom we had always suspected of involvement, had indeed been a paid asset of the CIA, and had helped at least to facilitate and cover-up my husband's murder. Congressman Torricelli's revelations raised serious questions about the role of various U.S. government agencies in handling Michael's death. Consequently, the White House ordered a government-wide inquiry to answer these questions, as well as questions raised about other Guatemalan human rights cases. I am indebted to Congressman Torricelli for making public information about Alpirez and allegations of U.S. Government wrongdoing, and for insisting on serious investigations.

As shocked as we were by the disclosure of possible U.S. Government misconduct related to Michael's assassination, my children and I became hopeful that we would finally learn the complete truth about Michael's death. I have since filed dozens of Freedom of Information Act [FOIA] requests, cooperated with U.S. government investigators who are assigned to examine the circumstances of my husband's murder, and met with members of Congress.

Now, however, I am becoming increasingly discouraged that we will never learn the full truth of what happened to Michael, why he was murdered, or what part the U.S. government may have played. My children and I were especially discouraged after reading the four-page summary of the 700-page CIA report, part of which focused on my husband's case. I believe that the summary report side-steps all the basic questions about Michael's murder, and contains misleading statements.

For example, we still do not know the details of what the CIA knew and when, and why the CIA continued its relationship with Colonel Alpirez after having information that he was connected to Michael's assassination. We also do not know why the CIA eventually decided to terminate its relationship with Alpirez.

In addition, the summary report makes no mention of facts which have already been publicly established, such as Alpirez's role in facilitating the murder by providing the assassins with a place to stay, and attempting to cover up military responsibility. This omission is quite misleading, and appears, inexplicably, to be an attempt to cast Alpirez in a positive light. I also believe that it is misleading for the CIA to say that it is aware of no information indicating that its "employees" were involved, while failing to mention paid assets such as Alpirez.

Equally troubling is the CIA's failure to release its full report. It is obviously impossible to respond to some of the conclusions in the summary report without knowing the basis for those conclusions. How can I or anybody else be confident that there was no involvement on Colonel Alpirez's part in ordering Michael's murder, or that there is no other information about CIA wrongdoing, without at least knowing what the full report says? The failure to disclose anything more than a four-page summary makes me wonder what the CIA is trying to hide.