

LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE KANKAKEE RIVER BASIN

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I am re-introducing legislation which I sponsored in the 103d Congress authorizing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to study and recommend solutions to the flooding problems in the Kankakee River basin. This legislation was included in the Water Resources Development Act of 1994, which was adopted in the U.S. House of Representatives, but not enacted into law.

The areas surrounding the Kankakee River and some of its tributaries have faced an increasing flood problem in recent years due to sedimentation and other factors. Storms which may not have caused flooding a few years ago, now cause major problems. In fact, the county of Kankakee, IL, commissioned a floodplain and mapping study of their own which altered their base flood elevations dramatically.

The Kankakee River basin is home to more than 1,000,000 people in both Illinois and Indiana, and the river is the area's greatest natural resource. Accordingly, this study has the support of the local community and environmental leaders.

In these tight budgetary times each funding request deserves strict scrutiny. However, failure to invest \$500,000 for this 1 year study, will cost the Federal Government and the citizens of east central Illinois much more in the coming years. I trust my colleagues will agree with me that the Kankakee River Basin flooding problem should be addressed now, while it can still be inexpensively remedied. Thank you for your support of this much-needed legislation.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the League of Women Voters on their 75th anniversary. Formed 6 months prior to their hardest-won victory, the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920, this nonpartisan organization's mission has not changed since its founding: to build citizen participation in the democratic process.

With the enfranchisement of women, the league has since grown to become an indispensable fixture on the American political landscape. On a grassroots level, the league preserves democracy every day by registering voters, sponsoring candidate debates, and educating citizens on the issues of the day.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the league on their diamond anniversary, and I wish them continued success for the next 75 years.

JIMMY EARLE: INDUCTED TO TENNESSEE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent and special individual, Jimmy Earle, upon his induction to the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame. His selection should come as no surprise as he has been successful everywhere he has coached.

A graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, Jimmy began his basketball coaching career in 1958 at Algood High School in Putnam County, TN. After 1 year, he became head coach at Smithville High School in DeKalb County compiling a 73-17 record.

He then stepped up to the college ranks as head basketball coach at Martin Methodist College in Pulaski, TN. At Martin College he once again produced winning teams with a record of 74-29. His teams also won three Dixie Conference Championships in 4 years.

In 1965, he joined the Middle Tennessee State University coaching staff as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. As head coach of the baseball team, his 1968 squad won the Ohio Valley Conference championship and he was voted conference Coach of the Year.

Jimmy was elevated to MTSU's head basketball coach in 1969 and for the next 10 years served in that capacity. Once again his winning tradition continued as he led his teams to two OVC championships and two trips to the NCAA tournament. In 1975 he became the first coach in school history to take a basketball team to the NCAA tournament.

He has served as MTSU's athletic director and as an observer of Southeastern Conference basketball officials.

I have known, worked with, and admired Jimmy Earle for almost 30 years. As a graduate of MTSU, I am extremely aware of his many contributions to my alma mater and community. His selection to the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame is well deserved. Tennessee will long reap the benefits of his many years of service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on February 10, 1995, I inadvertently voted "nay" on rollcall vote 118, on passage of the Criminal Alien Deportation Act. I support the bill and intended to vote "yea."

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, in 1856, President Franklin Pierce delivered a special message to

Congress underscoring the requirement for citizens to participate in the governing process of their Nation:

No citizen of our country should permit himself to forget that he is a part of its Government and entitled to be heard in the determination of its policy and its measures, and that therefore the highest considerations of personal honor and patriotism require him to maintain by whatever power or influence he may possess the integrity of the laws of the Republic.

When President Franklin Pierce spoke this charge of citizen involvement in the mid-19th century, he was encapsulating the spirit of grassroots participation and, without knowing it, foreshadowing a 20th century American institution: the League of Women Voters. For the past three-quarters of a century, members of the league have provided a way for Americans at all levels of our society to influence the process and assure the expansion of our democracy.

The success of the League of Women Voters has been the result of an all-encompassing belief that democracy depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens. Through this credo, the league agenda has led members to promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive. Internationally, the goal has been, and remains, to promote peace in an interdependent world by cooperating with other nations. Environmentally, members of the league have embraced goals that will promote protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest. The league and its members' commitment to democracy has meant their active support to secure social and economic justice for all Americans.

It is my great pleasure to salute the founders of the League of Women Voters, as well as the many thousands of members who have carried on their tradition for three-quarters of a century. America is a stronger nation for their determination and their efforts.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JERREL D. SMITH ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions and work of Jerrel D. Smith of St. Louis, MO.

Jerrel Smith, vice president, environmental, safety, and health for the Union Electric Co. of St. Louis, MO, retired on January 31, 1995. He will assume a new role as environmental policy consultant to the senior management of the Union Electric Co.

In his 37 years of service to Union Electric Co., Mr. Smith has played an active role in assisting Federal, State, and local legislative and regulatory entities in establishing environmental protection. During his career, he has participated in the formation and implementation of many environmental laws. Of particular note was his work with us on the Clean Air Act, which will help us achieve reductions in air pollution in a way that achieves tough new standards in a cost-effective manner. This work will save ratepayers in eastern Missouri many millions of dollars.

The 104th Congress acknowledges the many achievements of Jerrel Smith. We thank him for his continuing contributions to the development of effective national policies—and wish him best of luck in his new endeavors.

SALUTING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay tribute to the 75th anniversary of one of the most steadfast and respected political organizations in the Nation, the League of Women Voters. Today, as we mark this historic event, we recognize the contributions of this distinguished organization.

Since its founding in 1920, the League of Women Voters has been on the national forefront of voter education. Their Presidential debates have become center stage for Presidential campaigns, and their informative voter guides impact every election, including those at the city government level.

In my congressional district, the League of Women Voters has dutifully served not only their members, but the population as a whole through informative debates and other voter activities that have become their hallmark. Under the leadership of Miss Belle Sherwin, who served as the national president of the League between 1924–34, the Cleveland League adopted "Every Woman An Intelligent Voter" as the spirit that lead their charge through these 75 years. The League developed get-out-the-vote campaigns, voting booth improvements, and objective questionnaires that have become models for the rest of the country.

Since its inception, the League of Women Voters of Cleveland has been the epitome civic-mindedness, fighting for issues that are important to a majority of voters. The minimum wage, which they sought in 1918, was an early success before they tackled other issues, such as child labor laws and school attendance requirements. The league has advocated reforms in juvenile justice, advocated a smaller and more effective city government, and even devised a fair system of jury selection.

More recently, the league advocated the creation of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority and supported a one-cent sales tax to support this transit system. They also worked with other civic groups that brought about an All-American City designation for Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker, one of the League of Women's Voters crowning achievements was the establishment an educational fund that works for the education of all voters on pertinent matters, mainly through town hall forums. Starting in 1972, the forums have explored topics such as educational improvement, energy, hazardous waste, the judiciary, and taxes, just to name a few. This educational fund has become a valuable vehicle for enlightened debate and investigation of issues. Today, I salute the League of Women Voters of Cleveland and the fine work of its current president,

Ms. Sharon Glaspie. I am proud to share a close working relationship with the Cleveland League and surrounding chapters.

Mr. Speaker, the 150,000 members of the league must be recognized on their 75th anniversary for the good they have done in educating voters and illuminating the political issues facing our country. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the League of Women Voters.

TRIBUTE TO GLEN F. TOALSON

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to Glen F. Toalson of Osceola, MO who recently passed away. Born in Osceola in 1920, Toalson served as mayor of his hometown from 1969 to 1979.

Educated at Riverside Military Academy in Gainesville, GA from 1933 until 1938, Toalson went on to attend Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA from 1938 to 1941. He served as an Army officer in World War II. After the war he became an independent insurance agent and subsequently an oil jobber.

A devoted husband and father he is survived by two sons and three grandchildren. I urge my colleagues to join me in sending sympathy to his entire family.

TRIBUTE TO RICH HUGHES

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Rich Hughes, an outstanding citizen who has provided invaluable professional service to hundreds of cities, counties and municipalities and who was recently elected by his community to serve on the Sea Ranch Board of Directors.

Rich Hughes is a founding partner of Hughes, Perry and Associates, a consulting firm which has to date served over 750 city, county and special district agencies. His great skill and professional expertise have made him a respected consultant to local community leaders on a host of difficult management, planning and fiscal issues. He is regarded by his clients and his colleagues as the best in this field.

Rich Hughes is also an outstanding leader in the Sea Ranch community. Sea Ranch lies on 10 miles of pristine Sonoma Coastline 110 miles north of San Francisco. The community was founded in 1965 and has received numerous planning, environmental and architectural awards. It has an international reputation and has been studied by architects and planners throughout the world. Rich Hughes now serves on the Sea Ranch Board of Directors and formerly served as Chairperson of the Long Range Planning and Security Committees. His leadership and consensus-building skills were instrumental in the effort he spearheaded to design and construct a new community center which was approved by his colleagues on the Board.

Mr. Speaker, Rich Hughes is an extraordinary leader and devoted community servant. I'm proud of his professionalism and commitment to making a community work well and privileged to call him my friend. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting him on the recent occasion of his being elected to the Sea Ranch Board and for all the good he has chosen to do with his life.

FLINT CREEK PROJECT

HON. PAT WILLIAMS

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 1995

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation which will enable Granite County, MT to assume operation of the Flint Creek hydroelectric project.

I have worked for more than a year now with folks in Granite County in support of their efforts to take over operation of the 1.1 megawatt Flint Creek hydroelectric project. The current licensee, the Montana Power Co., wants to surrender its license to run the project.

The company has good reasons to want out. The dam has deteriorated some and requires major repairs estimated at \$2 million. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has more than tripled the annual Federal charges which must be paid when a reservoir occupies federally owned lands. And the drought conditions which have prevailed over the past decade have greatly reduced power revenue from the project.

The simple fact is that FERC has priced this facility out of the market; in fact, Flint Creek Dam has the highest rental cost per kilowatt hour of any project surveyed by the Energy Information Agency.

My bill makes it possible for the citizens of Granite County to operate the dam and use the revenues for public purposes as the county government sees fit.

Granite County filed an application with FERC in 1991 to run the project. The County has worked with recreationists, State and Federal wildlife and land managers, and others to develop an operating plan which has broad support. They've completed an environmental impact statement on a proposed operating plan.

The county's requests to FERC for relief from the high annual charges have been denied. Without action by the Congress, it seems certain that the project will be abandoned. In that event the project will generate zero revenues to the Federal Government and ultimately will become an albatross around the neck of its owner. Passage of my bill will assure both continuing power production, Federal revenues, and local revenues in a part of Montana that seriously needs the boost.

Folks in Granite County understand that Congress is unlikely to approve a full waiver of Federal fees, as they originally sought. I am submitting, with the support of the county, a moderate proposal which provides enough short term relief to assure that the repairs are made, while instituting a more realistic annual fee of \$20,000 per year beginning in year six following the assumption of management duties.