

attempt at political democracy building, I believe that the prudent course of action for the United States is to make permanent a benefit we have granted Romania several times before. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support Chairman CRANE's bills.

TRIBUTE TO VICE ADM. MICHAEL
KALLERES

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to pay tribute to Vice Adm. Michael Kalleres, who will be honored on April 28, 1996 by the Parish Council and the entire Cathedral Community of the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral. This distinguished citizen of Indiana's First Congressional District will address the congregation during the Liturgy and again during a formal luncheon to be held in his honor. This event will take place at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Merrillville, IN of which he and his wife, Georgia, have been longtime pioneer members.

Admiral Kalleres retired from active duty in September 1994 after 32 years of distinguished service as a naval officer. During this time, he led eight commands in combat and in peacetime, including two Financial Management Directorates. In addition, he led surface ships, squadrons, and two Joint Fleet Organizations.

Admiral Kalleres earned a bachelor of science degree in Industrial Management and Engineering from Purdue University and a master of science degree in Political and International Affairs from George Washington University. He is also a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Naval War College and the National War College.

Admiral Kalleres has received 18 military awards and decorations including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, and the 1990 Son of Indiana Award for Military Service. Admiral Kalleres' dedication and involvement in the community has been recognized by several other organizations. In 1988, he was awarded the Saint Andrew's Medal for public service by the Greek Orthodox Church. Moreover, Admiral Kalleres received the 1993 Leadership Award from the American Hellenic Institute, and, in March of that same year, he was vested into the International Service Order of Saint Andrew as an Archon. He receive the AXIOs (Worthiness) Medal from the State of California, the 1992 State of Illinois Distinguished Citizen Award, and he was recognized as a Sagamore of the Wabash in 1994. Admiral Kalleres has also been cited in the Marquis Who's Who since 1990.

This past January, Admiral Kalleres was elected to the National Board of the Salvation Army, where he serves on the Disaster Relief and Communications Committee. Furthermore, he is a member of the Dean's Advisory Board at Purdue University, and he currently serves as a member of the Defense Science Board for Strategic Mobility.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring this fine citizen for his dedication to the United States, as well as his community in northwest

Indiana. Admiral Kalleres' loyalty and dedication to his country should serve as a model for the citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District and all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRANCIS A.
MAIER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in remembrance of a much respected family man who was a part of Dallas' business community and a part of Dallas' family, Mr. Francis A. (Frank) Maier. He was among the 35 people who died in a plane crash on April 3 while on a trade mission to war-torn Croatia with United States Commerce Secretary Ron Brown. Mr. Maier was 50 years old.

Mr. Maier was originally from the Bronx in New York City. He attended college at Manhattan College earning a bachelor's degree in business administration. After graduation, he began his career at Westinghouse in 1967. Mr. Maier had a 20-year-long career with Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburgh, and held several positions at Westinghouse, including director of project finance. A recruiting firm lured him to Dallas from Westinghouse in 1993.

As President of Enserch International, a subsidiary of Enserch Development Corporation, Mr. Maier dealt with trade issues for Enserch and represented his corporation and his country overseas. In the past several months, Mr. Maier had been to 10 Asian and European countries.

This is a sad time as we mourn the deaths of all of the people who died on that ill-fated flight, but we must not forget all of the contributions that these people gave to our country. Everyone in Dallas feels the loss of Mr. Maier's family and all of Dallas grieves with them.

HONORING THE WILSON EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Wilson Emergency Management Agency Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they

need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL
PARK WILDERNESS

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness Act of 1996.

This bill, essentially identical to one that I introduced in the 103d Congress, is intended to provide important protection, and management direction for some truly remarkable country, adding some 240,700 acres in the park to the National Wilderness Preservation Systems.

Covering 91 percent of the park, the new wilderness will include Longs Peaks and other major mountains, glacial cirques and snow fields, broad expanses of alpine tundra and wet meadows, old-growth forests, and hundreds of lakes and streams. Indeed, the proposed wilderness will include examples of all the natural ecosystems present in the park.

The features of these lands and waters that make Rocky Mountain a true gem in our National Parks System also make it an outstanding wilderness candidate.

The wilderness boundaries for these areas are carefully located to assure continued access for use of existing roadways, buildings, and developed areas, privately owned land, and water supply facilities and conveyances—including the Grand River Ditch, Long Draw Reservoir, and the portals of the Adams Tunnel. All of these are left out of wilderness.

The bill is based on National Park Service recommendations. Since these recommendations were originally made in 1974, the north and south boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park have been adjusted, bringing into the park additional land that qualifies as wilderness. My bill will include those areas as well. Also, some changes in ownership and management of several areas, including the removal of three high mountain reservoirs make possible designation of some areas that the Park Service had found inherently suitable for wilderness.

In 1993, we in the Colorado delegation finally were able to successfully complete over a decade's effort to designate additional wilderness in our State's national forests. I anticipate that in the near future, the potentially more complex question of wilderness designations on Federal Bureau of Land Management lands will capture our attention.

Meanwhile, I think we should not further postpone resolution of the status of the lands

within Rocky Mountain National Park that have been recommended for wilderness designation. Also, because of the unique nature of its resources, its current restrictive management policies, and its water rights, Rocky Mountain National Park should be considered separately from those other Federal lands.

We all know that water rights was the primary point of contention in the congressional debate over designating national forest wilderness areas in Colorado. The question of water rights for Rocky Mountain National Park wilderness is entirely different, and is far simpler.

To begin with, it has long been recognized under the law of the United States and Colorado, including in a decision of the Colorado Supreme Court, that Rocky Mountain National Park already has extensive Federal reserved water rights arising from the creation of the national park itself.

Division One of the Colorado Water Court, which has jurisdiction over the portion of the park that is east of the continental divide, has already decided how extensive the water rights are in its portion of the park: the court has ruled that the park has reserved rights to all water within the park that was unappropriated at the time the park was created. As a result of this decision, in the eastern half of the park there literally is no more water for either the park or anybody else to get a right to.

This is not, so far as I have been able to find out, a controversial decision, because there is a widespread consensus that there should be no new water projects developed within Rocky Mountain National Park. And, since the park sits astride the continental divide, there's no higher land around from which streams flow into the park, so there is no possibility of any upstream diversions.

On the western side of the park, the water court has not yet ruled on the extent of the park's existing water rights there. However, as a practical matter, the Colorado-Big Thompson project has extensive, senior water rights that give it a perpetual call on all the water flowing

out of the park to the west and into the Colorado River and its tributaries. As a practical matter under Colorado water law, therefore, nobody can get new consumptive water rights to take water out of the streams within the western side of the park.

And it's important to emphasize that any wilderness water rights amount only to guarantees that water will continue to flow through and out of the park as it always has. This preserves the natural environment of the park. But it doesn't affect downstream water use. Once water leaves the park, it will continue to be available for diversion and use under Colorado law.

Against this backdrop, my bill deals with wilderness water rights in the following way.

First, it explicitly creates a Federal reserved water right to the amount of water necessary to fulfill the purposes of the wilderness designation. This is the basic statement of the reserved water rights doctrine, and is the language that Congress has used in designating the Olympic National Park Wilderness, in Washington, in 1988.

Second, the bill provides that in any area of the park where the United States, under existing reserved water rights, already has the right to all unappropriated water, then those rights shall be deemed sufficient to serve as the wilderness water rights, too. This means that there will be no need for any costly litigation to legally establish new water rights that have no real meaning. Right now, this provision would apply in the eastern half of the park. If the water court with jurisdiction over the western half of the court makes the same ruling about the park's original water rights that the eastern water court did, then this provision would apply to the entire park.

The bill also specifically affirms the authority of Colorado water law and its courts under the McCarran amendment. And the bill makes it clear that it will not interfere with the Adams Tunnel of the Colorado-Big Thompson Project, which is an underground tunnel that goes

under Rocky Mountain National Park. Why should we designate wilderness in a national park? Isn't park protection the same as wilderness, or at least as good?

The wilderness designation will give an important additional level of protection to most of the national park. Our national park system was created, in part, to recognize and preserve prime examples of outstanding landscape. At Rocky Mountain National Park in particular, good Park Service management over the past 79 years has kept most of the park in a natural condition. And all the lands that are covered by this bill are currently being managed, in essence, to protect their wilderness character. Formal wilderness designation will no longer leave this question to the discretion of the Park Service, but will make it clear that within the designated areas there will never be roads, visitor facilities, or other man-made features that interfere with the spectacular natural beauty and wildness of the mountains.

This kind of protection is especially important for a park like Rocky Mountain, which is relatively small by western standards. As surrounding land development and alteration has accelerated in recent years, the pristine nature of the park's backcountry becomes an increasingly rare feature of Colorado's landscape.

Further, Rocky Mountain National Park's popularity demands definitive and permanent protection for wild areas against possible pressures for development within the park. While only about one tenth the size of Yellowstone National Park, Rocky Mountain sees nearly the same number of visitors each year.

This bill will protect some of our nation's finest wild lands. It will protect existing rights. It will not limit any existing opportunity for new water development. And it will affirm our commitment in Colorado to preserving the very features that make our State such a remarkable place to live.