

Lakes were held up as some of the worst examples of human abuse; Lake Erie was given up for dead, the victim of unrestrained pollution and the misuse of its precious natural resources. The Cuyahoga River caught fire and phosphate-based soap suds washed up on shorelines throughout the Nation. The Great Lakes region responded to the alarm with unprecedented vigor.

In 1971 I headed the Governor's Task Force on Environmental Protection in Ohio, a forerunner to today's Ohio EPA. In a spirit of regional cooperation, the surrounding States, Native American Tribes, and Canada entered into collective agreements that recognized the Great Lakes as a set of shared resources within a single ecosystem. Important environmental legislation was designed and implemented to combat pollution and clean up the environment.

Since that time, water quality has improved dramatically and fisheries scientists are witnessing recovery of fish populations in each of the lakes. Lake Erie is experiencing rebounds in lake whitefish populations thought impossible just 10 years ago. This past summer, the Fish and Wildlife Service announced that lake trout populations in Lake Superior are now self-sustaining, needing no further stocking. There are many success stories in the Great Lakes, suggesting the ecological health of our lakes is on the mend, but the job is not yet complete. Degraded habitats, reduced fish and wildlife populations, and the threat from non-indigenous species still imperil the well being of our lakes.

Today my colleague from the House of Representatives, Congressman LA TOURETTE of Ohio, and I will introduce a bill into the House and Senate that will continue the recovery process of the Great Lakes and their associated natural resources. This bill, the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1997 builds upon the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990. The 1990 act authorized the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to undertake a comprehensive study to first, assess the status of fishery resources and their habitats and second, to gauge the effectiveness of management strategies used to protect these resources. The study's findings recommend a definite course of action for the continued restoration of the region's natural resources. The full implementation of the strategic plan for management of Great Lakes fisheries and the institution of a comprehensive and standardized ecological monitoring system for all lakes are just 2 of 32 specific recommendations set forth by the study.

The Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act represents a new generation of environmental legislation, one that recognizes the complexity and interrelatedness of ecosystems. This act seeks to address natural resource management in a comprehensive and conscientious manner by building partnerships among the Great Lakes

States, United States and Canadian Governments, and Native American tribes. Through regional cooperation, I believe we can address the environmental and economic concerns of the Great Lakes basin and continue the recovery that began some 27 years ago. By supporting this legislation, we in the Congress will be taking the right next step toward responsible stewardship of the Great Lakes as we venture into the new millennium.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 146

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE] and the Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SPECTER] were added as cosponsors of S. 146, a bill to permit Medicare beneficiaries to enroll with qualified provider-sponsored organizations under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

S. 347

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Delaware [Mr. BIDEN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 347, a bill to designate the Federal building located at 100 Alabama Street NW, in Atlanta, GA, as the "Sam Nunn Federal Center."

S. 460

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Texas [Mr. GRAMM], the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS], and the Senator from Missouri [Mr. ASHCROFT] were added as cosponsors of S. 460, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the deduction for health insurance costs of self-employed individuals, to provide clarification for the deductibility of expenses incurred by a taxpayer in connection with the business use of the home, to clarify the standards used for determining that certain individuals are not employees, and for other purposes.

S. 527

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Indiana [Mr. LUGAR] was added as a cosponsor of S. 527, a bill to prescribe labels for packages and advertising for tobacco products, to provide for the disclosure of certain information relating to tobacco products, and for other purposes.

S. 528

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG] was added as a cosponsor of S. 528, a bill to require the display of the POW/MIA flag on various occasions and in various locations.

S. 561

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 561, a bill to require States receiving prison construction grants to implement requirements for inmates to perform work and engage in educational activities, to eliminate certain sentencing inequities for drug offenders, and for other purposes.

S. 562

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the names of the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN], the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI], and the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] were added as cosponsors of S. 562, a bill to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to prevent the funding of unnecessary or excessive costs for obtaining a home equity conversion mortgage.

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 562, *supra*.

S. 620

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 620, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide greater equity in savings opportunities for families with children, and for other purposes.

S. 627

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 627, a bill to reauthorize the African Elephant Conservation Act.

SENATE RESOLUTION 64

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the names of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BAUCUS], the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN], the Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER], the Senator from Nevada [Mr. BRYAN], the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. BYRD], the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAU], the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. DASCHLE], the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD], the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN], the Senator from Georgia [Mr. CLELAND], the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. FORD], the Senator from Florida [Mr. GRAHAM], the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. KERREY], the Senator from Louisiana [Ms. LANDRIEU], the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. LAUTENBERG], the Senator from Vermont [Mr. LEAHY], the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. LIEBERMAN], the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN], the Senator from Washington [Mrs. MURRAY], the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. REED], the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID], the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. ROCKEFELLER], the Senator from Maryland [Mr. SARBANES], the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. TORRICELLI], the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE], the Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD], the Senator from Utah [Mr. BENNETT], the Senator from Missouri [Mr. BOND], the Senator from Kansas [Mr. BROWNBACK], the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS], the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE], the Senator from Indiana [Mr. COATS], the Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS], the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. ENZI], the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST], the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS], the Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY], the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG], the Senator

from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL], the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON], the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN], the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI], the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. NICKLES], the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS], the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE], the Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SPECTER], the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. THOMAS], and the Senator from Washington [Mr. GORTON] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 64, a resolution to designate the week of May 4, 1997, as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week."

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES—SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the time has been changed for the May 1, 1997, hearing scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to receive testimony on S. 357, a bill to authorize the Bureau of Land Management to manage the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

The hearing will now take place at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC, instead of 9:30 a.m. as previously scheduled.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5161.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF THE WE THE PEOPLE . . . COMPETITORS FROM MISSOURI

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, on April 26-28, 1997, more than 1,200 students from 50 States and the District of Columbia will be in Washington, DC to compete in the national finals of the We the People. * * * The Citizen and the Constitution Program. I am proud to announce that the class from Westminster Christian Academy will represent Missouri. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning local competitions in their home State.

The distinguished members of the team representing Missouri are: David Bradsher, Christopher Brown, Russell Bruch, Jessica Cozad, Tony Culella, Josh Darr, Elizabeth Erkmann, Lauren Gray, Joshua Hamer, Matthew Harris, Angela Heirendt, Joshua Hendricks, Sarah Henning, Rachael Higby, Charles Hinderliter, Valerie Hopkins, Shauna Kruse, Nina Langenberg, Taylor Long, Stacey McDowell, Mark Pollitt, Kelly Reed, Jordan Reinwald, Christine

Shoemaker, Anna Suh, and Megan Turner.

I shall also recognize their teacher, Ken Boesch, who also serves as district coordinator for the program, and Terry Taylor, the State coordinator, who also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team reach the national finals.

The We the People * * * The Citizen and the Constitution Program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

Now in its 10th academic year, this constitutional studies program has had more than 75,000 teachers and 24 million students participate nationwide at both the elementary and secondary school levels. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers. The We the People * * * program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective on the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and our lives. I wish these students the best of luck in the national finals and look forward to their continued success in the years ahead.●

HONORING R. PAUL NELSON

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable educator from my home State of Michigan, R. Paul Nelson. Mr. Nelson, the president of Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, MI, is retiring after 28 years of service to the Aquinas College community.

Paul Nelson joined Aquinas College in 1969, where he was responsible for advising and retaining students. In 1975, Mr. Nelson became dean for continuing education, where he implemented innovative programming in adult education. He helped to create Aquinas' Graduate Management Program, which is now the largest masters degree program in western Michigan.

In 1984, Mr. Nelson became vice-president for student development, and he established a model career development program which used both field experience and internships to help students explore and begin to attain their career goals.

In 1990, Paul Nelson was named president of Aquinas College by the board of trustees. In his 7 years at the helm of this vibrant institution, Mr. Nelson brought to life his vision of an Aquinas College which serves as a "faith and values-centered learning community committed to educating the whole person for a life and career of service."

Mr. Nelson has been an accessible leader whose remarkable ability to re-

member the name of any student he met on campus is well known. His dedication to educating people of all ages and promoting lifelong learning should be a model for all who seek a career in higher education. I have no doubt that his career will be an inspiration for future educators, students and administrators at Aquinas College.

Mr. President, I am honored by the opportunity to recognize the achievements of R. Paul Nelson, and hope my colleagues will join me in extending congratulations and best wishes to him on the occasion of his retirement as president of Aquinas College.●

LOYALTY DAY

• Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, on July 18, 1958, through Joint Resolution 479, the Senate and the House of Representatives designated the first day of May of each year as Loyalty Day. On this special day, Americans celebrate the reaffirmation of their loyalty to the United States of America in recognition of America's unmatched heritage of freedom. I would like to join Americans across the land in this celebration, particularly the fine Americans of Climax Springs VFW Memorial Post 3600 in Climax Springs, MO. Post 3600 will have their 12th annual Loyalty Day parade on May 3, 1997.

On this important day of reaffirming our loyalty to America, we must reflect on what it truly means to be an American. Thomas Jefferson identified the ideals so important to us when he said that all men are "endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Even in a time of great national trauma, Abraham Lincoln could echo these sentiments by stating that America is a nation "conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal," and "that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom * * * that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from this Earth."

The fundamental principle in these two statements by these two great Americans is the significance of liberty in the American experience. This historical commitment to freedom, most clearly seen in the lives of those who have fought and died for our country, deserves not only our loyalty but a celebration of that loyalty. That is the essence of Loyalty Day and I urge all Americans throughout this great land to join Climax Springs VFW Post 3600 in the celebration of the freedoms God has blessed us with in America.●

THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I supported Senate Executive Resolution 75, a substitute for the resolution of ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention [CWC] offered by Senator