

PERMANENT PROTECTION FOR AMERICA'S
RESOURCES 2000(Authors: Congressman George Miller/
Senator Barbara Boxer)

Permanent Protection For America's Resources 2000 is a bold initiative to provide long-promised funding from offshore oil resources for the acquisition, improvement and maintenance of public resources throughout the United States: public lands, parks and open space, marine and coastal resources, historic preservation, fish and wildlife. Resources 2000 will provide permanent, annual funding for high priority resource preservation goals:

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND
(FEDERAL): \$450 MILLION

One-half of the annual \$900 million allocation of the LWCF would be dedicated to Federal land acquisition purposes. These funds would be used to acquire lands or interests in lands as authorized by Congress for our national parks, national forests, national wildlife refuges, and public lands.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND
(STATESIDE): \$450 MILLION

One-half of the annual \$900 million allocation of the LWCF would go for matching grants to the States for the acquisition of lands or interests, planning, and development of outdoor recreation facilities. Two-thirds of the funds shall be allocated by formula of which 30% shall be distributed equally among the States, and 70% apportioned on the basis of the population each State bears to the total population of all States. One-third would be awarded on the basis of competitive grants. Modifies the requirements of the State Plan in order to be more flexible in meeting the purposes of the Act.

URBAN PARKS RECREATION AND RECOVERY
PROGRAM (UPARR): \$100 MILLION

Matching grants to local governments to rehabilitate recreation areas and facilities, provide for the development of improved recreation programs, and to acquire, develop, or construct new recreation sites and facilities.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND: \$150 MILLION

Funding for the programs of the Historic Preservation Act, including grants to the States, maintaining the National Register of Historic Places, and administer numerous historic preservation programs. Allows up to one-third of the funds for priority preservation projects of public and private entities, including preserving historic structures and sites, as well as, significant documents, photographs, works of art, etc.

LANDS RESTORATION: \$250 MILLION

Provides funds to undertake a coordinated program on Federal and Indian lands to restore degraded lands, protect resources that are threatened with degradation, and protect public health and safety.

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES
RECOVERY FUND: \$100 MILLION

Creates a dedicated source of funding to the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for the purpose of implementing a private landowners incentive program for the recovery of endangered and threatened species and the habitat that they depend on. Monies would be used by the Secretaries to enter into "endangered and threatened species recovery agreements" with private landowners, providing grants to (1) carry out activities and protect habitat (not otherwise required by law) that would contribute to the recovery of a threatened or endangered species or (2) to refrain from carrying out otherwise lawful activities that would inhibit the recovery of such species. Priority will be given to small land-

owners who would otherwise not have the resources to participate in such programs.

LIVING MARINE RESOURCES: \$300 MILLION

Funding for the conservation, restoration and management of ocean fish and wildlife of the United States. Two-thirds of the total would be available to coastal states (including Great Lakes States, territories, and possessions of the U.S.) for the development, revision, and implementation of comprehensive ocean fish and wildlife conservation plans. Funds would be allocated to the states by a formula that gives two-thirds weight to a state's coastal population and one-third weight to the length of a state's shoreline. Minimum and maximum grants sizes will be utilized to ensure equitable funding among the states. To be approved, a state ocean fish and wildlife conservation plan must provide for: an inventory of ocean fish and wildlife and their habitat; identification and prioritization of conservation actions; monitoring of plan species and the effectiveness of conservation actions; public input; and periodic plan review and revision.

The remaining one-third of funds would be awarded by the Secretary of Commerce as competitive, peer-reviewed grants for living marine resource conservation. High priority would be given to proposals involving public/private conservation partnerships, but any person would be eligible to apply for a grant under this provision. A maximum grant size will be established to ensure that a small number of large projects do not consume the bulk of the funding in a given fiscal year.

NATIVE FISH/WILDLIFE CONSERVATION,
RESTORATION, MANAGEMENT: \$350 MILLION

Permanent appropriation for the conservation of native fish, wildlife and plants. It amends the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980 (FWCA, 16 U.S.C. 2901 et seq.) to make funding available to the states for the development and implementation of comprehensive native wildlife conservation plans. To be approved, a state's plan must provide for: an inventory of wildlife and its habitat on a state-wide basis; identification and prioritization of conservation actions; monitoring of plan species and the effectiveness of conservation actions; public input; and periodic plan review and revision. Funds are to be allocated on a formula based one-third on the area of a state relative to the total area of all the states and two-thirds on the relative population of a state.

States are eligible for reimbursement of 75 percent of the cost of developing and implementing state wildlife conservation plans. Federal funds are only available for plan development costs for the first 10 years. As an additional incentive, federal funds will pay for up to 90 percent of: plan development costs during the first three years; and conservation actions undertaken by two or more states. In addition, in the absence of an approved plan, the Secretary may reimburse a state for certain on-the-ground conservation actions during the first five years of the program.

FARM AND RANGE LAND, OPEN SPACE AND
FOREST CONSERVATION GRANTS: \$150 MILLION

Matching, competitive grants to state, local and tribal governments for purchase of conservation easements to protect privately owned farm and range land, open space and forests from encroaching development. To help communities grow in ways that maintain open space and viable agricultural sectors of their economies. Grants could be used to match state or local long term bond initiatives approved by voters to preserve green spaces for conservation, recreation and other environmental goals.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES W.
KELLEY, JR.**HON. BARBARA CUBIN**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the outstanding service and dedication to this country by one of Wyoming's native sons. Colonel James W. Kelley, Jr., originally from Sheridan, Wyoming, is retiring from the United States Air Force this month after 30 years of service.

Colonel Kelley has received numerous awards during his successful career in the Air Force. Although all of the awards are impressive, I am most impressed by such things as the Meritorious Service Medal for being directly involved in five serious Pararescue helicopter missions that were credited with savings six lives. Through his work in health and rescue, it is impossible to know how many people are alive today because of Colonel Kelley's bravery and dedication. An even greater number were afforded vital assistance and comfort in times of need.

I salute Colonel Kelley for his years of service to this country. Although we have come to expect people of high caliber and dedication in our Armed Forces, Colonel Kelley will be missed by the Air Force after his retirement. As an American, I am proud of Colonel Kelley's service. Coming from Wyoming, I am proud that one of our native sons has made such a vital contribution to the defense of this great country. I'm sure I speak for every citizen of Wyoming in thanking Colonel Kelley for his years of service, and in wishing him every success in his endeavors when he retires from the Air Force.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR NORM
MUSIAL**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Mayor Norm Musial for his many years of service and countless contributions to the citizens of North Olmsted, Ohio.

Norm Musial is a man of enormous talent and vision. His leadership and commitment to his fellow citizens have made a difference in his community. A diplomat and statesman, his contributions to the citizens of North Olmsted have been noteworthy.

Norm Musial has been an active member of the North Olmsted community since he and his wife Pat moved there in 1963. Mr. Musial is a past president of the North Olmsted Jaycees and also has served as president of the North Olmsted Republican Club. In 1967, Mayor Musial was selected as one of "Five Outstanding Young Men of Ohio", and in 1969 he was selected as "North Olmsted Citizen of the Year".

Norm Musial's sense of vision for the future, combined with his strategic planning background, sensitivity to residents' needs, and administrative experience has helped him provide uncompromised leadership to the people of North Olmsted.

My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting the leadership and dedication of Mayor Musial.

THE AIRLINE PASSENGER
FAIRNESS ACT OF 1999

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support and acknowledge every airline passenger's right to a certain minimum of service. For this reason, I have joined my Senate colleagues Senator RON WYDEN and Senator JOHN MCCAIN in introducing the Airline Passenger Fairness Act of 1999, H.R. 752.

This bill requires airlines to give passengers, their customers, decent and quality service. Once upon a time, customers could count on industry and businesses to provide quality customer service as the price of doing business. Yet, lately, this industry seems to be operating under the philosophy that their customers need them more than they need their customers. The abuses have been plentiful and varied, passengers have suffered from a shortage of seating, late or canceled flights without explanation, nonrefundable tickets, and failure to disclose information that would enable them to make informed decisions about various airline rates.

The facts bare me out on this position. The 1998 Department of Transportation report stated that large United States air carriers charge twice as much as their large hub airports, where there is no low fare competition as they charge at a hub airport where a low fare competitor is present. Incredibly, the General Accounting Office discovered that fares range from 12 to 17 percent higher at hubs dominated by one carrier or a consortium. Also, the Department of Transportation's Domestic Airline Fares Consumer Report for the Third Quarter of 1997 listed seventy-five major city pairs where fares increased by 30 percent or more year-by-year, while total traffic in these cities pairs decreased by 863,500 passengers, or more than 20 percent.

This Congress should be about the work of reaffirming citizens rights in all aspects of their life. We have introduced the, "Patient's Bill of Rights" for those individuals who seek medical assistance, and we must support "The Flight Bill of Rights" for the 600 million people who use this mode of transportation per year and are increasingly dissatisfied and endangered by substandard service and treatment.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION INDIAN RESERVED WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. RICK HILL

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. HILL of Montana. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a bill to settle the water rights claims of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation in the State of Montana. This bill is the culmination of many

years of technical and legal work and many years of negotiations involving the Chippewa Cree Tribe, the State of Montana, and representatives of the United States Departments of the Interior and Justice. The bill will ratify a settlement quantifying the water rights of the Tribe and providing for their development in a manner that avoids harm to their neighbors. It provides Federal funds necessary for water supply facilities and Tribal economic development, and defines the Federal role in implementing the settlement. This Settlement bill has the full support of the Tribe, the State of Montana, the Administration, and the water users who farm and ranch on streams shared with the Reservation. The bill will effectuate a settlement that is a textbook example of how State, Tribal, and Federal governments can work together to resolve differences in a way that meets the concerns of all. It is also a settlement that reflects the effectiveness of Tribal and non-Tribal water users in working together in good will and good faith and with respect for each other's needs and concerns.

The Compact quantifies the Tribe's on-reservation water rights and establishes a water administration system carefully designed to have minimal adverse impacts on downstream non-Tribal water users, and indeed, to benefit downstream users wherever possible. This is quite an accomplishment in an area of Montana with a scarce water supply. The Rocky Boy's Reservation is located in an arid area with an average annual precipitation of 12 inches on the portion of the Reservation suitable for growing hay. Fortunately, an average annual snowpack of 30 inches in the Bearpaw Mountains within the Reservation contributes to a significant spring runoff. Effective utilization of that runoff through enlarged or new storage facilities on the Reservation is a critical part of the settlement package which this bill represents. Accordingly, \$25 million in the budget of the Bureau of Reclamation is earmarked for specified on-reservation water development projects. To meet the future water and economic needs of the Reservation, the bill contains an allocation of 10,000 acre feet of storage water to the Tribe in Tiber Reservoir, a Federal storage facility.

In addition, the bill authorizes the initial steps of a more extensive process of obtaining a long-term drinking water supply for the Chippewa Cree Tribe—a process that is vital to the survival of the Tribe. Toward that end, the bill authorizes the following: (1) seed money (\$15 million) toward the cost of a future project to import drinking water to the Reservation; and (2) funds (\$1 million) for the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study to identify water resources available to meet the Tribe's future drinking water needs, to evaluate alternatives for the importation of drinking water to the Rocky Boy's Reservation, and to assess on-reservation water needs. The bill also authorizes funds for a regional feasibility study (\$3 million) to evaluate water resources over a broader area of North Central Montana that contains two other Indian reservations with unquantified and undeveloped water rights.

In closing, I believe it is not an overstatement to say that the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation Indian Reserved Water Rights Settlement Act is a historic agreement. It is a tribute to the Governor of Montana, Marc Racicot, represented by the Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission; the chairman of the Tribe, Bert Corcoran and

the Tribal negotiating team; David Hayes, Counselor to Secretary Babbitt and the Federal negotiating team; and the water users on Big Sandy and Beaver Creeks in the Milk River Valley of Montana, that this Compact represents a truly local solution that takes into account the needs and sovereign rights of each party. Although numerous Indian water right settlements have been approved by Congress, none have come before us in recent years. In approving the Chippewa Cree Settlement Act, this Congress has the opportunity to send the message to western States that we endorse negotiation as the preferred method of Indian water right quantification, and that we will defer to States and Tribes to fashion their own approach to the allocation of water. I intend to work closely with Members of Congress to ensure passage of this vitally important bill this year.

HONORING MR. JACK VAUGHN,
CHAIRMAN, OPRYLAND LODGING
GROUP, FOR HIS VISION AND
LEADERSHIP

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Jack Vaughn, Chairman, Opryland Lodging Group of Nashville, Tennessee, for his vision and leadership in creating the internationally renowned Opryland Hotel and his outstanding community service.

Mr. Vaughn will officially retire from his duties at the Opryland Hotel this month but plans to continue working in a part-time capacity for the next two years. After a lengthy career in the hotel business which began at the Westin Benson Hotel in Portland, Oregon, in 1959, Jack Vaughn joined the Opryland Hotel Group as General Manager in 1975, before construction on the original 600 room Opryland Hotel had even begun. Now in his 24th year with the company, Jack has risen to Chairman of the Opryland Lodging Group.

Today, Jack Vaughn's beloved Opryland Hotel boasts 2,883 rooms and 600,000 square feet of meeting and exhibit space, making it the largest hotel and convention center under one roof. His promotion of convention space inside of hotels earned him a spot in the Convention Liaison Council's Hall of Leaders in 1988. The Opryland Hotel is one of the most successful in the world, and generated revenues in excess of 225 million in 1997.

Jack Vaughn's peers have recognized him many times. In 1990, Hotels Magazine named him "Independent Hotelier of the World," and later that year he was named "Resort Executive of the Year." These numerous awards also include the Arthur Landstreet Award from the Educational Institute, and the Lawson Odde Award from the American Hotel and Motel Association.

Mr. Vaughn's achievements extend into the community through his involvement in a number of civic organizations. In 1995, he was awarded the American Heart Association's Heart of the Community Award. He is a past president of the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America, a board member for the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, an executive committee member of the Nashville Rotary Club, past chairman of the Metropolitan Convention Center Commission, and