

If the life of the Commission is extended, as proposed, Public Law 88-607 and Public Law 88-608 should also be extended if Congress' original purpose is to be accomplished. We believe the original purpose is sound, and we recommend the extension.

We do not recommend any modification in the substance of either Public Law. We are aware, of course, of criticisms that have been made and of problems that have arisen, but we believe the time for considering them is when the Commission report has been made and Congress decides whether the temporary laws should be made permanent.

Un accordance with your request, the following amendment to H.R. 12121 is submitted:

At the end of the bill add new sections 2 and 3 as follows:

"SEC. 2. Section 8 of the Act of September 19, 1964 (78 Stat. 986), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 8. The authorizations and requirements of this Act shall expire six months after the final report of the Public Land Law Review Commission has been submitted to Congress, except that any segregation prior to such time of any public lands from settlement, location, sale, selection, entry, lease, or other form of disposal under the public land laws shall continue for the period of time allowed by this Act."

"SEC. 3. Section 7 of the Act of September 19, 1964 (78 Stat. 988), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 7. The authority granted by this Act shall expire six months after the final report of the Public Land Law Review Commission has been submitted to Congress, except that sales concerning which notice has been given in accordance with section 3 hereof prior to such time may be consummated and patents issued in connection therewith after such time."

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this recommended amendment.

Sincerely yours,

STEWART L. UDALL,
Secretary of the Interior.

Senator CHURCH. Mr. Pearl, I have also received this morning a letter from Senator Hayden, who is unable to be here. He has asked that certain questions be directed toward you so that we can include in the record your answers to them.

There are several here, and I think in order to accommodate Senator Hayden's request, the best way that I can do it is simply to read the questions into the record and wait for your replies. Then I will get on to some questions of my own.

The first question that Senator Hayden has asked me to ask you is as follows: At the August 16 hearings before the House committee, Staff Director Milton Pearl testified that the time extension and dollar authorization requested were predicated on the Commission's receiving additional funds by October 1. Since this date has come and passed without the funds being made available, is the schedule further delayed and will the dollar amount proposed in H.R. 12121 be sufficient?

Mr. PEARL. As indicated earlier, Mr. Chairman, yes; if we can proceed with our contract work by the middle of November, and may I for the record indicate what we have in mind?

We could send out requests for proposals to prospective contractors right now if we wanted to and get their bids in, but we feel that it would be dishonest and misleading to have people prepare bids. It takes their time and costs them money; and they put in an effort to prepare these bids, and to have them submit them to us if we don't have at least a reasonable assurance that we are going to be able to award the contract would be unfair.

So our timetable was established originally on the idea that we would not send out requests for proposals for contracts until we had