

The State is now short Federal funds to match some of its park developments. We feel that the purpose of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act has been well served by stimulating outdoor recreation projects, not only by the state agencies, but by the political subdivisions of the State as well.

The State's outdoor recreation needs cannot be met at our current level of funding. We believe that the additional revenue which this proposed amendment would deposit in the Land and Water Conservation Fund would further our program in fulfilling high-priority needs.

The Idaho Parks Board, therefore, urges you to support this legislation.

We have noted, in a press release dated January 11, 1968, the Secretary of the Interior recommended enactment of S. 1401, and that the States and Federal agencies share the funds equally. This is contrary to Section 4 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, which establishes an appropriation ratio of 60 percent for State purposes and 40 percent for Federal purposes. We further urge that the fund allocation ratio remain 60 percent for State purposes.

We will sincerely appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

ERNEST E. DAY,
Chairman, State Park Board.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Moss also has a statement.

STATEMENT OF HON. FRANK E. MOSS, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF UTAH

Mr. Moss. Mr. Chairman, having previously cosponsored S. 531, which would add to present land and water conservation fund revenues those realized under the Outer Continental Shelf Act of 1953, the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, and the Potash Leasing Act of 1927 and 1948, I am glad to support S. 1401, which seeks to achieve the same objectives.

Since the issuance in 1962 of "Outdoor Recreation for America," the report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, the Congress has moved to expand and protect the Nation's outdoor recreation resources. A few of the treasures we have already added to the national inventory are Point Reyes National Seashore, Padre Island National Seashore, Canyonlands National Park, Delaware Watergap National Recreation Area, Assateague Island, and Cape Cod National Seashore. A Senate-passed bill to create a Redwoods National Park is now before the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

To raise money for the purchase of these park and recreation lands, and for the support of Federal and State outdoor recreation programs, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act was passed.

Experience has now made it clear that the revenues we provided for the fund are inadequate. This is because the fees established for the use of Federal areas have failed to raise the estimated amounts. Almost \$25 million a year less is coming into the fund than was expected. We cannot simply wait for the fund to build up because land prices have a tendency to escalate in areas suitable for public parks and recreation areas. Early in 1967 President Johnson pointed out that average land prices are increasing at a rate of almost 10 percent a year and that the cost of land for recreation is increasing at a considerably higher rate. He stated that the most effective means of controlling these increases is to acquire the lands as quickly as possible after areas are authorized by Congress. We in the Interior Committee have been made fully aware of this problem and of the great difficulty the National Park Service and other agencies have had in trying to overcome it.