

support of various conservation measures that have come up in the Senate since your election to the U.S. Senate. I appreciate having that.

Dr. MacMullan, we have your statement. You may proceed now in your own way.

STATEMENT OF DR. RALPH A. MacMULLAN, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIAISON OFFICERS FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION, AND DIRECTOR, MICHIGAN STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION; ACCOMPANIED BY A. GENE GAZLAY, ACTING CHAIRMAN, FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE, GREAT LAKES COMMISSION

Dr. MacMULLAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to introduce, also, Gene Gazlay, my executive assistant from the State of Michigan, at my left.

I am Ralph A. MacMullan, and I am testifying here today in three capacities; as director of the Michigan Department of Conservation, as president of the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers, which, because of the length of the name we call NASORLO, and as chairman of the Legislative Committee of the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners. Fortunately for me, the views of all three bodies on the subject of this hearing are identical. NASORLO is a relatively new, and therefore not a well-known organization. It was founded just last year. It is composed of the 55 State and territory outdoor recreational liaison officers, and we speak as the unified voice of all of the States and territories on matters pertaining to the State and local aspects of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It is our purpose to assist, wherever possible, the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, the Secretary of the Interior, other Federal agencies and the Congress.

NASORLO is a source of information about State and local recreational programs, needs and problems, and reflects these in their proper relationship and perspective to the best of our ability to the Federal recreation programs. The result, we believe, is added strength for the total national outdoor recreation program.

The International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners is long-established and is, I am sure, well known to you. The Michigan Department of Conservation administers a broad spectrum of outdoor recreation programs. Its policymaking board is the Michigan Conservation Commission, for which I am authorized to speak.

NASORLO, the international association, and the Michigan department and commission all strongly and enthusiastically support the objectives of Senate bill 1401, which will provide the land and water conservation fund with financial backing adequate to increase it to levels projected when the Fund Act was approved by Congress in 1964.

Passage of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act promised to fill a tremendous gap in Federal grant-in-aid programs by providing a significant new source of financing for general outdoor recreation.