

urgent need throughout the country for more money to pay for these Federal areas.

5. Although the original Land and Water Conservation Fund Act was enacted prior to passage of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore by several years, we knew that such enactment would encourage the Indiana Dunes bill by providing at least some of the funds for it.

These and many other reasons are still sound and valid. These needs are even more urgent. But time has shown that the funds accruing through the land and water conservation fund are woefully inadequate to do the job.

Save the Dunes Council congratulates you, Senator Jackson, and this committee for its initiative in introducing S. 1401 to provide additional funds for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. We feel that it is highly fitting and appropriate that money deriving from natural resources be put to such a natural use as more parks for the people. With the balance-of-payments problem, we also believe enactment of this bill will assist by the conservation of more of our areas of great natural beauty, encouraging more tourists to vacation in this country.

Save the Dunes Council sincerely thanks this committee for reporting out legislation for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore several times—leading to its enactment by Congress and signing by the President in November, 1966. Yet the very same reasons leading to the enactment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore also led to the need for S. 1401 to provide for revenue for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Your committee and the Congress authorized \$27,900,000 for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. But only \$1,500,000 was appropriated for the current fiscal year, due to the shortage of money in the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Each day and each month of delay in the purchase of the rest of the park increases its ultimate cost. Real estate prices are skyrocketing close to every major metropolitan center throughout the country—and the boundaries of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore touch the city limits of Gary, with its 180,000 people, and are only 23 miles from Chicago's city limits.

In addition, the enactment of any new national park or national lakeshore escalates land prices in that area due to the anticipated tourist business that will develop. Further, the Indiana Dunes area has been particularly prone to land speculation.

Thus, as you can see, the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is a prime example of the cost of delay in providing more money for new areas administered by the National Park Service.

These escalating real estate costs are not the only harm resulting from inadequate funding. The will of the people, as shown through its Congress, is thwarted by not having the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore available now for their use. The \$1,500,000 appropriated did not provide enough money to buy enough land to start the Dunes park. The people must wait. They cannot view the beautiful scenery of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, they cannot hike and picnic there, they cannot swim in Lake Michigan there, and they cannot camp there.

Escalating real estate prices and nonavailability of the park now are perhaps the least harmful effects now of inadequate funding. The greatest danger is the nibbling away at areas within the boundaries of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Although this committee and