

4. Fair campsite fees will end overcrowding and slums in Federal areas. The free campsites within national parks and low fees at other Federal areas draw abnormally large numbers of campers, cause overcrowding and slum conditions.

Some campers preempt space for long periods of time, thus inconveniencing other campers. Fair and reasonable fees will end these conditions.

I might interrupt this statement—it is not a part of the prepared statement—to speak of an advertisement that appeared in the New York Times of Friday, July 28. It was entitled "Our National Parks Are Becoming Our National Slum," and points up this dilemma.

5. Campers spend \$20 to \$30 a day for all wants on vacation. They easily could afford fees of \$2 or \$3 a day. Such a fee represents only 10 percent of total daily expenditures of a family.

6. The Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission recommendations are being negated. The report of the Outdoor Recreation and Resources Review Commission recommended that private enterprise, be stimulated and encouraged to provide outdoor recreational facilities. Our information shows that Government campgrounds are being constructed with Land and Water Conservation Fund money and that the needs for these have not been justified. Some Government campgrounds, moreover, charge fees below a fair market level. These practices constitute unfair competition with private campgrounds and, in effect, negate the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission recommendation by deterring private enterprise from going into the campground business.

7. Earmarking of revenues is an undesirable budgetary device. Congress should at all times be in firm control over national revenues and expenditures. The earmarking of revenues places a control over their expenditure without the control of Congress.

In conclusion, *a*, we oppose amending the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, and *b*, we recommend that a congressional investigation be made as to whether the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation are failing to carry out the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, particularly with respect to justifying the needs for proposed campground projects.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the statement on S. 1401, and I have another statement on S. 2828.

S. 2828

We are firmly opposed to S. 2828, which in effect would forbid the collection under the Land and Water Conservation Act of fees at Corps of Engineers water projects. This would be a thoroughly undesirable piece of legislation. Our reasons are given hereinafter and concern campsite user fees.

Unfair competition by U.S. Government agencies.—The construction of campgrounds with Federal funds and the operation of these areas by offering free camping is unfair competition with small private business in its most extreme form. It is a most unjust and inequitable practice and not worthy of this great Republic and the principles upon which it was founded.