

region and areas which must be acquired and preserved as part of our scenic, historic, and recreational heritage. Your vote in support of S. 1401 will help substantially the communities in Alabama, especially those communities in Cherokee, De Kalb, Jackson, and Marshall Counties in their leaders effort to develop their outdoor recreational resources.

Senator BURDICK. Thank you for your statement.

Mr. UNPINGCO. I would like to introduce Ralph Mead, Gordon Sebring, Mr. Morris Lamunyon, chairman of the Board of Revenue of De Kalb County at Fort Payne, Ala., Mr. Kermit Johnson, chairman of the Commission on Government Finance, Marshall County, a member of the board of trustees of Bucks Pocket Authority, and also an executive committee member of the Alabama Mountain Lakes Association, of which I am executive director.

Senator BURDICK. We are happy to have them here, Mr. Unpingco. Mr. Thomas Hale Boggs is next.

STATEMENT OF THOMAS HALE BOGGS, REPRESENTING THE OUTBOARD BOATING CLUB OF AMERICA

Mr. Boggs. Mr. Chairman, I am Thomas Boggs. I represent the Outdoor Boating Club of America. We have a statement which I would like to include in the record. It is in support of S. 1401.

I am an attorney representing the Outboard Boating Club of America (OBC), which has its headquarters in Chicago, Ill. The OBC is composed of 350 affiliated local clubs. OBC and its sister organization, the Boat Owners Council of America, strongly support S. 1401.

The OBC was among the principal supporters of the original Land and Water Conservation Fund Act when it was enacted in 1964. Boatmen, through the Federal tax on marine fuel, have contributed about one-fourth of the fund's revenues each year for a cumulative total of close to \$100 million expected by the end of fiscal year 1968. Our interest in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act and our support of its purposes is as great as that of any organization.

We believe that enactment of the original Land and Water Conservation Fund Act was a significant step in developing needed recreational resources and preserving unique natural and scenic areas for future generations. Even though we realized at the time of passage that the projected revenues of the fund would be inadequate to meet growing needs (even presuming that land values would remain basically static), we strongly encouraged this approach to funding the program.

Older State and Federal recreational areas are overcrowded to the extent that enjoyment of the great outdoors approximates a subway rush hour. Seeking the solitude of nature and "getting away from it all" is becoming a historical and sociological artifact in many areas of our country. There just isn't room for all who would seek to enjoy the scenic and recreational pleasures of our Federal and States parks. User days increase at rates exceeding 10 percent per year in many areas—well beyond intended capacities.

New recreation areas are used well in excess of facility development and generous use projections. Construction of new facilities is actually hampered by the congestion of people seeking to use a new body of water before it is fully developed.