

If Maryland was not affording the political subdivisions every opportunity to apply for the funds, 100 percent of the State's apportionment would be obligated today. In the past, the local agencies have had to adjust their budgets to apply for the funds allocated to them. These agencies are just now beginning to include funds for matching land and water monies in their budgets.

The capital improvements budgets of the State agencies charged with recreation responsibilities exceed the current land and water conservation fund apportionments by \$8 to \$1. In the next 5 years, it is anticipated that the State and local recreation agencies will expend approximately \$100 million for acquisition and development of recreational facilities. Any additional funds provided to the State under the act could easily be matched.

Maryland is attempting to assist her political subdivisions in meeting their recreation demands by providing a State grants program. The Patuxent River Watershed Act of 1961 provides matching assistance for land acquisition to counties located adjacent to this river. Other existing programs include the Waterways Improvement Act and the Shore Erosion Control Act. The State legislature is currently considering an additional statewide grants program to provide matching assistance to the political subdivisions for land acquisition.

The land and water fund, as it exists today, has created a tremendous impetus in the recreation field. This is especially true in Maryland. Even though limited funds have been available for acquisition and development, participation throughout the State has been excellent. Considerable interest has been expressed by the subdivisions. More emphasis has been placed on the creation of recreation and parks departments and many counties which in the past expressed little interest in recreation, are now taking a serious look at planning, at providing professional staff, and the programming of fund. Much of this new interest is a direct result of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

With this new spirit, combined with increased emphasis on land acquisition, development and programming of activities, it is logical to assume that our demands for funding these items is going to be substantially increased. Every effort should be made to increase the funds available under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act so that these increasing demands may be met. Not only here in Maryland, but more important, throughout the United States.

Gentlemen, it has been a pleasure to appear before this committee and express my views. It is my hope that you will establish the necessary mechanics whereby funds under the land and water conservation program may be increased.

Thank you.

MR. TALBOT. David Talbot. I am from Oregon. I request that my statement be made a part of the record.

Senator BURDICK. It will be so received, without objection.

#### STATEMENT OF DAVID G. TALBOT, SALEM, OREG.

MR. TALBOT. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is David Talbot and I am here to present testimony in support of S. 1401.