

jurisdiction on behalf of any State for any purpose over the seabed and subsoil of the Outer Continental Shelf, or the property and natural resources thereof or the revenues therefrom.

I might observe that two of the strongest supporters of that language in executive session in 1953 still serve on this committee—our chairman, Senator Jackson, and our former chairman, Senator Anderson.

I have heard it argued that the proposal embodied in S. 1826; namely, to give coastal States 37½ percent of Federal leasing revenues, is merely an application of the Mineral Leasing Act to the Outer Continental Shelf. That argument was made in 1953 and rejected. The Mineral Leasing Act applies to Federal lands within the boundaries of States. The Submerged Lands Act established that the Federal Outer Continental Shelf lands are by no stretch of the imagination within the boundaries of the individual coastal States.

Fifteen years ago our colleague, Senator Price Daniel of Texas, was the leading proponent of improving the decisive victory won by the coastal States in the enactment of the Submerged Lands Act by slicing up Federal offshore oil-leasing revenues for the benefit of the coastal States. He failed. There was so little support for such a proposal that Senator Daniel didn't even offer a formal amendment to the bill to implement his plan.

The proposal has no more support today than it did 15 years ago. One might as well propose that coastal States get 37½ percent of all Federal income tax revenues for all the good it will do.

I believe that reopening the decades-old dispute which was compromised and settled 15 years ago would jeopardize the future of conservation in America. Strenuous support for any revenue-splitting scheme between the Federal Government and the coastal States would be specious in view of the certainty of its defeat in this committee, in both Houses of Congress, and the assured veto of the President. A crusade for this long-discredited idea could, however, kill S. 1401 and with it the Redwood National Park and other conservation legislation pending before Congress.

I refuse to participate in the dismemberment of America's conservation program, and accordingly I will oppose any foredoomed effort to disrupt the time-honored compromise of State and Federal interests which was reached in this committee, and in the Congress, 15 years ago. I think it is fair to say that my views are shared by the chairman, who represents another great coastal State, Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair would like to proceed by asking that the distinguished senior Senator from Louisiana give his testimony at this time, if that is agreeable.

**STATEMENT OF HON. ALLEN J. ELLENDER, A U.S. SENATOR FROM
THE STATE OF LOUISIANA**

Senator ELLENDER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Ellender, we are delighted to have you with us.

Senator ELLENDER. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. And we will certainly welcome your comments.

Senator ELLENDER. I have a very short statement. At a meeting of