

CITY OF VALENTINE, NEBR.,
January 24, 1968.

CHAIRMAN,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is written in support of Senate Bill No. S-1401 now in your committee for consideration. It is my understanding that this bill proposes the diversion of funds received from mineral and off shore oil royalties as well as from Forest Service losses and timber harvests to support land and water conservation programs throughout the United States.

In my opinion there is no more critical need for our Congress to consider than that of the development, conservation, and preservation of our nation's water resources for human use as well as for recreational purposes. Any non-tax funds which could be made available for these purposes could not be spent more wisely. Our vast natural resources are our nation's greatest heritage and should be developed and preserved at all costs.

This small community of 3,000 people received a great asset for its citizens during 1967 through funds made available through the State of Nebraska and the Federal Land and Water Conservation programs. The State of Nebraska provided \$25,000 and the Federal Government provided \$50,000 to provide the community with an excellent swimming pool and park area for the use of the residents of the area. This facility will be a source of pleasure and pride for residents of the community for many years to come.

Your committee's very serious favorable consideration to the above referenced Senate Bill is highly recommended.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT L. GASS,
President of the Council.

CITY OF PAPILLION, NEBR.,
January 30, 1968.

CHAIRMAN,
Interior and Insular Affairs, Committee,
Senate of the United States, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: This is written in support of Senate Bill 1401 introduced by Senator Jackson and the passage of Senate Bill 1401.

We understand that the purpose of this bill is to provide additional funding for the Land and Water Conservation program to bring total funding in line with 1965 estimates by providing additional revenue from offshore gas, oil and mineral rights and from Forest Service receipts.

For your information, the State of Nebraska considers this program so important that in addition to the 50 percent Federal share the state provides 25% of the cost of acquisition of land and development of facilities. As a result, the local subdivisions provide 25% of the total costs. Because of this program, we were able to acquire 77 acres of Papillion creek flood plain for the expansion of our park system. We are a city of 4700 population in the Omaha Metropolitan area and have tripled our population in the last ten years. Because we anticipate continuation of this rapid growth, it was important that land available for open air recreation use be acquired before it was developed in another manner.

We feel that this program is being administered by both federal and state authorities in a very effective and impartial manner. It enables both large and small government entities to provide adequate future outdoor recreation.

Because the current program is a beneficial one, we feel that everything should be done to enable it to function at the rate it was first planned. We strongly support the passage of Senate Bill 1401.

Respectfully yours,

LYNN L. LANDGREN, Mayor.

CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA,
January 24, 1968.

Re Senate Bill 1401.

CHAIRMAN,
Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

HONORABLE SIR: I am writing in my capacity as Mayor of the City of Lincoln to request that you give favorable consideration to Senate Bill 1401 earmarking