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EXHIBIT 4

sponsored the Kennedy bill and whose committee will consider these proposals.

Estuaries form where rivers run into the sea. They create and attract vital biological, scientific, recreational, and economic resources. Cities are built near most estuaries, intensifying land use and the consequent pollution and destruction risks. My bill tries to take account of the unique nature of our estuaries and to find the proper balance between their protection and restoration and their use and development for the largest number of people.

These sea and land complexes create rich marine resources. At least 65 percent of our Nation's commercial fish and shellfish resources inhabit the estuarine areas during all or part of their life cycles. Many of our valuable waterfowl use these areas as nesting and wintering sites. People use them too, for swimming, boating, bird watching, hiking, or for an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of natural resources along coastal areas. Scientists study and expand our knowledge of the wonderful variety of animal and plant life around the estuaries.

It is not only the coastal States, like Connecticut, which will benefit from this proposal. For our seashores are a national trust for all to use and enjoy.

Many of our priceless shore resources have already been lost. Others can be saved if we act soon, as this bill proposes. In my own State, nearly 50 percent of Connecticut's coastal marshes had been destroyed by 1965. At the existing rate of destruction, by the year 2000 there would be no tidal marshes left.

The principal causes of this manmade destruction are careless filling, usually from dredging and waste disposal. Both of these hazards will be controlled under this legislation.

This bill will help determine the state of our natural estuarine resources as a first step to preserving what is left. After this survey by the Secretary of the Interior, a more detailed study will see what can be done to preserve and enhance

These provisions would . . .
They would insure that an authority charged with the protection and development of natural resources reviewed such projects before they are undertaken.

My legislation encourages States to protect their own estuarine resources and water quality by establishing or improving plans to regulate dredging and related activities, when the plans are approved by the Interior Department. In such States there would be no direct Federal control of these activities.

Federal responsibility must be exercised, for presently most States do not have effective controls to protect their estuaries. The Interior Department estimates that only three or four States have effective plans now in operation.

Dumping refuse of all kinds—except oil and sewage which are covered now by law—in our estuaries would be subject to regulation by the Interior Department or by States with adequate protection plans to guard these waters from further pollution.

Finally, Mr. President, this bill requires the Interior Department and the Army Corps of Engineers to work together to authorize dredging, excavation,