

PLANNING TO PRESERVE RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE

In short, the reorganization of Federal functions in the natural resource field to be effected by this bill would have a major impact on the national effort to use what resources we have left in a way best suited to the needs of the future—the needs for consumption and the needs for preservation.

It is a bit chilling, in this regard, to consider the implications of two statistical items:

The U.S. has about 6 percent of the world's population; yet it consumes 50 percent of the non-renewable resources used every year;

One hundred twenty-one million visits were recorded at National Parks in 1965; yet experts placed an efficient capacity of only 50 million visits on these parks.

The Cape Cod National Seashore Park is another example. Even though it has been in existence only a relative short period of time, the tremendous increase in the numbers of visitors taking advantage of it is indicative of the need for coordinate resource planning. We I favor change for change's sake, but we must be in these and other men who administer the programs involved in the transfers contemplated by this bill are, I am certain, public servants dedicated to high ideals, and I think the reorganizations would be of great help to them in the pursuit of their jobs.

I am in favor of the bill because I think it will make their individual tasks easier, by bringing together under one administrative roof the related tasks; it will make the overall programs less expensive, by introducing comprehensive planning and programing to the entire natural resource effort; and it will make the tasks of the Congress more simple, by giving one department the responsibilities presently vested in many departments.

A sensitive area of any reorganization legislation involves the jurisdiction of congressional committees. It would seem to me that in this area, the various committees and staff have developed an expertise, and that legislative authority should remain where it is, relying upon effective administration of the programs to provide essential coordination.

KENNEDY STRONGLY ENDORSES S. 886

Children in school are taught a song about the land, which, in part