

letter here from Thomas Goodwin, chairman of the Subcommittee on National Resources in the West Virginia House of Delegates in support of 8416.

Mr. TAYLOR. Without objection it will be made a part of the file.

Mr. KEITH TAYLOR. For the record I have statements for support for scenic rivers in West Virginia, especially in the Monongahela National Forest from the mayors of the following cities: the city of Huntington, which I would like to address to this committee.

Mr. TAYLOR. Without objection they will all be made a part of the file.

Mr. KEITH TAYLOR. From the city of Beckley, from the city of Wheeling, from the city of Parkersburg, from the city of Charlesburg, from the city of Point Pleasant, from the city of Williamson, from the town of Delbarton and from the city of Kenova. These are all letters of support for scenic rivers in the State of West Virginia, sir. I wish to make them a part of the record.

Mr. TAYLOR. They will all be made a part of the file.

Mr. KEITH TAYLOR. Yes, sir; thank you.

My last point, sir, is that we want this committee to consider the wishes of all the people in West Virginia, not just a sparsely populated segment that is close to Washington and can easily be heard.

Thank you.

(Statement of Mr. Keith Taylor follows:)

STATEMENT OF KEITH TAYLOR, PRESIDENT, WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION,
IZAAB WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

I am Keith Taylor, state president of the West Virginia Division of the Izaak Walton League of America. We welcome the opportunity to appear at this hearing and want to express our gratitude to this committee for making it possible for us to be here.

The West Virginia Division of the Izaak League wishes to present this statement for the record in regard to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Legislation (S. 119, H.R. 8416) pending before the Congress. Our division consists of 26 chapters and various members at large from all over our state, and it functions as a democratic organization representing many people. And, I might add, they are overwhelmingly in favor of Scenic Rivers in West Virginia. We feel we represent the public interest and we are so dedicated.

West Virginia has been blessed with many irreplaceable scenic rivers which are being erased by poor planning; overdeveloped by junk and bus camps, polluted and littered by many; dredged, silted, muddied and dammed at will; poisoned and encroached upon by commercial interest without respect and protection of these God given wonders for the people of West Virginia. We call for action, as action is long past due, to set aside some of these rivers or segments of rivers for recreational, esthetic, fish and wildlife, educational and scientific purposes.

The League in West Virginia has been interested in Wild and Scenic Rivers for several years. It was January, 1965 when Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 9 passed the West Virginia Legislature and the House of Delegates concurring therein—"that the Legislature urge the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the National Recreation Advisory Council to give serious consideration to the establishment of a "Wild River Area" on one or more of the following rivers: Cacapon, Lost River, Shavers Fork of Cheat, Dry Fork of Cheat, Blackwater, Potomac, and Greenbrier Rivers; and, be it Resolved further, that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in planning high level dams and reservoirs exclude from consideration those rivers and streams above mentioned so that their natural characteristics and wilderness-like environment may be maintained for the enjoyment of the people of the State of West Virginia and out-of-state visitors". This resolution was drafted by and received strong support from the League in West Virginia.