

of the Congress initially that 103 million acres of land was necessary to help the State function.

Mr. SAYLOR. I just want to say that Governor Hickel has made a pretty good case for himself and he makes a pretty good case for the people of Alaska.

Howard, you have helped him, but I am sure the Governor, from his testimony here, doesn't need much help. He is really an expert. He has proven himself to be an expert sitting right there.

Mr. ASPINALL. Will my colleague yield?

Mr. SAYLOR. I yield to the chairman.

Mr. ASPINALL. Governor, do you endorse the proposal of the natives, to grant 40 million acres of land to the natives? As you know, the Department itself has proposed a much smaller amount of acreage.

Governor HICKEL. I stated in my testimony here that they should be given fee simple title to the land contiguous to their areas in any amounts—I am trying to remember the exact words—that was necessary for their social and economic development. Now, if this so takes 40 million acres and it is their wish, and if we support that—I would say this, if it takes 40 million acres to settle it, I would be in favor of it, but it obviously couldn't come from the 103 million acres of State land because there wouldn't be enough land left. If you kept 112 million acres in the withdrawal, that is.

Mr. ASPINALL. You mean in Alaska you don't think it could come from the 103 million acres?

Governor HICKEL. As an Alaskan, that is right, because I don't think, Mr. Chairman, that Alaska should have to settle this issue by itself. If you took it out of the availability lands in the statehood act, they would be in essence settling this native land claims bill themselves.

Mr. ASPINALL. There are two sides to that coin, but I am not going to argue with you.

Mr. SAYLOR. Now, Governor, on the third item you have down here on page 9, "Nonexclusive aboriginal rights of natives for hunting and fishing on lands in Alaska owned by the United States."

Governor HICKEL. Yes. Surface rights. The right to trespass and use.

Mr. SAYLOR. Hunt and fish any time they want?

Governor HICKEL. That is right.

Mr. SAYLOR. Has the State of Alaska given those rights in the section of 103 million acres you have taken?

Governor HICKEL. We haven't taken it. We have patents on five and as I recall in the area, say of Point Barrow, on the north slope, we give them the right to hunt when they want to hunt or fish, for subsistence. They can take fish for subsistence when we can't commercially fish.

Mr. SAYLOR. If we are going to give them \$500 million, and give them that benefit without any restrictive trusteeship then they will be the wealthiest people in the United States under the American flag as a group.

Mr. ASPINALL. Would my colleague yield?

Mr. SAYLOR. Yes.

Mr. ASPINALL. We want to get this in the proper perspective. All of the Indian claims that have been granted so far to the Indian tribes of the lower 48 States total \$251 million. I suppose that is about half.