

that legislation. Congresswoman PELOSI and I and Senator FEINSTEIN and Congressman MILLER. I want to thank all of them for everything they are continuing to do as we speak to make this work. I had a conversation with Congressman MILLER. I have been talking to Senator MURKOWSKI and his staff. We are trying to make this happen.

In Alabama we have the Selma to Montgomery Historic Trail designation.

In Alaska there are many, many important provisions, ranging from Alaska Peninsula land exchange to Federal borough recognition, regulation of Alaska fishing, and University of Alaska.

In my State of California, Senator FEINSTEIN and I are so strongly in favor of this bill, not only because of what it will do for the rest of the country, but surely for our State. It includes setting up a trust, a nonprofit trust at the Presidio to make sure that, as this magnificent park takes shape from a historic military base that started so many years ago before California was a State—we need this trust to make the important decisions about the reuse of the various buildings and doing it in the right way and doing it in the environmentally sound way.

We have in that bill San Francisco Bay enhancement, Butte County conveyance, Modoc Forest boundary adjustment, Cleveland National Forest, Lagomarsino Visitor Center, Merced irrigation district land exchange, the Manzanar historic site exchange.

I see my friend from Illinois is here. The Manzanar Historic Site, we know this is where, during a very dark period of our country, Japanese Americans were held literally as prisoners in their own country. Manzanar is a historic site. In this bill it will be preserved. Very important.

The AIDS memorial grove, timber sale exchange, Santa Cruz Poland acquisition, Stanislaus Forest management, Del Norte School conveyance.

It goes on in Colorado, in Florida, in Georgia, in Hawaii.

I just want to mention one other very important—very important—issue. I see my friend from Alaska has come to the floor. How many times he has been to San Francisco to pledge to work to make this happen.

I know that the Sterling Forest in New Jersey is so very important to both Senators from New Jersey and to the entire bipartisan congressional delegation over in the House. We have Senator BRADLEY leaving after a distinguished career. I know he is working with Senator MURKOWSKI to try to resolve all of our problems that we have. Sterling Forest is the largest unbroken, undeveloped track of forest land still remaining along the New York-New Jersey border. The bill will allow an appropriation of up to \$17.5 million for land acquisition. It designates the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, a Federal commission to manage this land. It goes on.

Most importantly for New Jersey are the billions of gallons of fresh clean drinking water that flow from the boundaries here.

When you look at the development that is possible for Sterling Forest, 14,000 homes, 8 million square feet of commercial space, even if the development were concentrated in the least environmentally critical and successful tracks, the construction will, according to Republicans and Democrats who support this acquisition, will irrevocably alter this land.

As I said when I took to the floor, I am mixed with disappointment and optimism. Clearly, I reiterate, not every single thing is in here that Senators feel ought to be in here. I so well understand it. I am working to see if there are ways to get those things done. I am looking forward to the remarks of my colleague from Nebraska who may be here on this topic. I hope that we are moving closer.

I can assure the Senator that if we can get this done, I will work with him do everything I can in the next Congress to move forward to address some of the concerns that he has raised. I have tried to do that, talking with the administration, as late as very late last night.

I hope when I come back to the floor I can speak more with hope and speak with more belief that we will, in fact, get this done.

I yield the floor.

#### GRATITUDE TO SENATE STAFF

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I am grateful to my colleagues who have been so good to me in my years in Congress, but let me also express my gratitude to a lot of others who are not as visible: The pages who serve us so effectively; the people in front, including Bill Lackey, Bob Dove, Scott Bates, all the people who work with us at the front desk; the court reporters, including the distinguished reporter from Menard County, IL; the people in the cloakroom, and the officers.

I rise today specifically because I just learned yesterday that Ed Litton, who has been an officer in the Dirksen Building through the years and has been marvelous to me and to the other Senators, but, equally important, and this is true for all the people around here, they are good to the public, and I think make a great impression for American Government.

Ed Litton is going to retire October 30. He is going to beat me into retirement. He has just been superb. He is good to people, and I think typifies the police officers in the Capitol area. They have really contributed immensely.

I just wish Ed Litton and his family the very best on his retirement. He can look back on his years of service with a great deal of satisfaction.

As I leave the Senate, I leave with a great sense of gratitude to all the people who have served us so well, most of

whom I regret to say I probably have not thanked as I should.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair.

#### ALASKA SUBSISTENCE HUNTING AND FISHING ACT

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise this morning for the purpose of speaking on legislation I introduced yesterday. This legislation is very important to my State of Alaska. The intention of the legislation is to try and address some of the issues regarding subsistence hunting and fishing in Alaska. I am under no false hope that at this late date this legislation will move through the Senate this year, but I want it to appear in the RECORD for the purposes of starting a dialog in our State and starting a dialog with the various Federal agencies involved.

Mr. President, the issue of subsistence hunting and fishing in Alaska has caused a great deal of divisiveness in our State and has led to the State of Alaska becoming the only State in the Union which no longer retains the sole control of its fish and game resources on public lands. This is an extraordinary departure from the norm, but nevertheless it is a reality. The influence of the Federal Government over fish and wildlife resources in Alaska continues to grow and expand with each passing month.

This legislation calls for the Presidential appointment of a special master to come up with nonbinding recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, the Governor of the State of Alaska, the State of Alaska legislature and to the Congress, as well. The recommendation will be on how to return management of fish and game resources to the State and how best to provide for the continuation of a subsistence lifestyle for Alaska's residence.

I hope to have significant discussions with the people of Alaska on this issue in the coming months during the recess and be prepared to move forward with the 105th Congress when we return in January. It would be my intention to introduce more definitive legislation on the subsistence issue at that time.

What we are attempting to do is set, if you will, a skeleton schedule in place so we can build on it by generating public input.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill, S. 2172, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: