

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 4-28-98

Submitted by: Assembly Chair BEGICH

Prepared by: Assembly Office

For reading: April 28, 1998

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 98- 161

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND, INCLUDING STATE-SIDE PROGRAM FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR PARKS AND RECREATION PROJECTS**

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WHEREAS, the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 was established by Congress to "... to assist in preserving, developing and assuring accessibility to all citizens of the United States of present and future generations...such quality and quantity of outdoor recreation resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable..."; and

WHEREAS, funds for the LWCF are provided by receipts from federal offshore oil and gas leases; and

WHEREAS, the State-side program of LWCF is a 50/50 matching grant program which provides funding for the planning, acquisition and development of outdoor recreation areas and open space, with funding decisions made at the State and local level; and

WHEREAS, since it's inception in 1965, LWCF has provided over \$28 million dollars in funding to the State of Alaska, with the money being used by State agencies, boroughs, local governments, and school districts on 368 projects statewide; and

WHEREAS, within the Municipality of Anchorage and Anchorage School District, 58 projects have received a total of \$6,896,757, with an additional \$2,352,260 invested in Chugach State Park - bringing the total outdoor recreation investment from the LWCF State-side program for the Anchorage area to \$9,249,017; and

WHEREAS, while the results of the program are evident in nearly every community in the nation through projects ranging from inner city playgrounds to suburban baseball fields to State natural areas, and an ongoing need for this program has been clearly demonstrated, 1995 was the last year this important program was funded; and

WHEREAS, 1998 saw a reauthorization of LWCF, but without the State-side component despite availability of royalties from Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas payments pledged to the fund.

**NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly resolves**

**Section 1**

That the Assembly urges the President and Congress to recognize the outstanding legacy of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the continuing unmet need for local public outdoor parks and recreation facilities by fully funding the LWCF, to include State-side program funding.

**Section 2:** That, upon passage, a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the bipartisan leadership of Congress.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 28th day of April, 1998.

  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
Municipal Clerk