

Pennsylvania Landowner

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PROPERTY RIGHTS ACTIVISTS UNITE IN D.C.



Hundreds of "Fly-In-For-Freedom" participants gather at the nation's capitol during opening night ceremonies.

ver the last several years, grassroots organizations like PLA have erupted nationwide. With ever increasing land use regulations threatening resource based industries and affecting private property ownership, individuals have begun to see the need to organize in order to more effectively make their voices heard.

Recently, many of these organizations united in a "FLY-IN-FOR-FREEDOM" campaign in our nation's capitol to lobby Congress for changes in laws governing wetlands, endangered species, scenic river and national park designations, grazing and recreational issues and a host of other land related topics currenty having adverse affects on property owners and land users.

PLA representatives united with nearly 400 individuals from over 23 states to deliver a message to elected representatives that "people are part of the environmental equation" and that private property rights are fundamental to maintaining our democratic free enterprise system.

Many issues were promoted by PLA representatives with a focus on differentiating between conservation and preservation policies. The wetlands issue was the primary topic of discussion, with PLA members encouraging congressional representatives not currently cosponsoring H.R. 1330 to sign on their support. Many congressional offices stated their appreciation for the information presented to them and acknowledged that some type of comprehensive legislation is a must. In spite of this fact, 11 Pennsylvania Con-

gressmen still have not signed on as co-sponsors to H.R. 1330. They include Thomas Foglietta (D-1st), William Gray (D-2nd), Robert Borski (D-3rd), Richard Schulze (R-5th), Gus Yatron (D-6th), Curt Weldon (R-7th), Peter Kostmayer (D-8th), Paul Kanjorski (D-11th), John Murtha (D-12th), Lawrence Coughlin (R-13th), William Coyne (D-14th), and Joseph Gaydos (D-20th). Representative William Goodling recently signed on his support while Representative Gus Yatron withdrew his after heavy environmental pressure. MEMBERS MUST WRITE TO THESE REPRESENTATIVES ENCOURAGING THEM TO BECOME A COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1330. Letters may be addressed as follows:

THE HONORABLE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Additionally, both Senator Specter and Senator Wofford have not signed on to S. 1463, the companion bill to H.R. 1330. Letters should be addressed to:

THE HONORABLE _ U.S. SENATE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Don't depend upon others to protect your property rights. The future rights to use your land depends upon you voicing your concerns. Letter writing is essential! Do your part today.