

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 679

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Weeks Law.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 17, 2010

Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

NOVEMBER 29, 2010

Committee discharged; considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Weeks Law.

Whereas the 100th anniversary of the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the “Weeks Law”) (16 U.S.C. 552 et seq.), marks one of the most significant moments in conservation and Forest Service history;

Whereas New Hampshire, along with the southern Appalachians, was at the center of efforts to pass the Weeks Law;

Whereas John Wingate Weeks, sponsor of the Weeks Law, was born in Lancaster, New Hampshire, and maintained a summer home there that is now Weeks State Park;

Whereas, in 1903, the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the newly formed Society for the Protection of New Hamp-

shire's Forests, helped draft a bill for the creation of a forest reserve in the White Mountains;

Whereas passage of the Weeks Law on March 1, 1911, was made possible by an unprecedented collaboration of a broad spectrum of interests, including the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, industrialists, small businesses, and the tourist industry;

Whereas, in 1914, the first 7,000 acres of land destined to be part of the White Mountain National Forest were acquired in Benton, New Hampshire, under the Weeks Law;

Whereas national forests were established and continue to be managed as multiple use public resources, providing recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, and renewable timber resources;

Whereas the forest conservation brought about by the Weeks Law encouraged and inspired additional conservation by State and local government as well as private interests, further protecting the quality of life in the United States;

Whereas the White Mountain National Forest continues to draw millions of visitors annually who gain a renewed appreciation of the inherent value of the outdoors;

Whereas the multiple values and uses supported by the White Mountain National Forest today are a tribute to the collaboration of 100 years ago, an inspiration for the next 100 years, and an opportunity to remind the people of the United States to work together toward common goals on a common landscape; and

Whereas President Theodore Roosevelt stated "We want the active and zealous help of every man far-sighted enough

to realize the importance from the standpoint of the nation's welfare in the future of preserving the forests": Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the significance of the 100th anniversary of the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly
3 known as the "Weeks Law") (16 U.S.C. 552 et
4 seq.), to the history of conservation and the power
5 of cooperation among unlikely allies;

6 (2) encourages efforts to celebrate the centennial in the White Mountain National Forest with a
7 focus on the future as well as to commemorate the
8 past; and
9 (3) encourages continued collaboration and co-

10 operation among Federal, State, and local governments, as well as business, tourism, and conserva-
11 tion interests, to ensure that the many values and
12 benefits flowing from the White Mountain National
13 Forest today to the citizens of New Hampshire, and
14 the rest of the United States, are recognized and
15 supported in perpetuity.
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