

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### EXTEND WILDERNESS PROTECTION FOR SPANISH PEAKS AREA, COLORADO

**HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 1997*

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, today I am again introducing a bill to continue the protection of wilderness values in the Spanish Peaks area in Colorado.

The bill is cosponsored by my colleagues from Colorado, Mr. MCINNIS and Ms. DEGETTE. I greatly appreciate their assistance and support.

The mountains now usually known as the Spanish Peaks are two volcanic peaks in Las Animas and Huerfano Counties whose Native American name is Wayatoya. The eastern peak rises to 12,683 feet above sea level, while the summit of the western peak reaches 13,626 feet. The two served as landmarks not only for Native Americans but also for some of Colorado's other early settlers and for travelers along the trail between Bent's Old Fort on the Arkansas River and Taos, NM. With this history, it's not surprising that the Spanish Peaks portion of the San Isabel National Forest was included in 1977 on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks.

The Spanish Peaks area has outstanding scenic, geologic, and wilderness values, including a spectacular system of over 250 free-standing dikes and ramps of volcanic materials radiating from the peaks. The State of Colorado has designated the Spanish Peaks as a Natural Area, and they are a popular destination for hikers seeking an opportunity to enjoy an unmatched vista of southeastern Colorado's mountains and plains.

The Spanish Peaks area was considered for possible wilderness designation in the 1970's, but the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1980 provided instead for its continued management as a wilderness study area. A decade later, the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 included provisions for long-term management of all the other wilderness study areas in our State's national forests, but questions about the land-ownership pattern in the Spanish Peaks Area led to a decision to require continued management of that area as a wilderness study area for three years—until August 13, 1996. The 1993 Act also required the Forest Service to report to Congress concerning the extent of non-Federal holdings in the area and the likelihood of acquisition of those holdings by the United States with the owners' consent.

The required report was submitted in 1995. It indicated that within the approximately 20,825 acres being managed as a wilderness study area, there were about 825 acres where the United States owned neither the surface nor the mineral rights, and about 440 acres more where the United States owned the surface but not the minerals.

To date, through voluntary sales, the United States has acquired some of the non-Federal

holdings in the Spanish Peaks area, and there are indications that others will or can be acquired in the same way.

I think there is every reason to believe that it will soon be possible to designate lands within the Spanish Peaks area as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. However, last year it became clear that it wouldn't be possible to do this before the end of the 3-year period specified in the 1993 Act, so I introduced a bill to simply provide that the Forest Service will continue to manage the Spanish Peaks as a wilderness study area until Congress determines otherwise.

Because that bill was not acted on before the adjournment of the 104th Congress, I am reintroducing it today. It will remove an artificial, arbitrary deadline and will ensure that decisions about the future management of this very special area will be made deliberately, through legislation, rather than by default.

### HONORING DR. RUBEN ZACARIAS FOR 31 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE STUDENT'S OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 1997*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a good friend, Dr. Ruben Zacarias, deputy superintendent of schools, Los Angeles Unified School District. Dr. Zacarias has demonstrated a life long commitment to the education of our children and will be recognized at a special ceremony sponsored by the California Legislative Latino Caucus and the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation on Friday, March 21, 1997.

Dr. Zacarias began his service in education in 1966 in the elementary classroom of Breed Street School. Since 1966, he has held every major post in the Los Angeles Unified School District, including deputy superintendent, deputy superintendent of human resources and of parent and community services, associate superintendent of school operations, assistant superintendent of administrative region G, assistant superintendent of overcrowded schools, deputy area administrator, and school principal.

Dr. Zacarias also has been instrumental in promoting key educational goals, such as the superintendent's call to action and the LEARN restructuring programs. He has led the district in parent empowerment and involvement, appointed as deputy superintendent of parent and community services. During his tenure as deputy superintendent responsible for race relation and as associate coordinator of multicultural education, he demonstrated his leadership in bridging race relations.

While maintaining an active role in the district he has been an outstanding leader in the

community, dedicating many hours to civic and community organizations. In 1995, Dr. Zacarias was appointed U.S. Commissioner to President Clinton's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, serving as chairman of the K-12 Committee. He was appointed, in 1996, by Mayor Richard Riordon, Los Angeles city commissioner to the Commission on Children, Youth and Their Families. He also has been a tireless advocate for our children's education on the boards and committees of numerous organizations addressing issues ranging from drug and gang prevention to bilingual and adult education.

For his unparalleled commitment to educational excellence in the Los Angeles Unified School District, Dr. Zacarias has received numerous awards and recognitions. In addition to honors from the California PTA, UTLA, United Way, California Association for the Gifted, and California State University, Los Angeles, he has received formal resolutions from President Clinton, Secretary of Education Richard Riley, Governor Pete Wilson, the mayor and council of the city of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and the California State Legislature for outstanding service to education and the community.

Dr. Zacarias received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Southern California, master of arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a doctorate of education degree from the University of San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues assembled here to join me in recognizing my good friend, Dr. Ruben Zacarias, for his outstanding and invaluable service to the educational needs of all the children of the Los Angeles Unified School District and throughout the Nation.

### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

**HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 1997*

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill that will allow mutual funds to invest in Publicly Traded Partnerships [PTP's].

PTP's are limited partnerships and PTP shares are traded on regulated, public securities exchanges. Because interests in PTP's are liquid and can be purchased in small increments, they can be bought today by small investors. An anomaly in the Internal Revenue Code prevents mutual funds representing many small investors from making such investments.

As safe, liquid securities which generally provide a steady income, PTP's could be excellent investments for mutual funds. However, the Tax Code discourages fund managers from investing in PTP's because our tax laws require that mutual funds get 90 percent of their gross income from specific sources in

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