

## **1960 (No Resolutions)**

### **1961**

- 1961-1 (A) Proposed “Wilderness System of Lands” Amendments
- 1961-2 Mineral Royalties and Rentals
- 1961-3 (C) Support of S.B. 111 (87<sup>th</sup> Congress) – In-Lieu Selections for Military Withdrawals
- 1961-5 (E) Support of Water Resources Planning Act of 1961
- 1961-6 (F) In Support of Complete Revision of Federal Land Laws
- 1961-7 (G) Commendation of BLM Land Sale Policy
- 1961-8 (H) Support of HR 1735 (87<sup>th</sup> Congress) – Requiring an Act of Congress for Withdrawals Exceeding 5,000 Acres
- 1961-9 (I) National Forest Multiple Use Management
- 1961-10 (J) Cooperation with the Council of State Governments

### **1962**

- 1962-1 (A) Canyon Lands National Park (Utah)
- 1962-2 (B) Mineral Revenue Distribution by United States
- 1962-3 (C) Selection of Unsurveyed Areas and Date of Mineral Classification
- 1962-4 (D) Surveying of Unsurveyed Lands
- 1962-5 (E) Mineral Status Records for Surveyed Lands
- 1962-6 (F) Mineral Status Records for US Public Lands Located by Protraction
- 1962-7 (G) Exchanges of Lands Within Military Withdrawals
- 1962-8 (H) Youth Conservation Corp
- 1962-9 (I) Opposition to “Wilderness Bill”
- 1962-10 (J) Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4
- 1962-11 (K) Withdrawal Limitations of Five Thousand Acres
- 1962-12 (L) Public Lands Appeals Board
- 1962-13 (M) Federal Grant for Planning of Outdoor Recreation
- 1962-15 (O) Conference Locations

### **1963**

- 1963-1 Mineral Leasing Act Revenues
- 1963-2 Satisfaction of State Land Grants
- 1963-3 Federal and State Land Exchanges
- 1963-4 Recordation of Mining Locations
- 1963-5 Use of Federal Lands
- 1963-6 Canyon Lands National Park
- 1963-7 Indemnity Selection, Unsurveyed Lands
- 1963-8 Surveying of Unsurveyed Lands
- 1963-9 Mineral Status Records for Surveyed Lands
- 1963-10 Exchange of Land, Military Withdrawals
- 1963-11 Youth Conservation Corps
- 1963-12 Wilderness Bill, S. 4
- 1963-13 Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4
- 1963-14 Withdrawal Limitations of Five Thousand Acres
- 1963-15 Land Appeals Board
- 1963-16 Federal Public Land Legislation

### **1964**

- 1964-1 Mineral Leasing Act Revenues
- 1964-2 Satisfaction of State Land Grants
- 1964-3 Federal and State Land Exchanges
- 1964-4 Recordation of Mining Locations
- 1964-5 Use of Federal Lands

1964-6 Land Law Review Commission  
1964-7 Indemnity Selection, Unsurveyed Lands  
1964-8 Surveying of Unsurveyed Lands  
1964-9 Mineral Status Records for Surveyed Lands  
1964-10 Exchange of Land, Military Withdrawals  
1964-11 Youth Conservation Corps  
1964-12 Wilderness Bill  
1964-13 Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4  
1964-14 Withdrawal Limitations of Five Thousand Acres  
1964-15 Land Appeals Board  
1964-16 Amendment to Lieu Selection Act, H.R. 10699  
1964-18 Alaska Public Sale Act  
1964-19 The Great Salt Lake Meander Lines

## 1965

1965-1 Mineral Leasing Act Revenues  
1965-2 Satisfaction of State Land Grants  
1965-3 Land Exchanges  
1965-4 Recordation of Mining Locations  
1965-5 Use of Federal Lands  
1965-6 Restoration of Lost Indemnity Selection Rights and permitting States to Select Unsurveyed Lands  
1965-7 Exchange of Land, Military Withdrawals  
1965-8 Land Appeals Board  
1965-9 The Great Salt Lake Title Legislation  
1965-10 Surveying of Unsurveyed Lands  
1965-11 Mineral Status Records for Surveyed Lands  
1965-12 Kokee Water Project  
1965-13 Interior Department Advisory Board  
1965-14 Transfer of Crop Allotments on State Trust Lands  
1965-15 Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4

## 1966

1966-1 Mineral Leasing Act Revenues  
1966-2 Satisfaction of State Land Grants  
1966-3 Land Exchanges  
1966-4 Recordation of Mining Locations  
1966-5 Use of Federal Lands  
1966-6 Exchange of Land, Military Withdrawals  
1966-7 Land Appeals Board  
1966-8 Surveying of Unsurveyed Lands  
1966-9 Kokee Water Project  
1966-10 Interior Department Advisory Board  
1966-11 Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4  
1966-12 Federal Farm Program Payments to States

## 1967

1967-1 Mineral Leasing Act Revenues  
1967-2 Satisfaction of State Land Grants  
1967-3 Land Exchanges  
1967-4 Recordation of Mining Locations  
1967-5 PL 88-607-Classification and Multiple Use Act  
1967-6 Exchange of Land, Military Withdrawals

1967-7 Land Appeals Board  
1967-8 Surveying of Unsurveyed Lands  
1967-9 Kokee Water Project  
1967-10 Interior Department Advisory Board  
1967-11 Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4  
1967-12 Federal Farm Program Payments to States  
1967-13 Geothermal Resources  
1967-14 National Estuaries

## **1968**

1968-1 Reiteration of Previous Resolutions  
1968-2 Irrigation of State-owned Lands in Federal Irrigation Districts  
1968-3 PL 88-607-Classification and Multiple Use Act  
1968-4 Alaska Land Selection Freeze

## **1969**

1969-1 National Forest Timber Supply Act of 1969  
1969-2 In Support of Eros Project  
1969-3 Lifting Withdrawals (Resolution Unavailable)  
1969-4 Repeal of Part of Sec. 8 (C) of Taylor Grazing Act  
1969-5 Recordation of Mining Locations

RESOLUTION A

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association has reviewed the purposes of S 174, 87th Congress 1st Session, relating to the establishment of a Wilderness System of Lands; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the adoption of this legislation as introduced, could result in administrative difficulties for the respective affected states;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Seattle, Washington on August 10, 1961, hereby recommends in the best interest of the eighteen western member states that the aforesaid S 174, 87th Congress 1st Session, be amended as follows:

1. Add subsection (i) to Section 3:

- (i) "The incorporation into the Wilderness System of Lands, otherwise available for selection by the states under the provisions of applicable U. S. statutes shall not be deemed such an appropriation as to foreclose or impede state selection thereof."

2. Add sub-paragraph (1) to subsection (g) of Section 6:

- (1) "Whenever an area including State-owned land is incorporated in the Wilderness System, provision shall be made for access to such land adequate for the reasonable exercise of its rights therein by the State and those claiming under it, and the agencies administering lands within the Wilderness System are hereby directed to cooperate with the States in establishing such access and authorized to grant, for reasonable consideration, the easements necessary therefore;

"PROVIDED, however, that if the recommendation by which an area including state-owned land is incorporated in the Wilderness System shall fail to provide for access to the state-owned land therein, then the owning state may, at its election, use the included state land as base in making indemnity selection of lands including the mineral rights therein as provided in applicable United States statutes.

3. Add:

"Prior to permanent establishment of Wilderness Area boundaries, federal state and private technicians shall be directed to make a detailed study of proposed boundaries in order to prevent inclusion therein of areas which have value for public benefits higher than wilderness use."

## RESOLUTION B

### MINERAL ROYALTIES AND RENTALS

WHEREAS, the surface and minerals constitute an important part of the life and economy of the western states; and

WHEREAS, most of the revenue derived from the leasing of the surface and minerals in the western states now is retained and controlled by the federal government, resulting in discrimination involving tax bases and federal land and mineral holdings among western land states; and

WHEREAS, the welfare and interest of the citizens of the western states demand a more equitable share of the revenue derived from the leasing of the minerals under federal ownership within the western states; and

WHEREAS, Alaska, in its Act of Admission, was granted ninety percent (90%) of the mineral royalties on federal lands and on private lands in which the federal government has reserved the minerals; and

WHEREAS, the revenue so derived should be used for the support of schools or other public educational institutions and for the construction and maintenance of public roads within the western states, or in a manner designed to best meet the individual needs of the states involved;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1961 Western States Land Commissioners Association that the President and Congress of the United States of America be hereby memorialized to fairly and diligently consider the welfare and interest of the people of the western states who favor legislation providing that ninety percent (90%) of all monies received from the sale of or as bonuses, royalties or rentals on federally controlled minerals within the western states be paid by the Treasurer of the United States to the western states to be used for the construction and support of public schools and other public educational institutions, or for the construction and maintenance of public roads or other needs as determined and directed by the legislatures of the individual western states.

RESOLUTION C

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association has reviewed the purposes of SB 111, 87th Congress 1st Session, introduced by Senators Anderson, Chavez, Bennett, Jackson, Young of North Dakota, Case of South Dakota, Mundt, Bible, McGee, Bartlett, Moss, Carroll and Kuchel and

WHEREAS, this bill is to authorize public land states to elect to select certain public lands in exchange for military and other uses and for other purposes in lieu of receiving monetary payments therefore; and

WHEREAS, it is the consensus of the members of the Western States Land Commissioners Association that such authorization for election of selection of lands, including the mineral rights therein, as provided in Chapter 20 Title 43, United States Code Annotated, could better serve the public land states; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 111 is for the protection of all public land states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention at Seattle, Washington on August 10, 1961, hereby declares it to be to the best interest of the member states to support the passage of said Senate Bill 111; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states delegations in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

RESOLUTION E

WHEREAS, the bill known as the Water Resources Planning Act of 1961 would vitally affect the planning and use of all lands and waters within the western states; and

WHEREAS, the total management of state lands requires close coordination with the management of federal and private lands and waters within the states; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid bill would give the states an effective voice in planning for the use of lands and waters

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Seattle, Washington on August 10, 1961 go on record as supporting in principle the aforesaid bill.

RESOLUTION F

WHEREAS, the state land commissioners are most vitally concerned with the total management of the land resources within their states and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management has now under consideration the complete revision of the federal land laws and

WHEREAS, the management of the federal public domain is of vital concern to the western states and

WHEREAS, the revision of the federal laws will vitally affect the use of the federal lands and the returns from those lands

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association support in principle the legislation proposed by the Bureau of Land Management for a complete overhaul of the land laws.

RESOLUTION G

WHEREAS, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management has announced a policy of making public domain lands available to the states for purchase at \$2.50 per acre when such lands are to be used for public recreation, public schools, or other public purposes; and

WHEREAS, such action is highly desirable and beneficial to the states and the general public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention at Seattle, Washington on August 7 through 10, 1961, does hereby commend the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Secretary of the Interior upon this recently announced policy.

RESOLUTION H

WHEREAS, HR 1735 of the 87th Congress 1st Session and other similar bills would require an act of Congress for public land withdrawals in excess of 5,000 acres for any project or facility of any department or agency of the government; and

WHEREAS, such requirement would be of benefit and protection to the public lands states;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Seattle, Washington on August 7 through 10, 1961, does hereby urge the enactment of HR 1785 or similar legislation which would accomplish its purpose.

RESOLUTION I

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service has legally and formally established the multiple use principle of management on all national forests; and

WHEREAS, such land management policy and program is in the best interests of the public;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Seattle, Washington on August 7 through 10, 1961, does hereby commend the Chief of the United States Forest Service and the Secretary of Agriculture for their establishment of multiple use management on national forests.

RESOLUTION J

WHEREAS, the Council of State Governments is active in matters of interest to the Western States Land Commissioners Association; and

WHEREAS, joint effort by the Council of State Governments and the Western States Land Commissioners Association would be of great mutual benefit;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Seattle, Washington on August 7 through 10, 1961 does hereby declare its interest and intent to join in active cooperation with the Council of State Governments in all matters concerning public lands.

RESOLUTION "A"

(Canyon Lands National Park)

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association has reviewed the purposes of Senate Bill 2387, 87th Congress, First Session, relating to the establishment of a Canyon Lands National Park in the State of Utah; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the aforesaid bill would be advantageous to the State of Utah in providing for specific acquisition of lands in lieu to which such state is entitled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, hereby declares it to be to the best interest of the member states to support the passage of said Senate Bill 2387; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member state's delegation in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

*B. L. King*

RESOLUTION "B"

(Mineral Revenue Distribution by United States)

WHEREAS, certain member states of the Western States Land Commissioners Association have certain problems peculiar to their states concerning reclamation project funding which would be adversely affected by a change from the present 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of mineral revenues collected by the United States; and

WHEREAS, a proposal to urge Congress to increase the States' percentage of such mineral revenues (Res. B of W.S.L.C.A., 1961) to 90% did not meet with the approval of some states at the National Governors Conference and the Western States Governors Conference due to possible adverse effect on reclamation project funding in some states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, urge those states which would be benefited by a change in the Federal Mineral Revenue Distribution pursue this matter individually with their respective Governors, congressional delegations and other leaders and that other states inform their Governors, congressional delegates and other leaders of the benefits which would result from a change in the law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this matter be further considered at the 1963 Annual Convention of this Association.

RESOLUTION "B"

(Mineral Revenue Distribution by United States)

WHEREAS, certain member states of the Western States Land Commissioners Association have certain problems peculiar to their states concerning reclamation project funding which would be adversely affected by a change from the present 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of mineral revenues collected by the United States; and

WHEREAS, a proposal to urge Congress to increase the States' percentage of such mineral revenues (Res. B of W.S.L.C.A., 1961) to 90% did not meet with the approval of some states at the National Governors Conference and the Western States Governors Conference due to possible adverse effect on reclamation project funding in some states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, urge those states which would be benefited by a change in the Federal Mineral Revenue Distribution pursue this matter individually with their respective Governors, congressional delegations and other leaders and that other states inform their Governors, congressional delegates and other leaders of the benefits which would result from a change in the law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this matter be further considered at the 1963 Annual Convention of this Association.

RESOLUTION "C"

(Amend Section 852, U.S.C. 43, Sub. (a) and (d)(2) re Selection of Unsurveyed Areas and Date of Mineral Classification)

WHEREAS, several states have encountered problems in obtaining satisfaction for deficiencies in the school land grants to the member states under Section 852 of Title 43 of United States Codes; and

WHEREAS, certain amendments to said Section 852 are considered desirable in order to simplify the process whereby the states may obtain indemnity lands for the school lands lost to them; and

WHEREAS, said Section 852 does not now provide for states to select unsurveyed public lands as indemnity for unsurveyed school lands to which the state's title would attach if such school lands were unwithdrawn and surveyed; and

WHEREAS, said Section 852 provides that the Secretary of the Interior may determine by protraction or otherwise, in effect, the amount of lands to which a state is entitled as indemnity for lands lost to it within certain reservations, or withdrawals; and

WHEREAS, said Section 852 now specifies that the determination of mineral character of lands lost to a state shall be made as of the date of application by the state for selection of unappropriated surveyed federal lands in lieu thereof; and

WHEREAS, said mineral determination date for the selected federal land has been made as of any date subsequent to the filing of application for selection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, hereby urges the adoption of legislation to amend Section 852 (a) of Title 43, United States Codes, to allow selection of any unappropriated, unsurveyed public lands to be determined by protraction, as well as any unappropriated surveyed publiclands, and to amend subsection (d)(2) of said Section 852 by providing that the date of determination of the mineral character of the lands lost to a state and of the lands selected in lieu thereof shall be August 27, 1958 instead of the date of application for selection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to accomplish the foregoing, the Legislative Committee of this Association is hereby directed to draft the proper form of proposed legislative bill for introduction in the Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member state's delegation in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

RESOLUTION "D"

(Surveying of Unsurveyed Lands)

WHEREAS, there exists within the member states of this Association many areas of unsurveyed public lands of the United States; and

WHEREAS, these unsurveyed areas exist primarily because of insufficient appropriation of funds by the Congress to conduct the work incidental to the completion of such surveys; and

WHEREAS, many of the grants of Congress to the member states are incomplete due to lack of survey of the public lands and will remain incomplete until all of the public lands of the United States have been surveyed by the appropriate authority; and

WHEREAS, the inability of the States to perfect the title of the land granted to them by the Congress prevents the efficient administration of the lands affected thereby to the detriment of the general public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, hereby memorializes Congress and the fiscal committees of both appropriate federal agencies and Congress to make available to the Bureau of Land Management the requisite funds to accomplish the expeditious surveying of the remaining unsurveyed lands in the states which are members of this Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member state's delegation in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION "E"

(Mineral Status Records for Surveyed Lands)

WHEREAS, there is greater need for information regarding the extent of the claims of the United States for mineral interests in lands heretofore surveyed as a part of the public domain and in which interests of varying degrees have been conveyed by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management's record maintenance functions are hampered by lack of sufficient funds to allow said Bureau to produce a uniform and simply interpreted record of all the mineral interests retained by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management has expended a commendable effort to inventory the mineral holdings in the public domain;

— NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, hereby urges the Congress of the United States of America to provide adequate funds to the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of expediting preparation of plats and such other records as may be necessary to depict and produce an inventory of all lands in each surveyed township of the public land surveys in which the United States claims any interest in minerals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Association memorializes the Congress to recognize, by a commendation to the personnel of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management and such other agencies of the United States Government as may be appropriate, that the efforts expended to date in producing a modern version of a mineral inventory record are commendable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member state's delegation in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION "F"

(Mineral Status Records for U. S. Public Lands Located by Protraction)

WHEREAS, certain lands and mineral interests in other lands owned by the United States can be identified with respect to their position on the earth's surface in accordance with a protraction of the public lands survey system and such protraction for preliminary identification may well be the only practiced method for many years of determining the areas in which the United States now owns all the minerals or in which the United States has reserved certain mineral interests; and

WHEREAS, mineral development of these unsurveyed areas which are identified only by protraction is constantly being carried on under the public land mineral entry laws and the mineral leasing laws; and

WHEREAS, the mineral status records of the United States Department of the Interior, with respect to each protracted subdivision, will be of immense value to all persons administering or using said areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, hereby urges the Congress of the United States and the appropriate committees thereof to provide adequate appropriation of funds to the Bureau of Land Management to establish and maintain a modern system of mineral and land status records for the lands now unsurveyed under the ultimate public lands survey system and lands identified only by protraction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be, and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective

member state's delegation in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION "G"

(Senate Bill 111, \_\_\_\_\_ Cong. \_\_\_\_\_ Sess. re Exchanges of Lands  
Within Military Withdrawals (W.S.L.C.A. Res. C-1961))

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association has heretofore, at its 1961 Annual Convention, by Resolution C passed at said convention, urged and supported the amendment of existing public land laws affecting exchanges of lands owned by various member states of this Association, taken by the United States for military purposes, for other lands owned by the United States outside said military reservations, and

WHEREAS, said proposed amendments to said laws have been incorporated into Senate Bill 111 of the \_\_\_\_\_ Congress \_\_\_\_\_ Sess. and the reports on said Senate Bill have not been, to date, submitted to the appropriate committee of the Congress; and

WHEREAS, the consensus of the members of this Association is that such proposed legislation should be passed at the earliest moment in order to expedite the administration of the lands affected;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, reiterates its support of Senate Bill 111, \_\_\_\_\_ Cong. \_\_\_\_\_ Sess. and urges early passage of this bill and, to this end, further urges that the Department of the Interior's report on this bill be expeditiously rendered to the Congress, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be, and is hereby, directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member state's delegation in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION "E"

(Youth Conservation Corps)  
(Support of H.R. 10682 and S. 404)

WHEREAS, there is pending in the Congress action on H.R. 10682 and S. 404 relating to the Youth Conservation Corps programs; and

WHEREAS, this Association believes that the member states will benefit through the establishment of the Youth Conservation Corps program, where utilized, as proposed by said legislation in that the youth of this Nation will thereby be afforded the opportunity to observe at first hand the administration and conservation of the land and its resources of the member states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 31, 1962, memorializes the Congress of the United States that this Association supports the philosophy and principle of the proposed national legislation for the Youth Conservation Corps program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the congressional delegations of the member states of this Association.

RESOLUTION "I"

WHEREAS, this association, at its 1961 annual convention by Resolution "A" thereof, has expressed opposition to the so-called "Wilderness Bill," as it was then written; and

WHEREAS, said bill has not been materially, if at all amended such that it will meet with the approval for establishment of wilderness areas in member states in that it does not now provide for a careful evaluation of areas which may be affected in order that there might be a proper administrative and executive determination of the propriety or wisdom of setting aside certain areas for the purposes intended by the concept of wilderness areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska on May 31, 1962, hereby declares that all of its members except California,<sup>1</sup> which requested that the records show that it abstained from voting on this matter, are in opposition to Senate Bill 174 of the \_\_\_\_\_ Congress, \_\_\_\_\_ Session, as same was written on May 31, 1962; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states delegation in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

RESOLUTION "J"  
(Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4)

WHEREAS, the Nation's petroleum reserves are at the highest level in our history; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry is ready, willing and able to continue exploration for and development of additional reserves in Federal lands, if such lands are made available; and

WHEREAS, Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 has been established within the State of Alaska, and it is the expressed intent of the Department of the Navy to renew oil and gas exploration activities therein with the taxpayers' funds; and

WHEREAS, the very concept of naval petroleum reserves is no longer consistent with present national defense needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska on May 31, 1962, hereby declares that this association supports the request of the State of Alaska that Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 be returned to public domain status and the lands therein made available for development by private industry in the public interest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states delegation in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

RESOLUTION "K"  
(Withdrawal Limitations of Five Thousand Acres)

WHEREAS, there is pending before the Congress of the United States Resolutions 3342 by the Honorable Congressman Rivers and 4060 by the Honorable Congressman Aspinall, which proposed legislation seeks to amend existing legislation which requires congressional approval on withdrawals of public lands for military uses where such lands aggregate in excess of five thousand acres; and

WHEREAS, the withdrawal of public lands, whether for military or other purposes, increases the difficulties of administration of the public domain; and

WHEREAS, any withdrawal increases the difficulty of the states to realize fulfillment of the congressional grants of lands because of the diminution of the available public lands caused by such withdrawals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska on May 31, 1962, hereby declares that this association is strongly in favor of the adoption of legislation by the United States Congress which would amend existing legislation to provide that withdrawals of lands from the public domain for the benefit of any federal agency must have congressional approval where there are more than five thousand acres of public domain land to be withdrawn under any single project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states delegation in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

RESOLUTION "L"  
(Public Lands Appeals Board)

WHEREAS, there is pending in the Congress of the United States consideration of proposed legislation, S-3107 which would provide for the establishment of a Board of Public Land Appeals, the function of which Board would be to expeditiously consider appeals from decisions of the Bureau of Land Management; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such Appeals Board would be beneficial to the member states of this association in that it would provide for a review of appeals by a group operating independent of the United States Bureau of Land Management or Department of Interior.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska on May 31, 1962, urges congressional approval of Senate Bill 3107; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states delegation in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

RESOLUTION "M"

WHEREAS, there is now pending before the Congress of the United States consideration of legislation, Senate Bill 3117, which proposes to provide for a federal grant for planning related to outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would make it possible for those states wishing to avail themselves of the benefits proposed therein to do so at their own choice; and

WHEREAS, certain member states of this association may choose to obtain benefits of the planning views and administrative suggestions that may be developed thereby with respect to utilization of the land resources for recreation in those states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska on May 31, 1962, declares that it is in favor of and hereby urges Congress to favorably act upon Senate Bill 3117 now pending before it; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states delegation in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

RESOLUTION "O"

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association has established a procedure of accepting the hospitality of the various states which are members of this association; and

WHEREAS, the delegates of the various member states obtain very favorable impressions of the beauties of the land resources of the western states comprising this association by attending annual conferences in various states; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has graciously extended an invitation to the association to hold its 1963 annual convention at Los Angeles, California in 1963; and

WHEREAS, there was some competition for the attendance of the delegates to the 1963 convention; and

WHEREAS, the 1962 convention of this association was held at a considerable distance from the headquarters of many of the delegates, and it has been deemed most convenient to schedule the next meeting somewhat closer to home, and further that the wonders of Southern California will be enticing to some of the delegates during the 1963 convention.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners Association in convention in Anchorage, Alaska on May 31, 1962, hereby accepts the invitation to convene in Los Angeles, California in 1963, pursuant to the invitation of the State of California, extended by the Honorable Lieutenant Governor Glenn M. Anderson; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution and acceptance of

invitation to the Governor of the State of California and the members of the State Lands Commission of the State of California of which the Lieutenant Governor is a member.

RESOLUTION NO. 1

MINERAL LEASING ACT REVENUES

WHEREAS, most of the revenues derived from the leasing of public domain lands in the Western States are now retained and controlled by the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, because the Federal Government owns substantial acreages in the Western States, the Western States have less tax base than sister states in the east; and

WHEREAS, the Western States face critical problems in the financing of public education due primarily to having smaller tax base; and

WHEREAS, the welfare and interest of the citizens of the Western States demand a more equitable share of the revenues derived from the leasing of the public domain lands within the Western States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the President and Congress of the United States of America be and they are hereby memorialized to fairly and diligently consider the welfare and interest of the people of the Western States who favor legislation providing that 50 percent of all revenues received from the leasing of public domain lands (under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended) within the Western States be paid by the Treasurer of the United States to the Western States to be used for the support of public schools and other public educational institutions as determined and directed by the legislatures of the individual Western States;

RESOLUTION NO. 1

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congressional delegations of the Western States cause to be introduced in the Congress of the United States and diligently seek enactment of legislation which would amend laws of the United States to the effect that the distribution and allocation of mineral leasing act revenues from public domain lands be revised so that 50 percent of such revenues shall be allocated to the state in which the lands are located, 40 percent of the revenues shall be allocated to the reclamation fund, and 10 percent of such revenues shall be paid to the Treasurer of the United States for general administration purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

SATISFACTION OF STATE LAND GRANTS

WHEREAS, the original Statehood Enabling Act land grants to the Western States for the support of public schools and other public institutions, constitute a sacred obligation and debt of the United States of America to the various Western States, and the satisfaction of this sacred obligation and debt is a binding moral and legal obligation; and

WHEREAS, these moral and legal obligations have not been fully satisfied by the United States; and

WHEREAS, since the enactment of the various land grants by Congress, Congress has repeatedly and consistently liberalized the land grant laws so that the various states could obtain satisfaction of the grants and the United States could expeditiously discharge its moral and legal obligations to the states, examples of such legislation intended to liberalize being the general indemnity statutes, amendments thereto in 1902, enactment of the Jones Act in 1927, enactment of the Dawson Act in 1954 and 1956, and enactment of the general indemnity laws in 1958 and 1960; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management is charged with the function of administering land laws of the United States, and has repeatedly and consistently for reasons unknown to the various states, applied rigid construction of the various land grant and indemnity selection laws, despite rulings of the Supreme Court of the United States that such laws should be liberally construed in favor of the states, with the resulting effect that the United States has not discharged its moral and legal obligations to the states and the states have been unable to obtain complete satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, with changing conditions and the passage of time and the increase in population and increase in pressure of various groups for use privileges on public domain lands, and ambitious programs for land utilization by Federal, State and local agencies, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for the United States to discharge its sacred legal and moral obligations to the states and for the states to obtain satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, it is understood and believed that there exists within the Department of the Interior, a movement to cause legislation to be introduced in Congress which would restrict, rather than further liberalize, laws enacted to enable the United States to discharge its sacred legal and moral obligations to the states; and

WHEREAS, if the states are to gain satisfaction of the land grants and contribute the maximum support to the public schools of the states through the effective management of state lands, there should, if anything, be legislation further liberalizing the indemnity selection laws rather than legislation making such laws more restrictive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963:

1. That the President, the Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, and all agencies involved, be, and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with the view of satisfying the moral and legal obligations of the United States to the states before setting apart or dedicating public domain lands to other uses.

2. That the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management be, and they are hereby memorialized to

(a) Apply as required by law a liberal, rather than a restrictive, construction, in favor of the states of the various land grant laws and the indemnity selection laws.

(b) Apply the same criterion to the selected Federal lands as the State base lands, in determining whether each is mineral or nonmineral in character.

(c) Apply a uniform time standard in determining the status of the selected Federal lands and the State base lands with respect to whether the lands are in a producing, producible, or nonproducing or nonproducibile status.

(d) Consider that the state has acquired a preference right in the selected lands at the time the state's application is filed.

(e) Consider that a state is entitled to indemnity for any loss of state lands, whether such loss occurred prior to survey, prior to statehood, or at any other point of time.

3. That the President, the Congress and the Secretary of the Interior are hereby memorialized to retain the basic concept of acre for acre indemnity to states for losses of state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

FEDERAL AND STATE LAND EXCHANGES

WHEREAS, there is much intermingling of state and federal lands in the Western States; and

WHEREAS, such intermingling of ownership is detrimental to efficient and proper uses and administration of such lands; and

WHEREAS, land exchanges between the federal and state governments would be of great material benefit to the administration of their respective land programs; and

WHEREAS, it is felt that existing laws are too restrictive in their wording and that a too restrictive construction has been placed thereon by the administrative branches of the federal government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, hereby memorializes Congress to review the exchange laws in their entirety with a view to liberalizing and standardizing such laws; to direct the administrative branch to apply a more liberal construction to such laws, and further that in enacting such new legislation that special consideration be given to permitting exchange of lands or interests in lands as well as adopting uniform standards for appraisals of federal and state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

RECORDATION OF MINING LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Basic Federal Mining Law of 1872 is vague, unscientific and unworkable; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have been pointed out in detail by various and eminently qualified individuals and committees, including the Task Force on Natural Resources for the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (Hoover Commission) in its 1949 report entitled "Revision of Mining Laws"; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have resulted in hopeless confusion regarding title of lands supposedly granted to the various Western States; and

WHEREAS, the status of title to mining claims seriously impedes both the Bureau of Land Management and the states in fulfilling land grants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the President and Congress of the United States of America be, and they are hereby memorialized, to enact legislation supplementing or revising, as may be appropriate, Federal mining law to require the recordation of all mineral locations, whether old or new, in the appropriate local office of the Bureau of Land Management; to require the Secretary of the Interior to expeditiously determine the validity or invalidity of such claims; and to authorize and direct indemnity to be made to the States for school and institutional lands lost because of the existence of valid mining claims.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

USE OF FEDERAL LANDS

WHEREAS, Federally-owned lands constitute and contain a major segment of the natural resources within the Western States; and

WHEREAS, growing populations with increasing demands and changing uses of these Federal lands are creating serious impact upon the social and economic structure and welfare of the Western States; and

WHEREAS, the inhabitants of these Western States are greatly affected and vitally concerned and are thereby morally entitled to an adequate voice in the use and development of Federal lands within their respective states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the President, the Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and all other Federal land using agencies be and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with a view to fully inform the citizens and public officials of the Western States as to proposed uses and changes in management of Federal lands; and further, to allow full opportunity for state participation in land studies, proposals and determination of Federal land policies; and further, to inform the Western States Land Commissioners' Association of Federal land plans and programs where such plans and programs affect more than one state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association hereby cites as an example of the type of cooperation contemplated by this Resolution, the cooperation of the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture and the State of Washington in connection with the North Cascades Study, the Association wishing to

highly commend the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior for their cooperation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the United States Forest Service.

## RESOLUTION NO. 6

## CANYON LANDS NATIONAL PARK

WHEREAS, there is pending in Congress legislation which would establish a national park within the State of Utah known as the Canyon Lands; and

WHEREAS, the State of Utah owns considerable acreage within the proposed park area; and

WHEREAS, while it appears that a national park in the area would provide benefits to the State of Utah as well as to other citizens of the United States, inadequate provision is made in the bill for an exchange of state-owned lands within the park for other public domain lands in Utah and such an exchange should be consummated if the public schools are to obtain the maximum benefits from such state-owned lands;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the Congress and the Secretary of the Interior be and they are hereby memorialized to support the principle that an exchange of the State lands within the Canyon Lands National Park (surface and mineral estates therein) be consummated concurrently with, or prior to, the establishment of the park and that, if necessary in order to effect the exchange, enabling legislation be amended as may be necessary or appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, to the Secretary of the Interior, to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, and to the Director of the National Park Service.

## RESOLUTION NO. 7

## INDEMNITY SELECTION, UNSURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there is pending in the House of Representatives of the United States of America, H. R. 4179 which would amend indemnity selection law of the United States to permit the states to select unsurveyed lands of the public domain as well as surveyed lands in satisfaction of deficient land grants; and

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners believe that such legislation would be in the best interest of the citizens of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the President and the Congress of the United States be and they are hereby memorialized to support H. R. 4179 and diligently seek the enactment thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

## RESOLUTION NO. 8

## SURVEYING OF UNSURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there exists within the member states of this association many areas of unsurveyed public lands of the United States, and

WHEREAS, these unsurveyed areas exist primarily because of insufficient appropriation of funds by the Congress to conduct the work incidental to the completion of such surveys; and

WHEREAS, many of the grants of Congress to the member states are incomplete due to lack of survey of the public lands and will remain incomplete until all of the public lands of the United States have been surveyed by the appropriate authority; and

WHEREAS, the inability of the states to perfect the title of the land granted to them by the Congress prevents the efficient administration of the lands affected thereby to the detriment of the general public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, hereby memorializes Congress and the fiscal committees of both appropriate Federal agencies to make available to the Bureau of Land Management the requisite funds to accomplish the expeditious surveying of the remaining unsurveyed lands in the states which are members of this Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

## RESOLUTION NO. 9

## MINERAL STATUS RECORDS FOR SURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there is greater need for information regarding the extent of the claims of the United States for mineral interests in lands heretofore surveyed as a part of the public domain and in which interests of varying degrees have been conveyed by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management's record maintenance functions are hampered by lack of sufficient funds to allow said Bureau to produce a uniform and simply interpreted record of all the mineral interests retained by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management has expended a commendable effort to inventory and plat the mineral holdings in the public domain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the Congress of the United States of America is hereby urged to provide adequate funds to the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of expediting preparation of plats and such other records as may be necessary to depict and produce an inventory of all lands in each surveyed township of the public land surveys in which the United States claims any interest in minerals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Association memorializes the Congress to recognize, by a commendation to the personnel of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management and such other agencies of the United States Government as may be appropriate, that the efforts expended to date in producing a modern version of a mineral inventory record are commendable; and

RESOLUTION No. 9

-2-

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

## RESOLUTION NO. 10

## EXCHANGE OF LAND, MILITARY WITHDRAWALS

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association has heretofore urged and supported the amendment of existing public land laws affecting exchanges of lands owned by various member states of this Association, taken by the United States for military purposes, for other lands owned by the United States outside said military reservations; and

WHEREAS, said proposed amendments to said laws have been incorporated into Senate Bill 41 of the 88th Congress 1st Sess. and the reports on said Senate Bill have not been, to date, submitted to the appropriate committee of the Congress; and

WHEREAS, the consensus of the members of this Association is that such proposed legislation should be passed at the earliest moment in order to expedite the administration of the lands affected;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, reiterates its support of Senate Bill 41, 88th Congress 1st Sess. and urges early passage of this bill and, to this end, further urges that the Department of the Interior's report on this bill be expeditiously rendered to the Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be, and is hereby, directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

## RESOLUTION NO. 11

## YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

WHEREAS, there is pending in the Congress action on S. 1 relating to the Youth Conservation Corps programs; and

WHEREAS, this Association believes that the member states will benefit through the establishment of the Youth Conservation Corps program, where utilized, as proposed by said legislation in that the youth of the Nation will thereby be afforded the opportunity to observe at first hand the administration and conservation of the land and its resources of the member states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, memorializes the Congress of the United States that this Association supports the philosophy and principle of the proposed national legislation for the Youth Conservation Corps program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the congressional delegations of the member states of this Association.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

WILDERNESS BILL, S. 4

WHEREAS, this Association has expressed opposition to the so-called "Wilderness Bill", S. 4 as written; and

WHEREAS, said bill has not been materially, if at all amended such that it will meet with the approval for establishment of wilderness areas in member states in that it does not now provide for a careful evaluation of areas which may be affected in order that there might be a proper administrative and executive determination of the propriety or wisdom of setting aside certain areas for the purpose intended by the concept of wilderness areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, hereby declares that an overwhelming majority of its members are in opposition to Senate Bill 4 of the 88th Congress, 1st Session, as same was written on July 11, 1963; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this bill.

## RESOLUTION NO. 13

## NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE NO. 4

WHEREAS, the Nation's known petroleum reserves are at the highest level in our history; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry is ready, willing and able to continue exploration for and development of additional reserves in Federal lands, if such lands are made available; and

WHEREAS, Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 has been established within the State of Alaska, and it is the understood intent of the Department of the Navy to review oil and gas exploration activities therein with the taxpayers' funds; and

WHEREAS, the very concept of naval petroleum reserves is no longer consistent with present national defense needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, hereby declares that this association supports the request of the State of Alaska that Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 be returned to public domain status and the lands therein made available for development by private industry in the public interest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this request.

## RESOLUTION NO. 14

## WITHDRAWAL LIMITATIONS OF FIVE THOUSAND ACRES

WHEREAS, the withdrawal of public lands, whether for military or other purposes, increases the difficulties of administration of the public domain and in many instances prevents administration of the lands for multiple use purposes; and

WHEREAS, any withdrawal increases the difficulty of the states to realize fulfillment of the congressional grants of lands because of the diminution of the available public lands caused by such withdrawals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, hereby declares that this association is strongly in favor of the adoption of legislation by the United States Congress which would amend existing legislation to provide that withdrawals of lands from the public domain for the benefit of any federal agency must have congressional approval where there are more than five thousand acres of public domain land to be withdrawn under any single project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on such legislation.

## RESOLUTION NO. 15

## LAND APPEALS BOARD

WHEREAS, there is need for divorcing some of the adjudicatory functions of the Bureau of Land Management from its administrative functions; and

WHEREAS, there is need for expediting the processing of public land appeals; and

WHEREAS, the hearing examiner procedure set up within the Bureau of Land Management under the Administrative Procedure Act functions both independently and expeditiously in the handling of contests assigned;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the President, the Congress, and the Interior Department are urged to seek enactment of legislation extending the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management Hearing Examiners to include all controversies involving state lands which are now subject to procedures involving appeals to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and to the Secretary of the Interior, and further to provide the states the right of appeal from decisions of the hearing examiner to the Federal District Courts within the state in question.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

## RESOLUTION NO. 16

## FEDERAL PUBLIC LAND LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, there are many items of general public land legislation pending before the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, much of this legislation would vitally affect the interest and welfare of the Western States because the Federal Government owns such vast areas of lands within the Western States; and

WHEREAS, the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of Congress obtain reports from interested Federal agencies before reporting out proposed land legislation, but do not obtain the views of the Western States, even though the Western States would be vitally affected by proposed land legislation; and

WHEREAS, very often the Federal agencies who report to the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of Congress do not have and do not take into mind the best interests of the Western States in reporting land legislation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1963 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 1963, that the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of Congress hereafter and before reporting out proposed Federal land legislation, be respectfully requested to obtain the views of the Western States through the President of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association to all pending general public land legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the Chairman of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of Congress, and the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

RESOLUTION NO. 1

0445

MINERAL LEASING ACT REVENUES

WHEREAS, most of the revenues derived from the leasing of public domain lands in the Western States are now retained and controlled by the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, because the Federal Government owns substantial acreages in the Western States, the Western States have less tax base than sister states in the east; and

WHEREAS, the Western States face critical problems in the financing of public education due primarily to having smaller tax base; and

WHEREAS, the welfare and interest of the citizens of the Western States demands more equitable share of the revenues derived from the leasing of the public domain lands within the Western States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the President and Congress of the United States of America be and they are hereby memorialized to fairly and diligently consider the welfare and interest of the people of the Western States who favor legislation providing that 50 percent of all revenues received from the leasing of public domain lands (under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended) within the Western States be paid by the Treasurer of the United States to the Western States to be used for the support of public schools and other public educational institutions as determined and directed by the legislatures of the individual Western States;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congressional delegations of the Western States cause to be introduced in the Congress of the United States and diligently seek enactment of legislation which would amend laws of the

United States to the effect that the distribution and allocation of mineral leasing act revenues from public domain lands be revised so that 50 percent of such revenues shall be allocated to the state in which the lands are located, 40 percent of the revenue shall be allocated to the National reclamation fund and 10 percent of such revenues shall be paid to the Treasurer of the United States for general administration purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2

SATISFACTION OF STATE LAND GRANTS

WHEREAS, the original Statehood Enabling Act land grants to the Western States for the support of public schools and other public institutions, constitute a sacred obligation and debt of the United States of America to the various Western States, and the satisfaction of this sacred obligation and debt is a binding moral and legal obligation; and

WHEREAS, these moral and legal obligations have not been fully satisfied by the United States; and

WHEREAS, since the enactment of the various land grants by Congress, Congress has repeatedly and consistently liberalized the land grant laws so that the various states could obtain satisfaction of the grants and the United States could expeditiously discharge its moral and legal obligations to the states, examples of such legislation intended to liberalize being the general indemnity statutes, amendments thereto in 1902, enactment of the Jones Act in 1927, enactment of the Dawson Act in 1954 and 1956, and enactment of the general indemnity laws in 1958 and 1960; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management is charged with the function of administering land laws of the United States, and has repeatedly and consistently for reasons unknown to the various states, applied rigid construction of the various land grant and indemnity selection laws, despite rulings of the Supreme Court of the United States that such laws should be liberally construed in favor of the states, with the resulting effect that the United States has not discharged its moral and legal obligations to the states and the states have been unable to obtain complete satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, with changing conditions and the passage of time and the increase in population and increase in pressure of various groups for use privileges on public domain lands, and ambitious programs for land utilization by Federal, State and local agencies, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for the United States to discharge its sacred, legal and moral obligations to the states and for the states to obtain satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, it is understood and believed that there exists within the Department of the Interior, a movement to cause legislation to be introduced in Congress which would restrict, rather than further liberalize, laws enacted to enable the United States to discharge its sacred legal and moral obligations to the states; and

WHEREAS, if the states are to gain satisfaction of the land grants and contribute the maximum support to the public schools of the states through the effective management of state lands, there should, if anything, be legislation further liberalizing the indemnity selection laws rather than legislation making such laws more restrictive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964:

1. That the President, the Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, and all agencies involved, be, and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with the view of satisfying the moral and legal obligations of the United States to the states before setting apart or dedicating public domain lands to other uses.

2. That the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management be, and they are hereby memorialized to

(a) Apply as required by law a liberal, rather than a restrictive, construction, in favor of the states of the various land grant laws and the indemnity selection laws.

(b) Apply the same criterion to the selected Federal lands as the State base lands, in determining whether each is mineral or nonmineral in character.

(c) Apply a uniform time standard in determining the status of the selected Federal lands and the State base lands with respect to whether the lands are in a producing, producible, or nonproducing or nonproducible status.

(d) Consider that the state has acquired a preference right in the selected lands at the time the state's application is filed.

(e) Consider that a state is entitled to indemnity for any loss of state lands, whether such loss occurred prior to survey, prior to statehood, or at any other point of time.

3. That the President, the Congress and the Secretary of the Interior are hereby memorialized to retain the basic concept of acre for acre indemnity to states for losses of state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

FEDERAL AND STATE LAND EXCHANGES

WHEREAS, there is much intermingling of state and federal lands in the Western States; and

WHEREAS, such intermingling of ownership is detrimental to efficient and proper uses and administration of such lands; and

WHEREAS, land exchanges between the federal and state governments would be of great material benefit to the administration of their respective land programs; and

WHEREAS, it is felt that existing laws are too restrictive in their wording and that a too restrictive construction has been placed thereon by the administrative branches of the federal government;

— NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, hereby memorializes Congress to review the exchange laws in their entirety with a view to liberalizing and standardizing such laws; to direct the administrative branch to apply a more liberal construction to such laws, and further that in enacting such new legislation that special consideration be given to permitting exchange of lands or interests in lands such as mining, rights-of-way, easements and leases as well as adopting uniform standards for appraisals of federal and state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

RECORDATION OF MINING LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Basic Federal Mining Law of 1872 is vague, unscientific and unworkable; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have been pointed out in detail by various and eminently qualified individuals and committees, including the Task Force on Natural Resources for the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (Hoover Commission) in its 1949 report entitled "Revision of Mining Laws"; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have resulted in hopeless confusion regarding title of lands supposedly granted to the various Western States; and

WHEREAS, the status of title to mining claims seriously impedes both the Bureau of Land Management and the states in fulfilling lands grants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the President and Congress of the United States of America be, and they are hereby memorialized, to enact legislation supplementing or revising, as may be appropriate, Federal mining law to require the recordation of all mineral locations, whether old or new, in the appropriate local office of the Bureau of Land Management; to require the Secretary of the Interior to expeditiously determine the validity or invalidity of such claims; and to authorize and direct indemnity to be made to the States for school and institutional lands lost because of the existence of valid mining claims.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

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RESOLUTION NO. 5

USE OF FEDERAL LANDS

WHEREAS, Federally-owned lands constitute and contain a major segment of the natural resources within the Western States; and

WHEREAS, growing populations with increasing demands and changing uses of these Federal lands are creating serious impact upon the social and economic structure and welfare of the Western States; and

WHEREAS, the inhabitants of these Western States are greatly affected and vitally concerned and are thereby morally entitled to an adequate voice in the use and development of Federal lands within their respective states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the President, the Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture and all other Federal land using agencies be and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with a view to fully inform the citizens and public officials of the Western States as to proposed uses and changes in management of Federal lands; and further, to allow full opportunity for state participation in land studies, proposals and determination of Federal land policies; and further, to inform the Western States Land Commissioners' Association of Federal land plans and programs where such plans and programs affect more than one state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association hereby cites as an example of the type of cooperation contemplated by this Resolution, the cooperation of the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture and the State of Washington in connection with the North Cascades Study, the

Association wishing to highly commend the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior for their cooperation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the United States Forest Service.

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RESOLUTION NO. 6

LAND LAW REVIEW COMMISSION

WHEREAS, there is now pending in Congress H. R. 8070 and companion bills which would establish a Public Land Law Review Commission to study existing laws and procedures relating to the administration of public lands of the United States and for other purposes, and,

WHEREAS the greater majority of the public lands of the United States lie within the borders of the western states and laws pertaining thereto greatly affect the said Western States; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Western States Land Commissioners, based upon their experience in dealing with the public land laws that such laws are in need of revision and up-dating;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1964 annual conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the Congress of the United States be and is hereby memorialized to enact H. R. 8070 into law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the delegations in Congress of the respective member states and to the Congressional committees as may consider such proposed legislation.

RESOLUTION NO. 7

INDEMNITY SELECTION, UNSURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there is pending in the House of Representatives of the United States of America, H. R. 4179 which would amend indemnity selection law of the United States to permit the states to select unsurveyed lands of the public domain as well as surveyed lands in satisfaction of deficient land grants; and

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners believe that such legislation would be in the best interest of the citizens of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the President and the Congress of the United States be and they are hereby memorialized to support H. R. 4179 and diligently seek the enactment thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

RESOLUTION NO. 8

SURVEYING OF UNSURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there exists within the member states of this association many areas of unsurveyed public lands of the United States, and

WHEREAS, these unsurveyed areas exist primarily because of insufficient appropriation of funds by the Congress to conduct the work incidental to the completion of such surveys; and

WHEREAS, many of the grants of Congress to the member states are incomplete due to lack of survey of the public lands and will remain incomplete until all of the public lands of the United States have been surveyed by the appropriate authority; and

WHEREAS, the inability of the states to perfect the title of the land granted to them by the Congress prevents the efficient administration of the lands affected thereby to the detriment of the general public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, hereby memorializes Congress and the fiscal committees of both appropriate Federal agencies to make available to the Bureau of Land Management the requisite funds to accomplish the expeditious surveying of the remaining unsurveyed lands in the states which are members of this Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 9

MINERAL STATUS RECORDS FOR SURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there is greater need for information regarding the extent of the claims of the United States for mineral interests in lands heretofore surveyed as a part of the public domain and in which interests of varying degrees have been conveyed by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management's record maintenance functions are hampered by lack of sufficient funds to allow said Bureau to produce a uniform and simply interpreted record of all the mineral interests retained by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management has expended a commendable effort to inventory and plat the mineral holdings in the public domain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the Congress of the United States of America is hereby urged to provide adequate funds to the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of expediting preparation of plats and such other records as may be necessary to depict and produce an inventory of all lands in each surveyed township of the public land surveys in which the United States claims any interest in minerals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Association memorializes the Congress to recognize, by a commendation to the personnel of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management and such other agencies of the United States Government as may be appropriate, that the efforts expended to date in producing a modern version of a mineral inventory record are commendable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

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RESOLUTION NO. 10

EXCHANGE OF LAND, MILITARY WITHDRAWALS

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners' Association has heretofore urged and supported the amendment of existing public land laws affecting exchanges of lands owned by various member states of this Association, taken by the United States for military purposes, for other lands owned by the United States outside said military reservations; and

WHEREAS, said proposed amendments to said laws have been incorporated into Senate Bill 41 of the 88th Congress 1st Sess.; and

WHEREAS, the consensus of the members of this Association is that such proposed legislation should be passed at the earliest moment in order to expedite the administration of the lands affected;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, reiterates its support of Senate Bill 41, 88th Congress 1st Sess. and urges early passage of this bill.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be, and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 11

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

WHEREAS, there is pending in the Congress legislation relating to proposed Youth Conservation Corps programs; and

WHEREAS, this Association believes that the member states will benefit through the establishment of a Youth Conservation Corps program, in that the youth of the Nation will thereby be afforded the opportunity to observe at first hand the administration and conservation of the land and its resources of the member states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, memorializes the Congress of the United States that this Association supports the philosophy and principle of a Youth Conservation Corps program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the congressional delegations of the member states of this Association.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

WILDERNESS BILL

WHEREAS, numerous bills are pending in Congress to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System; and,

WHEREAS, a vast majority of the land subject to wilderness classification lies within the western states, and, therefore, the Western States are vitally concerned; and

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners' Association has previously expressed opposition to all wilderness legislation because of certain provisions therein; and

WHEREAS, H. R. 9162 as introduced overcomes substantially the major objections heretofore expressed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1964 annual conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, hereby declares that should wilderness legislation be inevitable, H. R. 9162 would be least objectionable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the delegations in Congress of the respective member states and to the Congressional committees as may consider such proposed legislation.

RESOLUTION NO. 13

NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE NO. 4

WHEREAS, the Nation's known petroleum reserves are at the highest level in our history; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry is ready, willing and able to continue exploration for and development of additional reserves in Federal lands, if such lands are made available; and

WHEREAS, a Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 has been established within the State of Alaska, and it is the understood intent of the Department of the Navy to renew oil and gas exploration activities with the taxpayers' funds; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Navy in exploration of this vast area of 25,000,000 acres has been at a standstill since the early fifties and such exploration as has been made has not been completed to the extent that the reserves can be established or practically utilized in time of emergency; and

WHEREAS, there now exists an active interest in exploration of the area by many of the oil companies and private industry would explore and develop the reserves so that they could be useful to the Nation when needed; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has suffered a severe economic setback to its already long neglected economic development and intensive exploration of the reserves would open transportation lines and communication lines and very probably lead to discovery of other valuable mineral resources which could contribute nationally to the urgently needed economic development of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, significant exploration could be accomplished by private

RESOLUTION NO. 13

industry without direct cost to the Federal Government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, hereby declares that this association supports the request of the State of Alaska that Navel Petroleum Reserve No. 4 be returned to public domain status and the lands therein made available for development by private industry in the public interest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on this request.

RESOLUTION NO. 14

WITHDRAWAL LIMITATIONS OF FIVE THOUSAND ACRES

WHEREAS, the withdrawal of public lands, whether for military or other purposes, increased the difficulties of administration of the public domain and in many instances prevents administration of the lands for multiple use purposes; and

WHEREAS, any withdrawal increased the difficulty of the states to realize fulfillment of the congressional grants of lands because of the diminution of the available public lands caused by such withdrawals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, hereby declares that this association is strongly in favor of the adoption of legislation by the United States Congress which would amend existing legislation to provide that withdrawals of lands from the public domain for the benefit of any federal agency must have congressional approval where there are more than five thousand acres of public domain land to be withdrawn under any single project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such congressional committees as may hold hearings on such legislation.

RESOLUTION NO. 15

LAND APPEALS BOARD

WHEREAS, there is need for divorcing some of the adjudicatory functions of the Bureau of Land Management from its administrative functions; and

WHEREAS, there is need for expediting the processing of public land appeals; and

WHEREAS, the hearing examiner procedure set up within the Bureau of Land Management under the Administrative Procedure Act functions both independently and expeditiously in the handling of contests assigned;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 1964 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the President, the Congress, and the Interior Department are urged to seek enactment of legislation extending the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management Hearing Examiners to include all controversies involving state lands which are now subject to procedures involving appeals to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and to the Secretary of the Interior, and further to provide the states the right of appeal from decisions of the hearing examiner to the Federal District Courts within the state in question.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 16

AMENDMENT TO LIEU SELECTION ACT, H.R. 10699

WHEREAS, there is now pending in the Congress H. R. 10699, which would amend Sections 2275 and 2276 with respect to certain lands granted to the states; and

WHEREAS, the following proposed amendments, in particular, would be detrimental to the interests of the various western states:

A. The amendment providing for lieu selections of mineral lands to be on a value rather than an acreage basis.

B. The amendment providing that said values of lieu and selected lands are to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in the 1964 annual conference of the Western States Land Commissioners Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964 hereby declares its opposition to H.R. 10699 and urges its defeat.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the delegations in Congress of the respective member states and to the Congressional committees as may consider such proposed legislation.

RESOLUTION NO. 18

ALASKA PUBLIC SALE ACT

WHEREAS, there is now pending in Congress proposed legislation (H.R. 5498) which liberalizes the sale and disposition of public lands of the United States within the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS although the bill will stimulate industry and development of the land, sales thereunder would reduce the lands available for selection by the State of Alaska thereby creating a hardship on the state, especially since desirable and usable lands available for selection are in short supply.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1964 annual conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, said legislation be endorsed in principle, provided it be amended to provide that the revenues from lands sold under the Act shall be transferred to the State of Alaska after withholding 10% thereof to cover cost of administration and that it be further amended to provide that in exchange for this compensation the state would be charged with an equal acreage in satisfaction of its unsatisfied land grants.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the delegations in Congress of the respective member states and to the Congressional committees as may consider such proposed legislation.

RESOLUTION NO. 19

THE GREAT SALT LAKE MEANDER LINES

WHEREAS, there is pending in Congress H. R. 8776 and several companion bills to confirm in the State of Utah title to lands lying below the meander lines of the Great Salt Lake in such state, and

WHEREAS, such confirmation of title is of extreme importance to the State of Utah,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1964 annual conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 21, 1964, that the Congress of the United States be hereby memorialized to enact H. R. 8776 into law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the delegations in Congress of the respective member states and to the Congressional committees as may consider such proposed legislation.

## RESOLUTION NO. 1

### MINERAL LEASING ACT REVENUES

WHEREAS, most of the revenues derived from the leasing of public domain lands in the Western States are now retained and controlled by the Federal Government: and

WHEREAS, because the Federal Government owns substantial acreages in the Western States, the Western States have less tax base than sister states in the east; and

WHEREAS, the Western States face critical problems in the financing of public education: and

WHEREAS, the welfare and interest of the citizens of the Western States demand a more equitable share of the revenues derived from the leasing of the public domain lands within the Western States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America, and the Public Land Law Review Commission be and they are hereby memorialized to fairly and diligently consider the welfare and interest of the people of the Western States who favor legislation providing that at least 50 per cent of all revenues received from the leasing of public domain lands (under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended) within the Western States be paid by the Treasurer of the United States to the Western States to be used for the support of public schools, other public educational institutions, or as may be determined and directed by the legislatures of the individual Western States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congressional delegations of the Western States cause to be introduced in the Congress of the United States and diligently seek enactment of legislation which would amend laws of the United States to the effect that the distribution and allocation of mineral leasing act revenues from public domain lands be revised so that at least 50 per cent of such revenues shall be allocated to the state in which the lands are located, 40 per cent of the revenues shall be allocated to the reclamation fund, and 10 per cent of such revenues shall be paid to the Treasurer of the United States for general administration purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, and to the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission.

## RESOLUTION NO. 2

### SATISFACTION OF STATE LAND GRANTS

WHEREAS, the original Statehood Enabling Act land grants to the Western States for the support of public schools and other public institutions, constitute a sacred obligation and debt of the United States of America to the various Western States, and the satisfaction of this sacred obligation and debt is a binding moral and legal obligation; and

WHEREAS, these moral and legal obligations have not been fully satisfied by the United States; and

WHEREAS, since the enactment of the various land grants by Congress, Congress has repeatedly and consistently liberalized the land grant laws so that the various states could obtain satisfaction of the grants and the United States could expeditiously discharge its moral and legal obligations to the states, examples of such legislation intended to liberalize being the general indemnity statutes, amendments thereto in 1902, enactment of the Jones Act in 1927, enactment of the Dawson Act in 1954 and 1956, and the enactment of amendments to the indemnity selection laws in 1958 and 1960; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management is charged with the function of administering land laws of the United States, and has repeatedly and consistently for reasons unknown to the various states applied rigid construction of the various land grant and indemnity selection laws, despite rulings of the Supreme Court of the United States that such laws should be liberally construed in favor of the states, with the resulting effect that the United States has not discharged its moral and legal obligations to the states and the states have been unable to obtain complete satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, with changing conditions and the passage of time and the increase in population and increase in pressure of various groups for use privileges on public domain lands, and ambitious programs for land utilization by Federal, State and local agencies, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for the United States to discharge its sacred, legal and moral obligations to the states and for the states to obtain satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, if the states are to gain satisfaction of the land grants and contribute the maximum support to the public schools of the states through the effective management of state lands, there should, if anything, be legislation further liberalizing the indemnity selection laws rather than legislation making such laws more restrictive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965:

1. That the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and all agencies involved, be, and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with the view of satisfying the moral and legal obligations of the United States to the states before setting apart or dedicating public domain lands to other uses.

2. That the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management be, and they are hereby memorialized to
  - (a) Apply as required by law a liberal, rather than a restrictive, construction in favor of the states of the various land grant laws and the indemnity selection laws.
  - (b) Apply the same criterion to the selected Federal lands as the State base lands, in determining whether each is mineral or nonmineral in character.
  - (c) Apply a uniform time standard in determining the status of the selected Federal lands and the State base lands with respect to whether the lands are in a producing, producible, or nonproducing or nonproducible status.
  - (d) Consider that the state has acquired a preference right in the selected lands at the time the state's application is filed.
  - (e) Consider that a state is entitled to indemnity for any loss of state lands, whether such loss occurred prior to survey, prior to statehood, or at any other point of time.
  - (f) Expedite the handling of State Indemnity selection applications.
3. That the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior are hereby memorialized to retain the basic concept of acre for acre indemnity to states for losses of state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior and Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

### RESOLUTION NO. 3

#### LAND EXCHANGES

WHEREAS, there is much intermingling of state and federal lands in the Western States, and

WHEREAS, such intermingling of ownership is detrimental to efficient management of such lands; and

WHEREAS, land exchanges between the federal and state governments would be of great material benefit to the administration of their respective land programs: and

WHEREAS, it is felt that existing laws are too restrictive in their wording and that a too restrictive construction has been placed thereon by the Bureau' of Land Management and other land administration branches of the federal government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, hereby memorializes the Public Land Law Review Commission and the Congress to review the exchange laws in their entirety with a view to liberalizing and standardizing such laws: to direct the administrative branches of the federal government to apply a more liberal construction to such laws, and, further, that in enacting such new legislation that special consideration be given to permitting exchange of lands or interests in such lands such as mining, rights-of-way, easements and leases as well as adopting uniform standards for appraisals of federal and state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

## RESOLUTION NO. 4

### RECORDATION OF MINING LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Basic Federal Mining Law of 1872 is vague, unscientific and unworkable; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have been pointed out in detail by various and eminently qualified individuals and committees, including the Task Force on Natural Resources for the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (Hoover Commission) in its 1949 report entitled "Revision of Mining Laws"; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have resulted in hopeless confusion regarding title of lands supposedly granted to the various Western States; and

WHEREAS, the status of title to mining claims seriously impedes both the Bureau of Land Management and the states in fulfilling land grants; and

WHEREAS the Department of the Interior has caused to be introduced in the Congress S. 2248 which would require the recordation of mining claims in the appropriate federal land office and the Western States Land Commissioners believe that enactment of this bill is in the best public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America, and the Public Land Law Review Commission be, and they are hereby memorialized, to enact S. 2248 to require the recordation of all mineral locations, whether old or new, in the appropriate local office of the Bureau of Land Management; to require the Secretary of the Interior to expeditiously determine the validity or invalidity of such claims; and to authorize and direct indemnity to be made to the States for school and institutional lands lost because of the existence of valid mining claims.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

USE OF FEDERAL LANDS

WHEREAS, Federally-owned lands constitute and contain a major segment of the natural resources within the Western States: and

WHEREAS, growing populations with increasing demands and changing uses of these federal lands are creating serious impact upon the social and economic structure and welfare of the Western States; and

WHEREAS the inhabitants of these Western States are greatly affected and vitally concerned and are thereby entitled to a strong voice in the management policies governing the uses and development of federal lands within their respective states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the President, the Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and all federal land managing or using agencies be and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with a view to fully inform the citizens and public officials of the Western States as to proposed uses and changes in management of federal lands; and, further, to allow full opportunity for state participation in land studies, proposals and determination of federal land policies; and, further, to inform the Western States Land Commissioners' Association of federal land plans and programs where such plans and programs affect more than one state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Association hereby cites as an example of the type of cooperation contemplated by this Resolution, the cooperation of the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture and the State of Washington in connection with the North Cascade Study and Association wishing to highly commend the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior for their cooperation.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6**

**RESTORATION OF LOST INDEMNITY SELECTION RIGHTS  
AND PERMITTING STATES TO SELECT UNSURVEYED LANDS**

WHEREAS, there is pending in the House of Representatives of the United States of America H.R. 5984 and there is pending in the Senate of the United States of America S. 1883, which would amend the indemnity selection laws of the United States in such a way as to result in the restoration of indemnity selection rights lost to various Western States by reason of inadvertent drafting in amendments to the indemnity selection laws enacted by the Congress in 1958 and in 1960: and

WHEREAS, this proposed legislation would also amend the indemnity selection laws of the United States to permit the states to select unsurveyed lands of the public domain as well as surveyed lands in satisfaction of deficient school land grants; and

WHEREAS the Western States Land Commissioners believe that such legislation is in the best interest of the citizens of the United States;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the President and the Congress of the United States be and they are hereby memorialized to support H.R. 5984 and S. 1883 and diligently seek enactment thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

**RESOLUTION NO. 7**

**EXCHANGE OF LAND, MILITARY WITHDRAWALS**

WHEREAS the Western States Land Commissioners' Association has heretofore urged and supported the amendment of existing public land laws affecting exchanges of lands owned by various member states of this Association, taken by the United States for military purposes, for other lands owned by the United States outside said military reservations; and

WHEREAS, the consensus of the members of this association is that such proposed legislation should be passed at the earliest moment in order to expedite the administration of the lands affected;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, reiterates its support of legislation which would permit the exchange by the states of lands taken by the government for military purposes for other lands owned by the government outside of military reservations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be, and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8**

**LAND APPEALS BOARD**

WHEREAS there is need for divorcing some of the adjudicatory functions of the Bureau of Land Management from its administrative functions; and

WHEREAS there is need for expediting the processing of public land appeals; and

WHEREAS the hearing examiner procedure set up within the Bureau of Land Management under the Administrative Procedure Act functions both independently and expeditiously in the handling of contests assigned;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Interior Department are urged to seek enactment of legislation extending the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management Hearing Examiners to include all controversies involving state lands which are now subject to procedures involving appeals to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and to the Secretary of the Interior and, further, to provide the states the right of appeal from decisions of the hearing examiner to the Federal District Courts within the state in question.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9**

**THE GREAT SALT LAKE TITLE LEGISLATION**

WHEREAS, there is pending in Congress S. 265 and H.R. 1791 bills to confirm in and/or grant to the State of Utah title to lands lying below the meander lines of the Great Salt Lake in such state; and

WHEREAS, such confirmation or grant of title is of extreme importance to the State of Utah and to the nation as a whole in that desirable mineral development is being blocked by reason of title uncertainty: and

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners believe it is in the best interest of the citizens of this nation that this legislation be enacted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the Congress of the United States be and is hereby memorialized to enact S. 265 and H.R. 1791 into law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the delegations in Congress of the respective member states and to the Congressional committees as may consider such proposed legislation, and to the Department of Justice, the Department of the Interior and to the Bureau of Budget.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10**

**SURVEYING OF UNSURVEYED LANDS**

WHEREAS there exists within the member states of this Association many areas of unsurveyed public lands of the United States; and

WHEREAS it is understood these unsurveyed areas exist because of insufficient appropriation of funds by the Congress to conduct the work incidental to the completion of such surveys; and

WHEREAS, many of the grants of Congress to the member states are incomplete due to lack of survey of the public lands and will remain incomplete until all of the public lands of the United States have been surveyed by the appropriate authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, hereby memorializes Congress to appropriate to the Bureau of Land Management the requisite funds to accomplish the expeditious surveying of the remaining unsurveyed lands in the states which are members of this Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11**

**MINERAL STATUS RECORDS FOR SURVEYED LANDS**

WHEREAS, there is greater need for information regarding the extent of the claims of the United States for mineral interests in lands heretofore surveyed as a part of the public domain and in which interests of varying degrees have been conveyed by the United States; and

WHEREAS it is understood the Bureau of Land Management's record maintenance functions are hampered by lack of sufficient funds to allow said Bureau to produce a uniform and simply interpreted record of all the mineral interests retained by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management has expended a commendable effort to inventory and plat the mineral holdings in the public domain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the Congress of the United States of America is hereby urged to appropriate adequate funds to the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of expediting preparation of plats and such other records as may be necessary to depict and produce an inventory of all lands in each surveyed township of the public land surveys in which the United States claims any interest in minerals: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Association memorializes the Congress to recognize, by a commendation to the personnel of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management and such other agencies of the United States Government as may be appropriate, that the efforts expended to date in producing a modern version of a mineral inventory record are commendable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12**

**KOKEE WATER PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Legislation S.734 and H.R.5671 are now pending in the Congress of the United States of America to authorize the Secretary of Interior to make a loan and grant to the State of Hawaii for the construction of the Kokee Water project; and

WHEREAS the Kokee Water Project is a multiple purpose project with the overall objective of providing for the optimum utilization of the land and water resources of the Kokee area through the following:

1. The maximum practical development of agriculture by irrigation of suitable lands.
2. The production of the maximum practical amount of hydroelectric power.
3. Development of associated fish, wildlife, and recreation potentials to the fullest justifiable extent.
4. Full consideration of opportunities to reduce flood damages by utilization of project works.
5. The most economic utilization of existing works.

WHEREAS, the development and utilization of these natural resources will bolster the economy of the State of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, this project has been determined to be economically feasible through an intensive engineering and economic study;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association that the President and the Congress of the United States of America be and are hereby respectfully requested to enact either H.R. 5671 or S.734 which authorizes the Secretary of Interior to make a loan and grant to the State of Hawaii for the construction of the Kokee Water Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, the Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, the respective member states' delegations in Congress and the Secretary of Interior.

**RESOLUTION NO. 13**

**INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD**

WHEREAS the Department of the Interior from time to time formulates policy and recommends legislation which has considerable effect on the administration and responsibilities of the offices of the Western State Land Commissioners; and

WHEREAS these policies and legislation often necessitate negative action on the part of the Western State Land Commissioners; and

WHEREAS it is the intent of the Western State Land Commissioners to cooperate to the fullest with the Department of the Interior to seek the most efficient systems of mutual land administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western State Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, the President, the Congress, the Secretary of the Interior are hereby memorialized to create an Advisory Board to the Department of the Interior composed of the Executive Committee of the Western State Land Commissioners' Association to review and advise the Department prior to the adoption of policy or submission of legislation affecting the land administration of the Western states.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14**

**TRANSFER OF CROP ALLOTMENTS ON STATE TRUST LANDS**

WHEREAS many of the Western states own trust lands used for production of crops under the acreage control program of the Department of Agriculture;

WHEREAS, the states own and control all of the trust lands even though the lands are leased and operated by individual farmers;

WHEREAS the allotted acreages are made on the basis of the history of the crop production on the individual farm:

WHEREAS it is desirous to take some of the individual farms out of production of the allotted crops and transfer the allotted acreage to other state trust land;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1965 Annual Conference of Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America be and are hereby memorialized to enact legislation to allow a transfer of crop acreage allotments within the county in which it was first approved from one individual farm to another.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture.

RESOLUTION NO. 15

NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE NO. 4

WHEREAS, Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 has been established within the State of Alaska and it is the understood intent of the Department of the Navy to renew oil and gas exploration activities therein with the taxpayers' funds; and

WHEREAS the work of the Navy in exploration of this vast area of 25,000,000 acres has been at a standstill since the early Fifties and such exploration as has been made has not been completed to the extent that the reserves can be established or practicably utilized in time of emergency; and

WHEREAS, there now exists an active interest in exploration of the area by the oil companies and private industry would explore and develop the reserves so that they could be useful to the Nation when needed; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska has suffered a severe economic setback to its already long neglected economic development and intensive exploration of the reserves would open transportation lines and communication lines and very probably lead to discovery of other valuable mineral resources which could contribute materially to the urgently needed economic development of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS significant exploration could be accomplished by private industry without direct cost to the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1965 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 27, 1965, hereby declares that this Association supports the request of the State of Alaska that Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 be returned to the public domain status and the land therein made available for development by private industry in the public interest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such Congressional committees as may hold hearing on this request.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 1  
MINERAL LEASING ACT REVENUES

WHEREAS, most of the revenues derived from the leasing of public domain lands in the Western States are now retained and controlled by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, because the federal government owns substantial acreages in the Western States, the Western States have less tax base than sister states in the east; and

WHEREAS, the Western States face critical problems in the financing of public education; and

WHEREAS, the welfare and interest of the citizens of the Western States demand a more equitable share of the revenues derived from the leasing of the public domain lands within the Western States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America, and the Public Land Law Review Commission be and they are hereby memorialized to fairly and diligently consider the welfare and interest of the people of the Western States who favor legislation providing that at least 50 per cent of all revenues received from the leasing of public domain lands (under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended) within the Western States be paid by the Treasurer of the United States to the Western States to be used for the support of public schools, other public education institutions,

or as may be determined and directed by the legislatures of the individual Western States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congressional delegations of the Western States cause to be introduced in the Congress of the United States and diligently seek enactment of legislation which would amend laws of the United States to the effect that the distribution and allocation of mineral leasing act revenues from public domain lands be revised so that at least 50 per cent of such revenues shall be allocated to the state in which the lands are located, 40 per cent of the revenues shall be allocated to the reclamation fund, and 10 per cent of such revenues shall be paid to the Treasurer of the United States for general administration purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, and to the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 2  
SATISFACTION OF STATE LAND GRANTS

WHEREAS, the original Statehood Enabling Act land grants to the Western States for the support of public schools and other public institutions, constitute a sacred obligation and debt of the United States of America to the various Western States, and the satisfaction of this sacred obligation and debt is a binding moral and legal obligation; and

WHEREAS, these moral and legal obligations have not been fully satisfied by the United States; and

— WHEREAS, since the enactment of the various land grants by Congress, Congress has repeatedly and consistently liberalized the land grant laws so that the various states could obtain satisfaction of the grants and the United States could expeditiously discharge its moral and legal obligations to the states, examples of such legislation intended to liberalize being the general indemnity statutes, amendments thereto in 1902, enactment of the Jones Act in 1927, enactment of the Dawson Act in 1954 and 1956; and the enactment of amendments to the indemnity selection laws in 1958 and 1960; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management is charged with the function of administering land laws of the United States, and has applied rigid construction of the various land grant and indemnity selection laws, despite rulings of the Supreme Court of the United States that such laws should be liberally construed in favor of the states, with the resulting effect that the United States has not discharged its moral and legal

obligations to the states and the states have been unable to obtain complete satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, with changing conditions and the passage of time and the increase in population and increase in pressure of various groups for use privileges on public domain lands, and ambitious programs for land utilization by federal, state and local agencies, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for the United States to discharge its sacred, legal and moral obligations to the states, and for the states to obtain satisfaction of the land grants; and

WHEREAS, if the states are to gain satisfaction of the land grants and contribute the maximum support to the public schools of the states through the effective management of state lands, there should, if anything, be legislation further liberalizing the indemnity selection laws rather than legislation making such laws more restrictive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966:

1. That the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and all agencies involved, be and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with the view of satisfying the moral and legal obligations of the United States to the states before setting apart or dedicating public domain lands to other uses.

2. That the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management be and they are hereby memorialized to

(a) Apply as required by law a liberal, rather than restrictive, construction in favor of the states of the various land grant laws and the indemnity selection laws.

(b) Apply the same criterion to the selected federal lands as the state base lands, in determining whether each is mineral or nonmineral in character.

(c) Consider that the state has acquired a preference right in the selected lands at the time the state's application is filed.

(d) Expedite the handling of state indemnity selection applications.

3. That the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior are hereby memorialized to retain the basic concept of acre for acre indemnity to states for losses of state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 3  
LAND EXCHANGES

WHEREAS, there is much intermingling of state and federal lands in the Western States; and

WHEREAS, such intermingling of ownership is detrimental to efficient management of such lands; and

WHEREAS, land exchanges between the federal and state governments would be of great material benefit to the administration of their respective land programs; and

WHEREAS, it is felt that existing laws are too restrictive in their wording and that a too restrictive construction has been placed thereon by the land administration branches of the federal government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, hereby memorializes the Public Land Law Review Commission and the Congress to review the exchange laws in their entirety with a view to liberalizing and standardizing such laws; to direct the administrative branches of the federal government to apply a more liberal construction to such laws, and, further, that in enacting such new legislation that special consideration be given to permitting exchange of lands or interests in such lands such as mining, rights of way, easements and leases as well as adopting uniform standards for appraisal of federal and state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 4  
RECORDATION OF MINING LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Basic Federal Mining Law of 1872 is vague, and unscientific and unworkable; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have been pointed out in detail by various and eminently qualified individuals and committees, including the Task Force on Natural Resources for the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (Hoover Commission) in its 1949 report entitled "Revision of Mining Laws"; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have resulted in hopeless confusion regarding title of lands supposedly granted to the various Western States; and

WHEREAS, the status of title to mining claims seriously impedes both the Bureau of Land Management and the states fulfilling land grants; and

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior has caused to be introduced in the Congress S. 2248 which would require the recordation of mining claims in the appropriate federal land office and the Western States Land Commissioners believe that enactment of this bill is in the best public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America, and the Public Land Law Review Commission be and they are hereby memorialized to enact legislation

to require the recordation of all mineral locations, whether old or new, in the appropriate local office of the Bureau of Land Management; to require the Secretary of the Interior to expeditiously determine the validity or invalidity of such claims; and to authorize and direct indemnity to be made to the states for school and institutional lands lost because of the existence of valid mining claims.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 5  
USE OF FEDERAL LANDS

WHEREAS, federally-owned lands constitute and contain a major segment of the natural resources within the Western States; and

WHEREAS, growing populations with increasing demands and changing uses of these federal lands are creating serious impact upon the social and economic structure and welfare of the Western States; and

WHEREAS, the inhabitants of these Western States are greatly affected and vitally concerned and are thereby entitled to a strong voice in the management policies governing the uses and development of federal lands within their respective states;

— NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, that the President, the Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and all federal land managing or using agencies be and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with a view to fully inform the citizens and public officials of the Western States as to proposed uses and changes in management of federal lands; and, further, to allow full opportunity for state participation in land studies, proposals and determination of federal land policies; and, further, to inform the Western States Land Commissioners' Association of federal land plans and programs where such plans and programs affect more than one state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, and the Secretary of Agriculture.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 6  
EXCHANGE OF LAND, MILITARY WITHDRAWALS

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners' Association has heretofore urged and supported the amendment of existing public land laws affecting exchanges of lands owned by various member states of this association, taken by the United States for military purposes, for other lands owned by the United States outside said military reservations; and

WHEREAS, the consensus of the members of this association is that such proposed legislation should be passed at the earliest moment in order to expedite the administration of the lands affected;

— NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, reiterates its support of legislation which would permit the exchange by the states of lands taken by the government for military purposes for other lands owned by the government outside of military reservations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Department of Defense.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 7  
LAND APPEALS BOARD

WHEREAS, there is need for divorcing some of the adjudicatory functions of the Bureau of Land Management from its administrative functions; and

WHEREAS, there is need for expediting the processing of public land appeals; and

WHEREAS, the hearing examiner procedure set up within the Bureau of Land Management under the Administrative Procedure Act functions both independently and expeditiously in the handling of contests assigned;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, that the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Interior Department are urged to seek enactment of legislation extending the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management Hearing Examiners to include all controversies involving state lands which are now subject to procedures involving appeals to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and to the Secretary of the Interior and, further, to provide the states the right of appeal from decisions of the hearing examiner to the Federal District Courts within the state in question.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the

United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 8  
SURVEYING OF UNSURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there exists within the member states of this association many areas of unsurveyed public lands of the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is understood these unsurveyed areas exist because of insufficient appropriation of funds by the Congress to conduct the work incidental to the completion of such surveys; and

WHEREAS, many of the grants of Congress to the member states are incomplete due to lack of survey of the public lands and will remain incomplete until all of the public lands of the United States have been surveyed by the appropriate authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, hereby memorializes Congress to appropriate to the Bureau of Land Management the requisite funds to accomplish the expeditious surveying of the remaining unsurveyed lands in the states which are members of this association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 9  
KOKEE WATER PROJECT

WHEREAS, legislation S. 734 and H.R. 5671 are now pending in the Congress of the United States of America to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make a loan and grant to the State of Hawaii for the construction of the Kokee Water Project; and

WHEREAS, the Kokee Water Project is a multiple purpose project with the overall objective of providing for the optimum utilization of the land and water resources of the Kokee area through the following:

1. The maximum practical development of agriculture by irrigation of suitable lands.

2. The production of the maximum practical amount of hydroelectric power.

3. Development of associated fish, wildlife, and recreation potentials to the fullest justifiable extent.

4. Full consideration of opportunities to reduce flood damages by utilization of project works.

5. The most economic utilization of existing works.

WHEREAS, the development and utilization of these natural resources will bolster the economy of the State of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, this project has been determined to be economically feasible through an intensive engineering and economic study;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association that the President and the Congress of the United States of America be and are hereby respectfully requested to enact either H.R. 5671 or

S. 734, which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make a loan and grant to the State of Hawaii for the construction of the Kokee Water Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, the Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, and the Secretary of the Interior.

Adopted on this 29th day of July, 1966, by the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, at Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 10  
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior from time to time formulates policy and recommends legislation which has considerable effect on the administration and responsibilities of the offices of the Western States Land Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, these policies and legislation often necessitate negative action on the part of the Western States Land Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Western States Land Commissioners to cooperate to the fullest with the Department of the Interior to seek the most efficient systems of mutual land administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966, that the Secretary of the Interior is hereby memorialized to give the respective administrators of state lands of the Western States a seat on the Advisory Boards of the respective state offices of the Bureau of Land Management, and that the President of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be given a seat on the National Advisory Board of the Bureau of Land Management, to review and advise the Bureau and State Directors on policy and legislation affecting land administration in the Western States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to sub-

mit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 11  
NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE NO. 4

WHEREAS, Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 has been established within the State of Alaska and it is the understood intent of the Department of the Navy to renew oil and gas exploration activities therein with the taxpayers' funds; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Navy in exploration of this vast area of 25,000,000 acres has been at a standstill since the early Fifties and such exploration as has been made has not been completed to the extent that the reserves can be established or practicably utilized in time of emergency; and

WHEREAS, there now exists an active interest in exploration of the area by the oil companies and private industry would explore and develop the reserves so that they could be useful to the Nation when needed; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has suffered a severe economic setback to its already long neglected economic development and intensive exploration of the reserves would open transportation lines and communication lines and very probably lead to discovery of other valuable mineral resources which could contribute materially to the urgently needed economic development of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, significant exploration could be accomplished by private industry without direct cost to the federal government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming,

on July 29, 1966, hereby declares that this association supports the request of the State of Alaska that Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 be returned to the public domain status and the land therein made available for development by private industry in the public interest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such Congressional Committees as may be concerned in this request.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1966

RESOLUTION NO. 12  
FEDERAL FARM PROGRAM PAYMENTS TO STATES

WHEREAS, several of the states hold lands in trust and manage same for the support of public schools and other public institutions; and

WHEREAS, several of the states lease such lands for grain production on a crop-share basis and participate in the Federal Cereal Grain Program, and for this reason are entitled to federal farm program payments, and

WHEREAS, the federal program regulations define a "producer" in such a way that the states are included thereunder with no distinction recognized between them and all other individual owners of farms and all "producers" must, under the regulations, choose to be under the program or not and such choice binds all grain lands owned; and

WHEREAS, for example, the State of Montana owns over 480,000 acres of agricultural lands which are leased to over 1,900 farmers, and the State of Washington owns approximately 130,000 acres which are covered by some 500 leases, and said lands are deployed as integral parts of many farm units, and because of these situations both of these states must, under present federal law, choose complete compliance or noncompliance for all of their dispersed and multitudinous farms and farmer-lessees, in spite of and notwithstanding the divergent and differing agricultural situations of these many farms, and it is for these reasons impossible to make such choice and thereby treat each lessee-farmer equitably; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture has informed the states

that no federal legislation is necessary and that this problem can be handled administratively, but the problem nevertheless remains and has become more complex and acute in the past two years; and

WHEREAS, justice and equity to all concerned demands that these sovereigns be classified other than as private landowners thereby recognizing the distinction between them and other individual farm owners in order that the states' rights to farm program payments may be protected in such situations as when a farmer-lessee chooses noncompliance with respect to his property interest in derogation of the state's choice of compliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1966 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyoming, on July 29, 1966:

That the Western States Land Commissioners' Association supports the undeniable propositions that the sovereign states are not classifiable in the same category as individual and private owners and operators in the federal farm program;

That in all common sense principles of good farming husbandry, the choice of compliance or noncompliance in federal farm programs should be by individual farm unit, thereby ending the discrimination caused by the present law which requires the state to make the same choice for all its leased lands;

That the states have a right to the full share of federal farm program payments on all state lands which are in compliance with the Federal Cereal Grain Program and that such payments should be promptly made in order that the states may contribute

a maximum support to the public schools and institutions for whom such lands are managed in trust;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of Agriculture is by this association respectfully requested to cause a revision of the regulations defining "producer" to eliminate this discrimination and inequity, and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to him and, for advisory purposes, to the Senators and Representatives of the various states, to the agricultural committees of Congress, and to all persons, committees, and entities involved herein at the federal and state levels.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 1  
MINERAL LEASING ACT REVENUES

WHEREAS, most of the revenues derived from the leasing of public domain lands in the Western States and the lands of the Outer Continental shelf are now retained and controlled by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, because the federal government owns substantial acreages in the Western States, the Western States have less tax base than sister states in the east; and

WHEREAS, all States face critical problems in the financing of public education; and

WHEREAS, the welfare and interest of the citizens of the Western States demand a more equitable share of the revenues derived from the leasing of the public domain lands within the Western States, and all States should share equitably in the revenues derived from leasing the Outer Continental shelf; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable that there be only one conservation regulatory body in any one State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America, and the Public Land Law Review Commission be and they are hereby memorialized to fairly and diligently consider the welfare and interest of the people of the United States who favor legislation to accomplish the aforesaid equitable revenue distribution as provided in S. 1826, 90th Congress, 1st Session and H.R. 10389, 90th Congress, 1st Session;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congressional delegations be and they are hereby memorialized to diligently seek the enactment of the aforesaid legislation;

Resolution No. 1

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, and to the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 2  
SATISFACTION OF STATE LAND GRANTS

WHEREAS, the original Statehood Enabling Act land grants to the Western States for the support of public schools and other public institutions, constitute a sacred obligation and debt of the United States of America to the various Western States, and the satisfaction of this sacred obligation and debt is a binding moral and legal obligation; and

WHEREAS, while the Bureau of Land Management has recently given greater impetus to satisfying land selections, these obligations have not been fully satisfied by the United States; and

WHEREAS, with changing conditions and the passage of time, the increase in population and subsequent increase in pressure of various groups for use privileges and programs for land utilization by federal, state and local agencies on public domain lands, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for the states to obtain satisfaction of the land grants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967:

1. That the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and all agencies involved, be and they are hereby memorialized to cooperate with the various Western States with the view of satisfying the moral and legal obligations of the United States to the states before setting apart or dedicating public domain lands to other uses.

2. That the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management be and they are hereby memorialized to:

a. Apply as required by law a liberal, rather than restrictive, construction in favor of the states of the various land grant laws and the

RESOLUTION NO. 2

indemnity selection laws.

b. Apply the same criterion to the selected federal lands as the state base lands, in determining whether each is mineral or nonmineral in character.

c. Consider that the state has acquired a preference right in the selected lands at the time the state's application is filed.

d. Further expedite the handling of state indemnity selection applications.

3. That the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior are hereby memorialized to retain the basic concept of acre for acre indemnity to states for losses of state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 3  
LAND EXCHANGES

WHEREAS, there is much intermingling of state and federal lands in the Western States; and

WHEREAS, such intermingling of ownership is detrimental to efficient management of such lands; and

WHEREAS, land exchanges between the federal and state governments would be of great material benefit to the administration of their respective land programs; and

WHEREAS, it is felt that existing laws are too restrictive in their wording and that a too restrictive construction has been placed thereon by the land administration branches of the federal government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, hereby memorializes the Public Land Law Review Commission and the Congress to review the exchange laws in their entirety with a view to liberalizing and standardizing such laws; to direct the administrative branches of the federal government to apply a more liberal construction to such laws and to expedite the handling of land exchanges under such laws, and, further, that in enacting such new legislation that special consideration be given to permitting exchange of lands or interests in such lands such as mining, rights of way, easements and leases as well as adopting uniform standards for appraisal of federal and state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission and to the respective member states' delegations in Congress.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 4  
RECORDATION OF MINING LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Basic Federal Mining Law of 1872 is vague, and unscientific and unworkable; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have been pointed out in detail by various and eminently qualified individuals and committees, including the Task Force on Natural Resources for the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (Hoover Commission) in its 1949 report entitled "Revision of Mining Laws"; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have resulted in hopeless confusion regarding title of lands supposedly granted to the various Western States; and

WHEREAS, the status of title to mining claims seriously impedes both the Bureau of Land Management and the states fulfilling land grants; and

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior has caused to be introduced in the Congress S. 1651 which would require the recordation of mining claims in the appropriate federal land office and the Western States Land Commissioners believe that enactment of this bill is in the best public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America, and the Public Land Law Review Commission be and they are hereby memorialized to enact legislation to require the recordation of all mineral locations, whether old or new, in the appropriate local office of the Bureau of Land Management; to require the Secretary of the Interior to expeditiously determine the validity or invalidity of such claims; and to authorize and direct indemnity to be made to the states for school and institutional lands lost because of the existence

Resolution No. 4

of valid mining claims.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 5  
PL 88-607 - CLASSIFICATION AND MULTIPLE USE ACT

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Land Management is actively classifying the public domain in certain Western States under authority of PL 88-607; and

WHEREAS, Certain public land laws are being rendered ineffective by such temporary classification activity; and

WHEREAS, The PL 88-607 is a temporary classification act only while the Public Land Law Review Commission is reviewing the laws, policies, rules and regulations of the Federal land managing agencies with the goal of making recommendations to Congress by December 31, 1968; and

WHEREAS, The temporary classification of land under the provisions of PL 88-607 could prejudice the results of any action taken by Congress on the recommendations of the Public Land Law Review Commission; and

WHEREAS, A substantial portion of the Western States is Federally owned, with some counties over 98% Federally owned, which creates serious financial problems for public schools and other necessary local governmental services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Western States Land Commissioners' Association in Annual Conference at Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, that the Bureau of Land Management should classify land for retention and management only on a clearly expressed plan by a public agency, and that provisions be made for periodic review and analysis on request of local governmental authorities.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, That every effort should be made by the Bureau of Land Management to move maximum useful public land acreage at incentive prices into private or other non-federal ownership.

Resolution No. 5

RESOLVED FURTHER, That classification under said PL 88-607, while in effect, should not preclude the exercising of any existing land laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 6  
EXCHANGE OF LAND, MILITARY WITHDRAWALS

WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners' Association has heretofore urged and supported the amendment of existing public land laws affecting exchanges of lands owned by various member states of this association, taken by the United States for military purposes, for other lands owned by the United States outside said military reservations; and

WHEREAS, the consensus of the members of this association is that such proposed legislation should be passed at the earliest moment in order to expedite the administration of the lands affected;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, reiterates its support of legislation which would permit the exchange by the states of lands taken by the government for military purposes for other lands owned by the government outside of military reservations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Department of Defense.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 7  
LAND APPEALS BOARD

WHEREAS, there is need for divorcing some of the adjudicatory functions of the Bureau of Land Management from its administrative functions; and

WHEREAS, there is need for expediting the processing of public land appeals; and

WHEREAS, the hearing examiner procedure set up within the Bureau of Land Management under the Administrative Procedure Act functions both independently and expeditiously in the handling of contests assigned;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, that the President, the Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission, and the Interior Department are urged to seek enactment of legislation extending the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management Hearing Examiners to include all matters involving state-federal conflicts concerning public lands and their resources which heretofore have been subject to administrative appeals to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and to the Secretary of the Interior and, further, to provide the states the right to appeal from decisions of the hearing examiner to the Federal District Courts within the state in question.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 8  
SURVEYING OF UNSURVEYED LANDS

WHEREAS, there exists within the member states of this association many areas of unsurveyed public lands of the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is understood these unsurveyed areas exist because of insufficient appropriation of funds by the Congress to conduct the work incidental to the completion of such surveys; and

WHEREAS, many of the grants of Congress to the member states are incomplete due to lack of survey of the public lands and will remain incomplete until all of the public lands of the United States have been surveyed by the appropriate authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, hereby memorializes Congress to appropriate to the Bureau of Land Management the requisite funds to accomplish the expeditious surveying of the remaining unsurveyed lands in the states which are members of this association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 9  
KOOKEE WATER PROJECT

WHEREAS, legislation S. 734 and H.R. 5671 are now pending in the Congress of the United States of America to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make a loan and grant to the State of Hawaii for the construction of the Kokee Water Project; and

WHEREAS, the Kokee Water Project is a multiple purpose project with the overall objective of providing for the optimum utilization of the land and water resources of the Kokee area through the following:

1. The maximum practical development of agriculture by irrigation of suitable lands.
2. The production of the maximum practical amount of hydroelectric power.
3. Development of associated fish, wildlife, and recreation potentials to the fullest justifiable extent.
4. Full consideration of opportunities to reduce flood damages by utilization of project works.
5. The most economic utilization of existing works.

WHEREAS, the development and utilization of these natural resources will bolster the economy of the State of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, this project has been determined to be economically feasible through an intensive engineering and economic study;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association that it does hereby reaffirm its request to the President and the Congress of the United States of America to enact either H.R. 5671 or S. 734, which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make a loan and grant to the State of Hawaii for the construction of the Kokee Water Project.

RESOLUTION NO. 9

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, the Chairman of the Committee on Interior and the Insular Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States, the respective member states' delegations in the Congress, and the Secretary of the Interior.

Adopted on this 21st day of July, 1967, by the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, at Helena, Montana.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 10  
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior from time to time formulates policy and recommends legislation which has considerable effect on the administration and responsibilities of the offices of the Western States Land Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, these policies and legislation often necessitate negative action on the part of the Western States Land Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Western States Land Commissioners to cooperate to the fullest with the Department of the Interior to seek the most efficient systems of mutual land administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, that the Secretary of the Interior is hereby memorialized to give the respective administrators of state lands of the Western States a seat on the Advisory Boards of the respective state offices of the Bureau of Land Management, and that the President of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be given a seat on the National Advisory Board of the Bureau of Land Management, to review and advise the Bureau and State Directors on policy and legislation affecting land administration in the Western States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 11  
NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE NO. 4

WHEREAS, Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 has been established within the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Navy in exploration of this vast area of 25,000,000 acres has been at a standstill since the early Fifties and such exploration as has been made has not been completed to the extent that the reserves can be established or practicably utilized in time of emergency; and

WHEREAS, in times of emergency such as the Middle East crisis, attention must be turned to sources of supply under stable National governments; and

WHEREAS, there now exists an active interest in exploration of the area by the oil companies and private industry would explore and develop the reserves so that they could be useful to the Nation when needed; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has suffered from long neglect of its economic development and intensive exploration of the reserves would open transportation lines and communication lines and very probably lead to discovery of other valuable mineral resources which could contribute materially to the urgently needed economic development of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, significant exploration could be accomplished by private industry without direct cost to the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the United States Government is in no position to divert military funds and resources from the war efforts in the Far East;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana on July 21, 1967, hereby declares it absurd to label this vast unknown area a Petroleum Reserve and that this Association supports the request of the State of

Resolution No. 11

Alaska that Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 be returned to the public domain status and the land therein made available for development by private industry in the National and State interest;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress and such Congressional committees as may be concerned in this request.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 12  
FEDERAL FARM PROGRAM PAYMENTS TO STATES

WHEREAS, several of the states hold lands in trust and manage same for the support of public schools and other public institutions; and

WHEREAS, several of the states lease such lands for grain production on a crop-share basis and participate in the Federal Cereal Grain Program, and for this reason are entitled to federal farm program payments; and

WHEREAS, the federal program regulations define a "producer" in such a way that the states are included thereunder with no distinction recognized between them and all other individual owners of farms and all "producers" must, under the regulations, choose to be under the program or not and such choice binds all grain lands owned; and

WHEREAS, for example, the State of Montana owns over 480,000 acres of agricultural lands which are leased to over 1,900 farmers, and the State of Washington owns approximately 130,000 acres which are covered by some 500 leases, and said lands are deployed as integral parts of many farm units, and because of these situations both of these states must, under present federal law, choose complete compliance or noncompliance for all of their dispersed and multitudinous farms and farmer-lessees, in spite of and notwithstanding the divergent and differing agricultural situations of these many farms, and it is for these reasons impossible to make such choice and thereby treat each lessee-farmer equitably; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture has informed the states that no federal legislation is necessary and that this problem can be handled administratively, but the problem nevertheless remains and has become more complex and acute in the past two years; and

Resolution No. 12

WHEREAS, justice and equity to all concerned demands that these sovereigns be classified other than as private landowners thereby recognizing the distinction between them and other individual farm owners in order that the states' rights to farm program payments may be protected in such situations as when a farmer-lessee chooses noncompliance with respect to his property interest in derogation of the state's choice of compliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1967 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967:

That the Western States Land Commissioners' Association supports the undeniable propositions that the sovereign states are not classifiable in the same category as individual and private owners and operators in the federal farm program;

That in all common sense principles of good farming husbandry, the choice of compliance or noncompliance in federal farm programs should be by individual farm unit, thereby ending the discrimination caused by the present law which requires the state to make the same choice for all its leased lands;

That the states have a right to the full share of federal farm program payments on all state lands which are in compliance with the Federal Cereal Grain Program and that such payments should be promptly made in order that the states may contribute a maximum support to the public schools and institutions for whom such lands are managed in trust;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of Agriculture is by this Association respectfully requested to cause a revision of the regulations defining "producer" to eliminate this discrimination and inequity, and that copies of this

Resolution No. 12

resolution be forwarded to him and, for advisory purposes, to the Senators and Representatives of the various states, to the agricultural committees of Congress, and to all persons, committees, and entities involved herein at the federal and state levels.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 13  
GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES

WHEREAS, The public domain in the Western States is shared by many different interests and industries; and

WHEREAS, The principle of multiple use is the policy of Congress as enunciated by PL 88-607 which created the Public Land Law Review Commission in 1964; and

WHEREAS, the Notices of Proposed Withdrawals and Reservations of Land for the Purpose of Protecting Geothermal Resources, as published in the Federal Register, propose to set aside large areas of public domain which are potentially valuable for geothermal steam and exclude all other uses of the public domain;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the 1967 Annual Conference of Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, opposes such single-purpose executive withdrawals as being in direct violation of Congressional policy of multiple use.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, That land be conveyed for this single purpose only to the extent that it is absolutely required for the utilization of the energy sources, and that surrounding lands be permitted to remain in their existing multiple use status.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1967

RESOLUTION NO. 14  
NATIONAL ESTUARIES

WHEREAS, there now is before Congress a group of several identical or near identical bills (typified by H.B. 25) which would establish a system of National Estuarine areas under the control of the Secretary of the Interior;

WHEREAS, these bills would also give the Secretary the veto power over any and all reclamation, dredging, filling, or excavation of estuaries along all of the nation's coastal estuaries and those of the Great Lakes system as well;

WHEREAS, these estuaries are state-owned land;

WHEREAS, almost half of these lands are located in Alaska where virtually no dredging, filling or occupancy has occurred;

WHEREAS, many of the coastal states including Alaska have the legal, administrative, and technical capability of conserving, wisely using and controlling development on these lands;

WHEREAS, interference of the Secretary in management and issuance of permits for dredging or filling or excavating (including mining) of these lands would delay much needed development and use of these lands;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners' Association assembled at Helena, Montana, on July 21, 1967, affirm that H.B. 25 as now written, especially in Section 12, constitutes an unwarranted invasion of the Federal government in the management of state-owned lands, and that the Association therefore vigorously opposes this legislation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the members of Congress and Governors of the member states urging their opposition to this legislation as it now stands.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1968

RESOLUTION NO. 1

REITERATION OF PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS

*WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association, in previous annual conferences, adopted certain resolutions with the objective of solving problems of land management by the member states; and*

*WHEREAS, said resolutions continue to be relevant to the interest of the Western States; and*

*WHEREAS, the Western States Land Commissioners Association wishes to maintain a continuous focus of attention on its problems of concern;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1968 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on July 23-26, 1968, that certain resolutions of the 1967 Conference as indicated below be and they are hereby reiterated and adopted;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all recipients of the 1967 Resolutions be sent a copy of this 1968 resolution.*

1967 RESOLUTIONS REITERATED

Resolution No. 1 – MINERAL LEASING ACT REVENUES

The Association advocates a more equitable sharing of revenues from mineral leases on public domain lands. (\*See page 200.)

Resolution No. 2– SATISFACTION OF STATE LAND GRANTS

The Association urges a liberal interpretation of land grant indemnity laws in order to complete grants to the states. (\*See page 200.)

Resolution No. 3 – LAND EXCHANGES

The Association favors simplification of land exchange laws and procedures to overcome problems of mixed land ownerships. (\*See page 202.)

\* For complete resolution, see indicated page number.

**Resolution No. 4 – RECORDATION OF MINING LOCATIONS**

The Association favors recordation of mining claims in local B.L.M. offices.  
(\*See page 202)

**Resolution No. 6 – EXCHANGE OF LAND, MILITARY WITHDRAWALS**

The Association supports legislation which would permit federal–state exchange of state land taken by the government for military purposes for government land outside military reservations. (\*See page 203.)

**Resolution No. 7 – LAND APPEALS BOARD**

The Association seeks to extend jurisdiction of B.L.M. hearing examiners with the right to appeal decisions to federal district courts. (\*See page 204.)

**Resolution No. 8 – SURVEYING OF UNSURVEYED LANDS**

The Association memorializes Congress to provide funds to the B.L.M. for the purpose of surveying unsurveyed federal lands. (\*See page 205.)

**Resolution No. 9 – KOKEE WATER PROJECT**

The Association supports legislation which would permit a loan and grant to the State of Hawaii for construction of the Kokee Water Project. (\*See page 205)

**Resolution No. 10 – INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD**

The Secretary of Interior is memorialized to give administrators of state lands of the western states a seat on the advisory board of the B.L.M. state offices and to include the president of the Western States Land Commissioners Association on the National Advisory Board of the B.L.M. (\*See page 206.)

**Resolution No. 11 – NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE NO. 4**

The Association supports the request of the State of Alaska that Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4 be returned to public domain status and land therein made available for development by private industry. (\*See page 207.)

**Resolution No. 12 – FEDERAL FARM PROGRAM PAYMENTS TO STATES**

The Association seeks to have the states removed from classification as private owners and operators under the federal farm program. (\*See page 208.)

**Resolution No. 13 – GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES**

The Association opposes a proposed withdrawal of public domain area on the basis of Geothermal values with exclusion of other uses. (\*See page 210.)

**Resolution No. 14 – NATIONAL ESTUARIES**

The Association opposed HB-25, especially Section 12, as originally written on the basis that it constitutes an unwarranted invasion by the Federal Government in the management of state-owned lands. (\*See page 210.)

RESOLUTION NO. 2  
IRRIGATION OF STATE-OWNED LANDS  
IN FEDERAL IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

*WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior, in its application of the Federal Reclamation laws, currently interprets the statutory wording "lands in private ownership" to include "lands in state ownership"; and*

*WHEREAS, state-owned public school lands were granted to the states by the Congress, itself, at statehood for the permanent support of the designated public schools and institutions; and*

*WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior's interpretation drastically reduces the effectiveness and value of this long-standing grant to public education by:*

*1. Limiting the acreage of school lands that may be irrigated to 160 acres in each irrigation district;*

*2. Effectively preventing sale of these lands at public auction as required in certain state Enabling Acts and Constitutions by refusing to deliver water to purchasers at public auction; and*

*3. Billing the land for the water that the Bureau will not deliver; and*

*WHEREAS, the anti-speculation provisions pertaining to private lands in federal irrigation projects can be served as well or better in the instance of these school lands if the lands are retained and developed under state leases; and*

*WHEREAS, all congressional history, in statutes and in the Congressional Record, indicate that it was Congress' intent that these "state-owned lands" were not to be included in the definition of "lands in private ownership";*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that S. 1733 as introduced by Senator Jordan, without amendments, be endorsed by the 1968 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association.*

RESOLUTION NO. 3  
PL-88-607 - CLASSIFICATION AND MULTIPLE USE ACT

*WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management is actively classifying the public domain in certain Western States under authority of PL 88-607; and*

*WHEREAS, certain public land laws are being rendered ineffective by such temporary classification activity; and*

*WHEREAS, although PL 88-607 was originally intended as a temporary classification act only while the Public Land Law Review Commission reviewed the laws, policies, rules and regulations of Federal land management agencies with the goal of making recommendations to Congress, action now being taken by the BLM in classifying the land if continued will exclude effectively and as a practical matter the classification and control of said public domain from the future consideration of the Public Land Law Review Commission; and*

*WHEREAS, the said classification by the BLM while being made after local hearings, is being made primarily upon a base of surface land pattern and upon a base much narrower than would be utilized by the Public Land Law Review Commission; and*

*WHEREAS, said classification is being made by and at the discretion of the personnel of the Bureau of Land Management, whose personal primary interest would best be served in retaining the land for management for the perpetuation and enlargement of the said bureau, while, on the other hand, the classification by the Public Land Law Review Commission would be made by a board comprised of persons of a large spectrum of interests and upon a base which would give more weight to the needs of the entire Nation;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Western States Land Commissioners Association in Annual Conference at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on July 26, 1968, that Congress repeal said PL 88-607 and leave the study and recommendations as to classification and/or disposition of the public domain to the Public Land Law Review Commission, which would conduct the study on a much broader base and in a relatively more unbiased manner.*

RESOLUTION NO. 4  
ALASKA LAND SELECTION FREEZE

*WHEREAS, over the past few years, various native groups within the State of Alaska, on the basis of aboriginal or ancestral rights or on the basis of historical use, filed claims, which on an acreage basis equals or exceeds 365,000,000 acres, the total acreage of the State of Alaska; and*

*WHEREAS, as a direct result of these claims, the Secretary of the Interior has issued a mandate which effectively curtails all land acquisition by the State of Alaska granted by the Congress of the United States, pursuant to the Act of July 7, 1958, (Public Law 85-508-72 Stat. 339); and*

*WHEREAS, this action by the Secretary of Interior further serves to curtail all forms of land disposal normally carried on by the Bureau of Land Management on Public Domain lands, the progress and economic development of the State of Alaska is being unnecessarily and arbitrarily impeded; and*

*WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State of Alaska to make available to any Indian tribe or group such lands as may be reasonable and necessary to achieve village expansion or relocation or as the basis for economic development at little or no cost;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 1968 Annual Conference of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on July 26, 1968, hereby request that the Secretary of the Interior lift the freeze on Alaska's right to select and procure title to its land entitlement as conferred by the Congress of the United States; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby instructed to submit copies of this Resolution to the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees in each Branch of Congress and such others as may be concerned in this request.*

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1969

RESOLUTION NO. 1

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER SUPPLY ACT OF 1969

WHEREAS, The western states and the nation face a desperate need for housing, particularly housing for low and moderate income families; and

WHEREAS, wood products, primarily of softwood species, continue to be the basic materials for residential construction; and

WHEREAS, 60 percent of the nation's softwood timber inventory is on national forests and concentrated in the western states; and

WHEREAS, the yield from the National Forests can be greatly increased by intensive forest management without impairing other forest values such as recreation, fish and wildlife, grazing and watershed; and

WHEREAS, the National Forest Timber Supply Act establishes policies and provides funds to improve timber production, while insuring that other multiple-use values of the National Forests are protected;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western States Land Commissioners' Association at its annual meeting in Ocean Shores, Washington, August 21, 1969, endorses the general policy of the National Forest Timber Supply Act of 1969 and urges immediate enactment into law of such policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the U. S. Forest Service.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1969

RESOLUTION NO. 2

IN SUPPORT OF EROS PROJECT

WHEREAS, The Western States Land Commissioners' Association believes that data to be derived from earth resources satellites will be of significant and immediate value in the discharge of state and local governmental resource management responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, The Association commends the Department of the Interior for leadership in calling attention to the values of such data and for planning systems whereby the data can be made rapidly and widely available;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, meeting in Ocean Shores, Washington on August 21, 1969, hereby recommends that the Congress provide adequate direction and funds to the U. S. Geological Survey's EROS program, to make possible:

- (1) cooperative investigations with the states to assure timely, full and effective use of earth resource satellite data to be derived from ERTS-A and subsequent earth resource satellites,
- (2) prompt and uninterrupted reception of these data from the spacecraft, and
- (3) prompt dissemination of these data in sufficient numbers to satisfy the needs of state and local governments and the scientific public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Western

States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the U. S. Geological Survey.

RESOLUTION NO. 3, relating to lifting  
withdrawals wherever possible and making  
the lands available, including stockway  
drives, is not available at this time.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1969

RESOLUTION NO. 4

REPEAL OF PART OF SEC. 8 (c) OF TAYLOR GRAZING ACT

WHEREAS, attempts have been made and are now being made to block together scattered sections of state-owned lands and public domain lands for more efficient land management; and

WHEREAS, the various public land owners have exchanged lands with the United States Government in several instances to achieve more efficient land management; and

WHEREAS, Section 8 (c) of the Taylor Grazing Act currently prevents exchange of lands between the United States Government and the state unless all lands to be exchanged are in the same grazing district; and

WHEREAS, private citizens and all others making such exchanges of lands with the United States Government are permitted to exchange lands anywhere within the state; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of exchanging of lands in different grazing districts restricts the efficient blocking of lands;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western States Land Commissioners' Association meeting in Ocean Shores, Washington, on August 21, 1969, hereby requests the Congress of the United States to amend the Taylor Grazing Act causing Section 8 (c) to read as follows:

"8(c) Upon application of any state to exchange lands within or without the boundaries of a grazing district the Secretary of the Interior shall, and is hereby directed to

proceed with such exchange at the earliest practicable date and to cooperate fully with the state to that end; but no state shall be permitted to select lieu lands in another state. The Secretary of the Interior shall accept on behalf of the United States title to any state-owned lands within or without the boundaries of a grazing district, and in exchange therefore issue patent to survey grazing district land not otherwise reserved or appropriated or unappropriated and unreserved surveyed public land; and in making such exchange the Secretary is authorized to patent to such state land either of equal value or of equal acreage:

~~Provided, That no state shall select public lands in a grazing district in furtherance of any exchange unless the lands offered by the state in such exchange lie within such grazing district and the selected lands lie in a reasonably compact body which is so located as not to interfere with the administration or value of the remaining land in such district for grazing purposes as set forth in this Act.~~

When an exchange is based on lands of equal acreage and the selected lands are mineral in character, the patent thereto shall contain a reservation of all minerals to the United States; and in making exchanges of equal acreage the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept title to offered lands which are mineral in character, with a mineral reservation to the State.

For the purpose of effecting exchanges based on lands of equal acreage the identification and area of unsurveyed

school sections may be determined by protraction or otherwise. The selection by the State of lands in lieu of any such protracted school sections shall be a waiver of all of its right to such sections."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

WESTERN STATES LAND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

1969

RESOLUTION NO. 5

RECORDATION OF MINING LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Basic Federal Mining Law of 1872 is vague, and unscientific and unworkable; and

WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have been pointed out in detail by various and eminently qualified individuals and committees, including the Task Force on Natural Resources for the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (Hoover Commission) in its 1949 report entitled "Revision of Mining Laws"; and

— WHEREAS, the deficiencies of the law have resulted in hopeless confusion regarding title of lands supposedly granted to the various Western States; and

WHEREAS, the status of title to mining claims seriously impedes both the Bureau of Land Management and the states fulfilling land grants; and

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior has caused to be introduced in the Congress proposed legislation which would require the recordation of mining claims in the appropriate federal land office and the Western States Land Commissioners believe that enactment of such legislation is in the best public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Western States Land Commissioners' Association in its Annual Conference at

Ocean Shores Washington on August 21, 1969, that the President, the Congress of the United States of America, and the Public Land Law Review Commission be and they are hereby memorialized to enact legislation to require the recordation of all mineral locations, whether old or new, in the appropriate local office of the Bureau of Land Management; to require the Secretary of the Interior to expeditiously determine the validity or invalidity of such claims; and to authorize and direct indemnity to be made to the states for school and institutional lands lost because of the existence of valid mining claims.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association be and is hereby directed to submit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the respective member states' delegations in Congress, the Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 1

**Wilderness and Rivers Acts**

WHEREAS, Congress has enacted those certain statutes known and designated as The Wilderness Act of 1964, 16 U.S.C., Sec. 1131 et seq, and The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, 82 Stat. 906, preserving certain areas of the United States in their natural conditions; and,

WHEREAS, these statutes have produced certain legal and administrative restrictions upon the affected States in their use, enjoyment and disposition of certain of their lands; and,

WHEREAS, the member States of the Western States Land Commissioners' Association recommend elimination of the aforesaid restrictions upon the use, enjoyment and disposition of their lands without impairing the purposes of the aforesaid statutes; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho has prepared a report upon the effects of said statutes upon the use, enjoyment and disposition of state lands, entitled "A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTS OF THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964 AND THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT OF 1968 UPON LANDS OWNED BY THE STATE OF IDAHO AND THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS UPON LANDS OWNED BY OTHER STATES OF THE FEDERAL UNION", and has recommended therein certain amendments to the aforesaid statute or statutes for the purpose of preserving to the State the full measure of use, enjoyment and powers of disposition of State lands:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Western States Land Commissioners' Association, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, assembled this 4th day of September, 1970, that the said Association does hereby endorse the amendments to the aforesaid statutes recommended in said report and the Western States Land Commissioners' Association does urge upon the United States Congress passage of amendments to said

statutes which will guarantee to all affected States the unencumbered rights of use, enjoyment and disposition of State land affected by said statutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Western States Land Commissioners' Association does not in any way seek to interfere with the intent, purpose or administration of the said statutes as applied to non-state land, it being the only purpose of this Resolution to secure control by the member States of their own respective lands.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

**Public Land Law Review Commission**

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States created a Public Land Law Review Commission in Public Law 88-606 and charged said Commission with making a "comprehensive review of (public land) laws, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder" as well as "the policies and practices of the Federal agencies charged with administrative jurisdiction over (public) lands insofar as such policies and practices relate to the retention, management, and disposition of those lands" in order "to determine whether and to what extent revisions thereof are necessary."

WHEREAS, the said Commission has submitted such a report and recommendations pursuant to said statute entitled "One Third of the Nation's Land"; and,

WHEREAS, said report will receive a comprehensive analysis by the members of this Association in order to provide for maximum effective participation in providing for implementation of the necessary revisions in the public land laws, rules and regulations, and policies and practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Western States Land Commissioners' Association in Santa Fe, New Mexico assembled this 4th day of September, 1970, that the said Association does hereby express its appreciation and gratitude for the immense effort, diligence and comprehensive analysis expended in the research, investigation, compilation and composition of the aforesaid report.