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ENGROSSED HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4001

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Kessler, Jones, Riley, Basich, Kremen, R. Meyers, Sheldon, Holm, Johanson, Finkbeiner, Campbell, Linville, Jacobsen, Quall, Chappell, Rayburn, Leonard, Fuhrman, Cothorn, Long, Brumsickle, Thibaudeau, Springer, Miller, Morton, Wood, Ogden, Morris and Locke

Read first time 01/18/93. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, A severe forest management crisis exists in the Pacific  
9 Northwest affecting the lives of thousands of timber workers, families,  
10 and communities; and

11 WHEREAS, There is a fundamental need to protect old growth forest  
12 ecosystems through comprehensive forest management of federal lands;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, A solution to the forest management crisis must include a  
15 perspective that economic needs and ecosystem protection are  
16 compatible; and

17 WHEREAS, The Clinton administration has demonstrated a willingness  
18 to bring key parties together in a forest summit and has sought input  
19 from many different parties on how, when, and where such a summit might  
20 be conducted; and

1 WHEREAS, Washington officials have offered to host this critical  
2 policy summit and to provide logistical support, including tours of  
3 forest areas and distressed timber communities; and

4 WHEREAS, There have been successful conflict resolution efforts in  
5 the past in Washington state regarding natural resource disputes by  
6 combining summits led by elected officials with more extended consensus  
7 efforts among a broad range of interested parties; and

8 WHEREAS, While the need is great to invest sufficient time to  
9 derive a lasting solution, many families in rural communities are in  
10 desperate need of early relief from the hardships this conflict has  
11 imposed on them;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that you will  
13 pursue with all due speed the holding of a forest summit in the Pacific  
14 Northwest, with the overall goal of seeking long-term solutions to  
15 conflicts between fish and wildlife protection and timber harvesting.  
16 We further ask that the ideas and suggestions solicited from officials  
17 in the state of Washington be considered in making the important  
18 decisions about the conduct of the summit.

19 We respectfully ask that the following be adopted as guiding  
20 principles for the forest summit:

21 (1) All stakeholders should have a part in the summit process;

22 (2) Elected leaders should be the core of the process and should be  
23 accountable for final decisions;

24 (3) Information presented at the summit and used by summit  
25 participants should be based on the best scientific knowledge  
26 available; and

27 (4) While as great a consensus as possible should be sought at the  
28 summit, no one group should have veto power over summit  
29 recommendations.

30 Finally, we ask that the subjects covered by the summit process  
31 include the following:

32 (1) Assistance and retraining for timber workers and their  
33 families;

34 (2) Restoration of forests and salmonid stocks and habitat;

35 (3) Appropriate amount of preservation of old growth forest stands;

36 (4) Sustainable timber supply and production;

37 (5) Recovery areas for endangered or threatened species;

38 (6) Incentives for private landowners;

- 1 (7) The possibility of a federal/state/tribal partnership on  
2 ecosystem and landscape management;  
3 (8) Economic development and diversification;  
4 (9) Local government revenue; and  
5 (10) Resolution of litigation.

6 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
7 transmitted, to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United  
8 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
9 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
10 Washington.

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