



"Serving Western Legislatures"

RESOLUTION NO. 99-4

Urging Congress Not to Increase Its Land Holdings

Introduced by the Public Lands Policy Committee

WHEREAS, vast portions of federal lands are located in the Western States ; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the federal estate would serve to decrease the local property tax base, disrupt rural economies, further decrease our important natural resource-based industries of mining, logging, grazing, farming and mineral exploration and production; and

WHEREAS, when certain specific purchases of lands by the federal government are justified, it should be after specific debate and approval of Congress; and

WHEREAS, CSG-*WEST* is an advocate of freedom, individual liberty, and private enterprise, and the expansion of the federal land estate is directly contrary to those principles;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CSG-*WEST* strongly opposes any new initiative by Congress to create land trust funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund or any other revenue stream that is an entitlement program or serves the purpose of expanding the already vast amount of Federal land holdings;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CSG-*WEST* strongly urges state and local governments to also oppose S. 25, H.R. 701, or any expansion of the federal estate or creation of a land trust fund.

*Adopted By The CSG-WEST Executive Committee on July 19, 1999
Assembled In Annual Meeting In Sun Valley, Idaho*