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5-1-1990

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Peter H. Kostmayer

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Recommended Citation

Kostmayer, Peter H., "Reauthorization: S. 2724 (1990): Correspondence 07" (1990). *Reauthorization: S. 2724 (1990)*. Paper 17.

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 1990

The Honorable Claiborne Pell, Chairman
Subcommittee on Education, Arts, and Humanities
Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources
SR 335
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

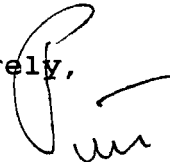
On February 6, 1990 I introduced HR 3963, the Great American Landscapes Act, which would provide small grants and technical assistance to state and local governments, and non-profit groups to inventory and protect endangered landscapes.

The bill was introduced as a result of a series of hearings I have chaired on "Open Space - The American Landscape in the 21st Century." Witnesses from around the country have testified at these hearings about the loss of some of our country's most cherished lands. Towns and villages in areas such as the Napa Valley in California, the Amish Country in Pennsylvania, and the Thousand Islands in New York are in danger of losing their character and their traditional ways of life because of unplanned suburban growth and development.

My bill authorizes the National Endowment for the Arts, through its Design Arts Program, to manage this innovative approach to helping communities plan for the long-term protection of "working landscapes." I would very much appreciate your consideration of this bill as part of your subcommittee's reauthorization of the National Endowment for the Arts. I stand ready to assist you in any way possible.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,



Peter H. Kostmayer, Chairman
House Interior Subcommittee on
General Oversight & Investigations