

National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials

Resolution

Approved July 15, 2018

WHEREAS, the FY 2019 budget proposes elimination of funding for the Land and Water Conservation Act (LWCA) and the rescission of approximately \$20 million in previously allocated funds, and

WHEREAS, the LWCA was established by Congress in 1965 based the recommendations of a bipartisan Congressional study of the federal role in land conservation and public recreation, and

WHEREAS, in 1978 Congress established a \$900 million funding level for the LWCA, with 40% allocated to States for local grants, and the balance reserved for federal land and water conservation and outdoor recreation facilities, and

WHEREAS, the LWCA is funded by the receipts from federal outer shelf gas and oil leases, and no federal tax revenue, and

WHEREAS, the LWCA State Assistance Program when combined with the local matches has resulted in over \$8 billion of investments in public recreation and open space, which will remain as public spaces in perpetuity, and

WHEREAS, 98% of the counties in America have LWCA funded parks and land conservation projects.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials, an affiliate of National Association of Counties, a 2000 member organization representing the diversity of America's counties, supports Senate Bill 896 and House Bill 502, which provide full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Act and stops the diversion of LWCA funds through the Congressional appropriation process.



William Maasen
NACPRO President