

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

S.868 The Fee Repeal and Expanded Access Act

was introduced into the U.S. Senate in April, with three powerful sponsors: **Max Baucus (D-MT), Mike Crapo (R-ID), and Jon Tester (D-MT)**. It has been assigned to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee but has not yet been scheduled for a hearing. All of the sponsors have expressed their strong determination to get the bill passed, but in Washington DC the squeaky wheel gets the grease, and even the greased wheels turn slowly.

We are continuing to work with key Representatives and the House Natural Resources Committee staff on getting a companion bill to S.868 introduced in the House of Representatives as well, and will keep you up to date on those efforts.

Because of high-profile issues like health care and the economy, it is more important than ever to keep calling and writing your federal elected officials. Let them know that public lands issues are important to you, and remind them that access to public lands supports good health and contributes to local economies.

S.868 The Fee Repeal and Expanded Access Act would have these effects:

- **Modest** fees for developed campgrounds, boat launches, and swimming sites
- **Modest** fees for rental of cabins and overlooks
- **Modest** fees for entrance to National Parks
- **No Fees** for general access to National Forests or BLM-managed lands
- **No Fees** for parking, trails, overlooks, toilets, picnicking, or other basic uses
- **Congressional oversight** of agency revenues and expenditures

What you can do: Contact your congressional delegation (both of your Senators and your US Representative) Many members of Congress need to be educated on this issue, and that is best done by you, their constituents. Use the e-mail contact that every member of Congress provides for their constituents at their website, and send a brief message about the importance to you of free recreational access to public lands. Ask them to support and co-sponsor S.868. Even if you have done this before, do it again.

Contact information is at www.senate.gov and www.house.gov.

Vote your support for S.868 and leave comments at WashingtonWatch.com.

Colorado Legislature back in session and VERY BUSY

SB 10-033 Requires all "Nongovernmental" employers in the state to participate in the federal E-verify program. This is to verify the work eligibility status of all new employees hired by an employer. If you have more than 200 employees, the requirement goes in effect on Jan 1, 2011. If you have more than 50 but less than 200 then the requirement goes into effect on July 1, 2011 and if you have less that 50 employees, the requirement goes into effect on July 1, 2013.

Two questions—why isn't the government employers required to participate?? AND what is wrong with July 1, 2010 being the effective date for everyone. It looks like the state has pickup up some of the bad habits of Congress!!

HB 10-1019 Increases enforcement of the Reserved Parking for Handicap Program. Authorizes officers to confiscate the placard being misused. Authorizes a peace officer to tow the parked vehicle if is unauthorized to use the reserved parking space. Along with other things. (works for me)

(This is as a result of what happened in New Orleans following Katrina when the local police went door to door and confiscated all firearms in violation of the 2nd Amendment, and left the population undefended and subject to being attacked, robbed, and looted.)

HB 10-1068 You don't get a new phone book unless you ask for it under this great new bill. This applies to paper documents in access of one pound which will cover most phone books. If the phone company delivers a book anyway they are subject to a fine and a misc charge of "Paper Waste"? (This is great. Lets come back next year and do something about all of the pizza ads that are stuffed in our doors)

SB 10-051 This is another step in recognizing your 2nd Amendment rights and extends your right of self defense during a state of emergency and eliminates the authority of the Governor to suspend or limit the sale, dispensing, or transportation of firearms during such emergency.