

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

November 9, 1999

Podesta
How do I respond
to this?
Be

Dear Mr. President:

✓ With your leadership we have a historic opportunity to pass legislation in this Congress that will permanently reinvest a portion of offshore oil and gas revenues in coastal conservation and impact assistance programs, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, wildlife conservation, historic treasures and outdoor recreation. Recently, forty of the nation's governors sent a letter to Congress encouraging us to seize this historic opportunity. This effort has been endorsed by almost every environmental organization in the country as well as a broad array of business interests including the United States Chamber of Commerce.

There is strong bi-partisan support now for a proposal that: will provide a fair share of funding to all coastal states, including producing states; is free of harmful environmental impacts to coastal and ocean resources; does not unduly hinder land acquisition but acknowledges Congress' role in making these decisions and reflects a true partnership among federal, state and local governments.

There is also strong support for using these OCS revenues to reinvest in the renewable resource of wildlife conservation through the currently authorized Pittman-Robertson program. This new influx of funding will nearly double the Federal funds available for wildlife conservation and education programs. We would like to ensure that wildlife programs are kept among the priorities when negotiating for monies from OCS revenues.

A historic conservation initiative is within our grasp. With budget negotiations currently underway, we urge you to push forward for a compromise which reflects the points outlined above. It will be an accomplishment we can all celebrate and a real legacy for future generations.

Sincerely,

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Podesta
Leg Affairs

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING INITIALS: MI DATE: 2/5/10

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

114-0990-5

To: President William Jefferson Clinton

From: Senators Mary L. Landrieu, John B. Breaux and Blanche L. Lincoln

We want you to consider a compromise on "Lands Legacy" within the current negotiations on Interior Appropriations that would "lay down the cornerstone" this year and give us time to build even more support for permanency next year. The following allocation or something close to it would hold our powerful bi-partisan coalition together and help deliver a real legacy next year.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (Federal)	\$325 million
Land and Water Conservation Fund (State)	\$100 million
Coastal Zone Management	\$350 million($\frac{1}{2}$ to producing states)
Wildlife Conservation	\$125 million
Historic Preservation	\$75 million
Urban Parks and Recreation and Recovery	\$50 million
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$50 million
Federal Lands Restoration	\$50 million
Conservation Easements and Species Recovery	<u>\$50 million</u> \$1.2 billion

The Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999 (H.R. 701)

\$1 billion

Impact Assistance and Coastal Conservation

Title I creates a revenue sharing and coastal conservation fund for coastal states and eligible local governments to mitigate the various impacts of OCS activities and provide funds for the conservation of our coastal ecosystems. These funds will support sustainable development of nonrenewable resources without providing incentives for new oil and gas development.

\$900 million

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Revitalization

Title II guarantees stable and annual funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) at its authorized \$900 million level. This dedicated funding would provide for both the state and federal programs included in the LWCF, while protecting the rights of private property owners.

\$350 million

Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Fund

Title III, through the successful program of Pittman-Robertson, reinvests the development of nonrenewable resources into a renewable resource of wildlife conservation and education. This new source of funding will nearly double the Federal funds available for wildlife conservation.

\$125 million

Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR)

Title IV provides matching grants to local governments to rehabilitate recreation areas and facilities, provides for the development of improved recreation programs, sites and facilities.

\$100 million

Historic Preservation Fund

Title V provides funding for the programs of the Historic Preservation Act, including grants to the States, maintaining the National Register of Historic Places, and administering numerous historic preservation programs.

\$200 million

Federal and Indian Lands Restoration

Title VI provides funding for a coordinated program on Federal and Indian lands to restore degraded lands, protect resources that are threatened with degradation, and protect public health and safety.

\$150 million

Conservation Easements & Species Recovery

Title VII provides annual and dedicated funding for conservation easements and funding for landowner incentives to aid in the recovery of endangered and threatened species.

\$200 million

Payment In-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Refuge Revenue

Sharing

Up to \$200 million of the annual interest generated from the CARA Fund will match, dollar for

dollar, the amount appropriated during the Congressional Appropriations process.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

11-11-99

William Jefferson Clinton

President

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

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Mississippi Awash In Federal Largess

Lawmakers Keep the Dollars Flowing

By DAN MORGAN
and JULIE EILPERIN
Washington Post Staff Writers

At

In Washington, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) portrays himself as a fiscal conservative who wants to rein in government spending. But when he visited the Raytheon Co. defense plant in Forest, Miss., this summer, employees serenaded him with song as a token of gratitude for keeping the federal dollars rolling in.

Working behind the scenes with Republicans on the Armed Services and Appropriations committees this year, Lott was instrumental in getting at least \$72.8 million added to defense bills for items made in Forest, thereby protecting precious high-tech jobs in a community that otherwise relies mainly on the poultry industry for employment.

"He knows that whatever he can send our way we'd be grateful for," said Forest Mayor Fred Gaddis, a longtime friend and supporter.

At Gulf Coast shipyards, Army bases, towns and communities in Mississippi—not to mention at Lott's alma mater, the University of Mississippi—the story is much the same. Tucked into nooks and crannies of this year's annual spending bills are dozens of items for Mississippi.

Along with research grants to study fire ants and nematodes, and money to support the Mississippi Space Commerce Initiative, this year's crop of spending bills includes \$375 million for an unrequested helicopter carrier to be built at Ingalls

Shipyard in Pascagoula, and an additional \$5.1 million for an electronic targeting system at the huge Army Reserve training facility at Camp Shelby, near Hattiesburg.

There is no great mystery about the source of Mississippi's pull in Washington. The state, which has about 1 percent of the nation's population, is basking in the political ascendancy of southern Republicans, who are proving just as adept as their Democratic forebears at claiming federal largess.

It is not just Lott. Fellow Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran (R), second-ranking member of the Appropriations Committee and chairman of its agriculture subcommittee, has been pivotal in steering defense and agriculture dollars back home. The agriculture spending bill set aside money for at least 17 research programs for the state, one of the most generous allocations in the bill.

And on the House side, Mississippi Republican Rep. Roger Wicker, who came to Congress as part of the anti-government GOP class of 1994, claims credit for slipping millions of dollars into spending bills for medical and space research and water and economic development projects.

The use of political clout to balance the advantages of larger states is nothing new in Congress; Sen. Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.) is famous for helping shift thousands of federal jobs from Washington to his home state, while Mississippi itself once benefited from the long tenure of the late Rep. Jamie Whitten (D) as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. What seems particularly noteworthy in recent years, though, is the application of pork barrel politics by otherwise fiscally conservative Republicans who have talked of the need to curb federal spending.

The Pentagon budget is the world's largest job program. Lott and others treat it as they do the transportation or education budget—as a chance to win money for home state projects," said John Isaacs of Council for a Livable World.

But none of Capitol Hill's powerful Mississippians make any apologies for their efforts. "I'm glad to be in a position to ensure that requests from my state are considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee," Cochran said in a statement.

"These projects aren't pulled out of thin air," said Lott spokesman John Czwartacki. "It's fun to take cheap shots at Mississippi and the help he's brought to his state, but if there's some help he can bring to his constituents to alleviate a need or provide a job, he's not going to make apologies for that."

Many Mississippi supporters said Lott's funding of local projects simply reflects an effort to ease impoverished conditions. "He's tired of the dirt roads," said John Green, a former staffer who now works as a lobbyist.

But the new federal help has gone well beyond laying pavement. Increasingly, it builds on the state's growing role as a high-tech center for the space industry, the military and agriculture.

Lott and Cochran made sure, for example, that Mississippi State University's Engineering Research Center, whose superfast computers are used in undersea modeling for Navy projects, got an added \$2 million. The University of Mississippi got another \$2 million to set up four new computer labs to use information from orbiting satellites in new businesses.

Lott was even more adamant about funding for the LHD-8 helicopter carrier, a key piece of Mississippi's strategy to keep Gulf Coast shipyards humming. In a fax to top Navy officials, Lott's national security adviser, Eric Womble, pointedly pressed for support from the service, which favored postponing construction to conserve limited shipbuilding funds. "The Navy needs to support at least \$375 million to \$500 million," he wrote. "Please help—we

have worked too hard to give up on the \$500 million now."

Lott and Cochran argued that building the ship now could save \$1 billion in the long run, and they got their way. But the allocation, part of an estimated \$6 billion in defense projects added by Congress, drew fire from Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.). McCain said it was "just wrong" to require such spending when some enlisted families are so poorly paid they qualify for food stamps.

Meanwhile, Lott worked quietly on behalf of Raytheon in Forest, where employment has dropped from a peak of 700 to around 400.

Since 1996, Raytheon's political action committee has contributed \$10,000 to the New Republican Majority Fund, which Lott uses to raise money for other GOP candidates. It used the lobbying services of former representative G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery (D-Miss.), who once represented Forest in Congress and guarded its interests on the Armed Services Committee.

But local officials say the key lobbyist for Forest is Lott, who knows the community and is well-versed in the plant's needs. When he visited the facility on Highway 80 this summer, employees welcomed him warmly with verses from "Elvira," a favorite country song of Lott's. The majority leader, a barbershop crooner of some note, joined right in.

"I think they put on a show to let him know that he was important to us and that they needed some contracts," said Mayor Gaddis.

This year's Pentagon budget requested several hundred million dollars to buy equipment made there: a high-speed data network for the Army and Marine Corps called Enhanced Precision Location Reporting System (EPLRS); AN/APG-73 radars for F-18 fighters; and the Army's Firefinder artillery detection radars.

But the military also gave Lott and Cochran an opening to push for still more by putting the items on a "wish list" of additional purchases if more funds became available.

Early this year, Lott's staff talked to the Senate Armed Services Committee about these and other non-Mississippi items on this "unfunded priorities" list, sources said. The result was a Senate authorization for the Forest-made items that was well above what the Pentagon requested.

Lott spokesman Czwartacki stressed that "the vast majority of the [military] projects Lott advocates are not Mississippi projects" and include such items as the V-22 tilt-rotor aircraft made in Pennsylvania and supply vessels made in California.

Nonetheless, the action by Armed Services set the stage for a Senate spending package that included more money for the Raytheon plant in Forest. In final negotiations on the defense bill last month, House members bowed to the Senate and agreed to \$25.9 million more for EPLRS, \$8.1 million more for Firefinder and \$38.8 million more for APG-73 radars than the original administration request.

To the untutored eye, the earmarks were all but invisible, buried as they were in lines of numbers that did not mention either Raytheon or Forest.

But Raytheon employees in Forest soon got the word, according to Gaddis. "I don't want pork barrel stuff, but if the Defense Department needs it, Sen. Lott can see to it that they put [the work] in Raytheon," he said. "If we didn't have that plant in this small town, we'd have to close up."

Karen— This is a great article,
and well-studied.
Thanks,
Tsu

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Tramontano
Podesta

Defensive Coordinator on WTO

Free Trade Is Cause for White House Aide With Labor Ties

By CHARLES BABINGTON
Washington Post Staff Writer

Thousands of people will soon descend on Seattle to protest the Clinton administration's support of the World Trade Organization, which convenes a major meeting there Nov. 30. They accuse the administration and the WTO of policies that cost U.S. jobs, promote pollution and weaken labor unions.

Mounting the administration's counteroffensive is Karen A. Tramontano, no stranger to labor disputes or sticky issues. Although she's virtually unknown to outsiders, White House officials see Tramontano as the classic behind-the-scenes fixer—not in a sleazy political sense, but in the tradition of worker bees who toil anonymously, soothing egos, following up on problems and making sure strategies are carried through.

Tramontano, 42, is counsel to White House Chief of Staff John D. Podesta, making her the top aide to the president's top aide.

Her portfolio includes labor, trade, economics, agriculture and issues involving the gay community. In reality, she handles matters that Podesta feels need special attention from someone who can work an extensive Rolodex of government insiders and outsiders and get recalcitrant parties to seek common ground.

As Tramontano puts it, she handles "things that are stuck, where there are disputes that appear that are not getting resolved. . . . The real front-burner issue now is coordinating the WTO."

Administration staff members say Tramontano is well-positioned to spearhead Clinton's defense of the global trade governing group, which advocates open trade. She has deep ties to organized labor, which often argues that unfettered trade tends to shift jobs overseas and discourages tough standards for working conditions and environmental safeguards.

These arguments frustrate Tramontano, who contends the benefits of open trade are often overlooked while the costs are trumpeted.

"For years, companies told their workers, 'We're closing because we can't compete' with foreign operations," Tramontano said. "So the message people got for years was that trade is bad." Workers need the full story, she said, such as when pay and benefits improved because a company's exports grew.

To that end, Tramontano is organizing a number of pre-conference trips to Seattle by top administration officials, who hope to create a steady buzz of pro-trade arguments. She also has organized a "National Dialogue on Trade Day" for today—President Clinton will travel to a Harley-Davidson motorcycle plant in Pennsylvania and corporate executives and administration officials will fan out to dozens of other sites—to discuss how free trade can improve the lives of ordinary Americans.

"We've got to stop scaring people" about trade, Tramontano said.

She doesn't, however, lightly dismiss the concerns of organized labor, where her professional roots lie. She's served as a staff member at the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, an attorney specializing in labor law and director of the D.C. government's Office of Labor Relations and Collective Bargaining.



Karen A. Tramontano, the top aide to the president's top aide, has a diverse portfolio beyond trade matters.

Players

Karen A. Tramontano

Title: Assistant to the president and counselor to the White House chief of staff.

Age: 42.

Education: Bachelor's degree, Boston College; law degree, Catholic University.

Personal: Lives with partner, Teresa Rankin, a staff member with the National Education Association.

Previous jobs: Attorney in private practice; director of labor relations and then chief of staff to D.C. Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly; chief of staff to John J. Sweeney at the Service Employees International Union.

In 1990 she befriended underdog mayoral candidate Sharon Pratt Dixon (later known as Sharon Pratt Kelly), who won a surprise victory and recruited Tramontano to handle labor matters. By December 1991, Kelly's administration was struggling and the mayor tapped Tramontano, then 34, as her new chief of staff.

"That was the hardest job I've ever done in my life," Tramontano said in a recent interview in her White House office, which is painted pink. "Expectations were unbelievable. We were supposed to cure everything that was wrong with the city."

After Kelly lost the 1994 election, Tramontano became an assistant to John J. Sweeney, a union official who now heads the AFL-CIO. She joined Podesta's staff in 1997.

Some groups that often take issue with organized labor say they, too, find Tramontano a valuable conduit.

"Sometimes it's sort of hard to penetrate the White House and get an answer," said Al From, president of the centrist Democratic Leadership Council. "Karen is one of those people you can go to and get an answer."

Podesta says: "She's a spark plug in the White House, in that she's smart, practical, tough, has good rapport with everyone. Most importantly, she gets stuff done."

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
THE WHITE HOUSE 11-11-99
WASHINGTON

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There is the 100th Army-Navy
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

MY DEAR FRIEND, MR PRESIDENT
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I ONLY WRITE THIS NOTE
TO REMIND YOU OF OUR
CONVERSATION - THE

PRESENCE OF YOURSELF -
IN THE CIRCLE OF HOPE -
ALONG WITH FIDEL CASTRO -
WILL SEND OUT A SIGNAL
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ENDING 1000 YEARS
OF COMMUNISM - YOU
KNOW YOU HAVE MY
UNCONDITIONAL LOVE & CONCERN -
& I HOPE YOU TO TRY TO FIND
THE SOLUTION TO MAKE THIS
A REALITY - A THING OF FRIENDSHIP -
QUICKLY

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Bergen
Podesta

Dinner

honoring

President William Jefferson Clinton

*Crab and Shrimp Cakes with Green Papaya
Roasted Garlic Tartar Sauce*

*

*Pressed Tofu and Daikon Salad
Soy Mustard Vinaigrette Dressing*

*

*Roasted Chilean Sea Bass
Ponzu and Fresh Cabbage Salad*

*

*Warm Chocolate Cake with Whipped Cream
Coffee*

*

Sterling Vineyards "North Coast" Sauvignon Blanc 1998

Sterling Vineyards "Lake" Pinot Noir 1997

Menu by Jezu Restaurant

Avant Residence

Sunday, October 3, 1999