

The original documents are located in Box 37, “7/26/76 - Remarks Upon Signing S. 586: The Coastal Zone Management Act Amendments of 1976” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .

STATEMENT ON SIGNING S. 586
THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT
AMENDMENTS OF 1976, JULY 26, 1976

THIS MORNING I AM SIGNING INTO LAW THE
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1976.

THESE AMENDMENTS INCLUDE MANY OF THE PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS

OF THE PROPOSAL I SENT TO THE CONGRESS IN FEBRUARY OF

THIS YEAR, WHICH WERE DESIGNED TO ASSIST COMMUNITIES

SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERALLY OWNED

ENERGY RESOURCES.

THESE AMENDMENTS WILL PROVIDE A BASIS FOR
LONG-TERM PLANNING BY THE COASTAL STATES SO THAT THEY
CAN BETTER BALANCE THE NEEDS FOR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT,
URBAN GROWTH, OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECREATIONAL
USE.

THESE AMENDMENTS ALSO REPRESENT A GOOD BALANCE
BETWEEN FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL INTERESTS IN THE SENSITIVE
AREAS OF COASTAL LAND AND WATER USES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.

BY CREATING A COASTAL ENERGY IMPACT PROGRAM

WITH FUNDS OF 1.2 BILLION DOLLARS OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS,

WE RECOGNIZE A NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP COASTAL

STATES AND COMMUNITIES THAT ARE AFFECTED AS WE SPEED UP

EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION OF OIL AND GAS FROM THE OUTER

CONTINENTAL SHELF. AT THE SAME TIME, THESE

AMENDMENTS RIGHTLY LIMIT THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE FEDERAL

GOVERNMENT WILL BECOME INVOLVED IN DECISIONS THAT SHOULD

BE MADE AT STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS.

I SEE THIS BILL AS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN FOR THE
FUTURE. FIRST, BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS THE KIND OF
PROGRESS THAT CAN BE MADE WHEN THE CONGRESS AND THE
ADMINISTRATION WORK TOGETHER. AND SECOND,
BECAUSE IT SHOWS THAT TWO ISSUES HIGH ON OUR NATIONAL
AGENDA -- THE NEED FOR ENERGY AND THE NEED FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION -- CAN INDEED BE RECONCILED.

END OF TEXT