

**SJR**

**20**

# FISCAL NOTE No. 1

STATE OF ALASKA  
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SJR 20  
(S) Publish Date: 4-12-99

Revision Date 4/8/99 Dept. Affected \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title Save the Beaver in Washington DC BRU \_\_\_\_\_  
 Component \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor Taylor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Requester \_\_\_\_\_ Component Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05
Personal Services						0.0
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES [    ]						
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

**FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)**

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: 0.0

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution is anticipated to have no fiscal impact on state agencies.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee Phone 465-4907  
 Division Rick Halford Date 4/9/99  
 Approved by Senator Rick Halford, Chairman Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agency \_\_\_\_\_

# Alaska State Legislature

*Chairman,*  
Judiciary Committee

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-3873  
Fax: (907) 465-3922



50 Front Street  
Suite 203  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
(907) 225-8088  
Fax: (907) 225-0713

*Senator Robin L. Taylor*

## SPONSOR STATEMENT

SJR20

Relating to removal of beaver from Washington, D.C.

The North American beaver inhabited the District of Columbia for eons before the first humans occupied the area. The beaver became extinct in the District of Columbia when development and the Capitals urban sprawl killed them off. Two years ago, one brave pioneering young beaver floated down the Potomac River and is now attempting to establish a colony of beavers, without government subsidy, in an area know as the Tidal Basin. We have decided to give this little critter a name... we are calling him Bucky.

Although Bucky is oblivious of the fact, he qualifies for special protection, under the Endangered Species Act and the land he is using is habitat critical to his survival. Unfortunately the Clinton/Gore Administration is protecting cherry trees instead of Bucky Beaver. Their Park Service employees are harassing poor Bucky by stealing his food and trying to trap him in a cage.

These Federal agencies are required by Federal law to stop all human activities and development projects in that critical habitat area. In fact, this beaver may very well be the latest evolutionary example of beaver adaptation, a unique sub species that has evolved and learned to survive in the polution and corruption that exists in Washington D.C. at almost toxic levels.

Less than 150 years ago, free roaming wild North American beaver lived and raised their young in the Tidal Basin and throughout the District. Government killed them off and now they are going to trap, tranquilize, tag, and transport this beaver out of town.

I say NO – let little Bucky Beaver alone. Enforce your Federal laws and protect him as zealously as you protect Kangaroo Rats and spotted owls. The trees eaten by the beaver were alien species not native to the area, planted for their decorative value.

The beaver lived there first. He is native to the area and his historic use predates mans. If the environmentalists are correct ....man is the trespasser, not Bucky Beaver.

District A:

Hyder • Ketchikan • Kupreanof • Meyers Chuck • Petersburg • Saxman • Sitka • Wrangell

## BUCKY BEAVER

*Lyrics By Senator Robin Taylor*

*Alaska State Senate*

*To be sung to the tune of Davy Crockett*

Bucky Bucky Beaver  
Lets fight to keep him free.

A Potomac flood left him a facin'  
Life alone in the Tidal Basin,  
He survived right well with the squirrels and the bees  
And chewed up a couple of Cherry Trees.

Bucky Bucky Beaver  
Let's fight to keep him free.

The Park police now steal his food  
Try to trap him and treat him rude,  
He's a unique species and proud of that  
A livin' on some critical habitat.

Bucky Bucky Beaver  
Let's fight to keep him free.

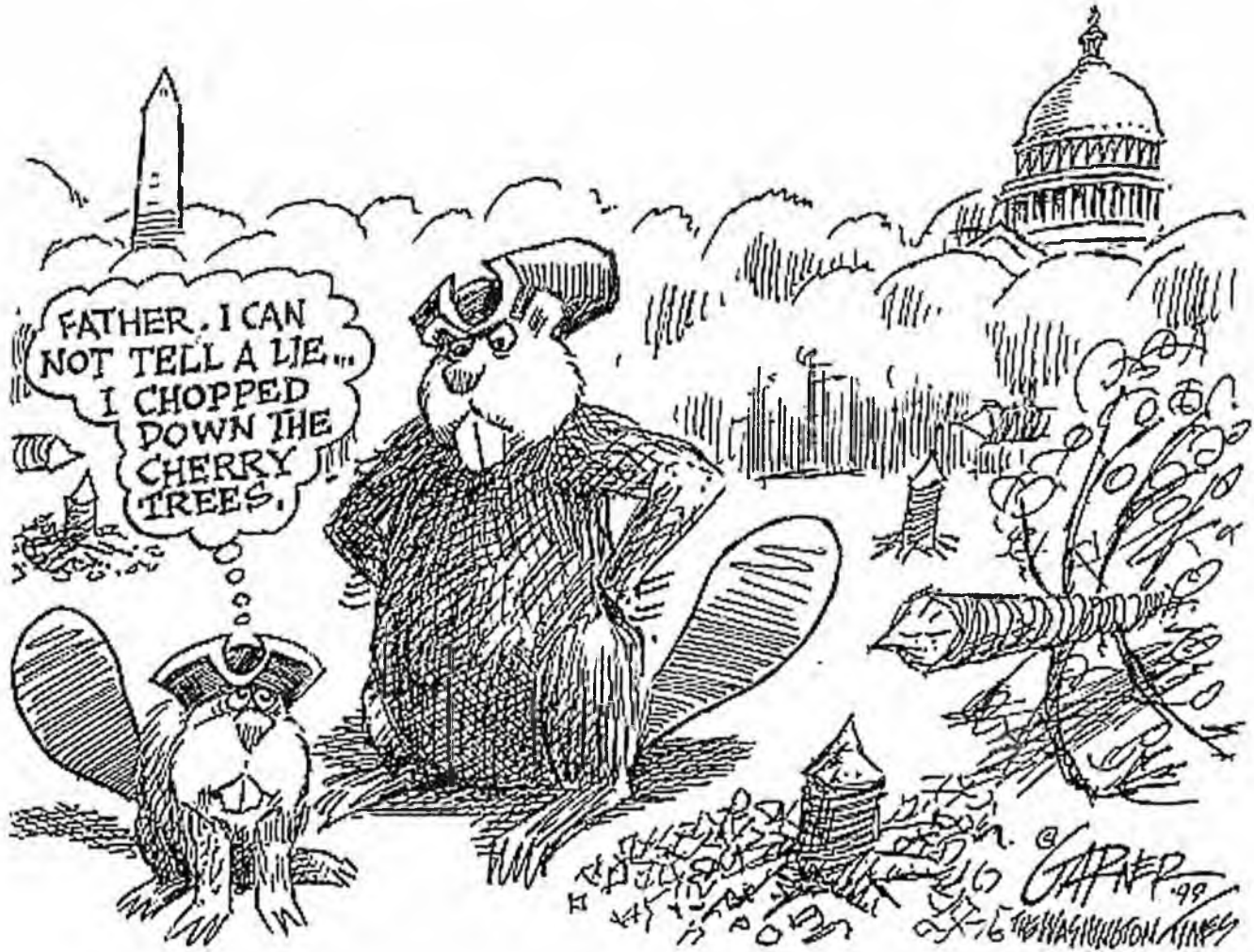
Critters like Bucky sometimes don't fit  
The parky plans of the hypocrits.  
But he needs our help so one and all  
Give Al Gore a personal call...tell him  
Bucky Bucky Beaver..let's fight to keep him free.

# The Washington Times Politics

Published in Washington, D.C. 5am -- April 9, 1999 www.washtimes.com

<b>FRONT PAGE</b>	<b>POLITICS</b>	<b>OPINION</b>	<b>INVESTIGATIVE</b>	Other Sections
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>	<b>BUSINESS</b>	<b>LETTERS</b>	<b>SUBSCRIBE</b>	<b>GO</b>

## YOUNG GEORGE WASHINGTON BEAVER



On our front page today: Beavers in Tidal Basin cause a gnawing problem

FRONT PAGE | POLITICS | OPINION | INVESTIGATIVE | INTERNATIONAL | BUSINESS | LETTERS | SUBSCRIBE

Copyright © 1999 News World Communications, Inc.

And Thank You  
Note

# Don't bother trying to bite the system

## For beavers in D.C., acting natural is a capital offense

For thousands of years before the white man arrived in North America to begin building colonies, beavers had their own colonies along the East Coast and into the Potomac River drainage.

Before the American Revolution, the site of today's national capital along the Potomac was one big swamp. That is the now politically incorrect terminology used to refer to wetlands in the days of the Founding Fathers.

Americans were ignorant of the ecological importance of marshes in those days. They saw them only as breeding colonies for mosquitoes and waterlogged barriers to progress.



**CRAIG  
MEDRED**

Thus the swamp of the lower Potomac was filled to create the land on which to build the city of Washington, D.C.

As the American colonies flourished and became states, the East Coast beaver colonies faded. The closest thing to a beaver in Washington, D.C., for a long time was a rat — the beaver's unpopular rodent cousin.

This spring, though, the beavers returned in what can only be considered a wonderful testament to the resiliency of nature.

You would have thought this would have been cause for celebration in the environmentally conscious capital of 1999, but you would have been wrong.

The returning beavers, you see, decided to dine on imported Yoshino cherry trees guarded by the ever-vigilant forces of the National Park Service.

This is the same National Park Service, it should be noted, that has led efforts to get rid of invasive species — like imported trout — in other parts of the country.

And this is the same National Park Service that is big on standing back to let almost anything happen among the flora and fauna of Alaska with the dictum that nature should be allowed to take its course.

Nature's course in the Tidal Basin, of course, was to have the beavers grow fat on imported Japanese cherry trees. The trees would have died in the process, but this would have let in light to nourish whatever native flora happened to take root. And soon, to mark the cycle of life, something else would be growing where cherry trees once stood.

The vegetation a decade from now might

## BEAVERS

D.C.'s big hairy deal

Sports, C-1



### MEDRED: Beavers get short end of stick

Continued from Page C-1

not have looked the same, but at least it would have been native instead of imported.

So what if Washington, D.C., might have to change its annual celebration from the Cherry Blossom Festival to the Pussy Willow Festival.

Big hairy deal, you say.

Well, it was a big hairy deal to the National Park Service and the Washington media, which embraced the Park Service in its efforts to keep those cherry trees from nature.

When bears or wolf packs decide to rip moose limb from bloody limb in Alaska, these are the people demanding we "let nature take its course."

When beavers decide to chomp down a few cherry trees, these same people start screaming for a trapper — but a "humane" one please.

Paid \$1,500 by the Park

Service, the humane trapper over the weekend put out "suitcase-shaped, wire mesh traps baited with a slab of fresh willow and a dab of castor, a substance secreted by beavers to mark their territory," the Washington Post reported.

Two beavers were quickly and humanely caged — which couldn't have been fun for the beavers, but was a blast for the nation's press.

"Another of the city's celebrity beavers was taken into federal custody yesterday, then resettled in an undisclosed location where the critter will no longer chew up national treasures," Eric Lipton cutely reported in the Post on Monday.

National treasures? Were the beavers trying to gnaw down one of the columns at the Lincoln Memorial? I thought we were talking about some imported trees here.

Anyway, the beavers were caught and hauled away.

"... Federal officials," Lipton noted, "are keeping their new habitat a secret. They are afraid that the frenzy surrounding their discovery will follow them to their new home, where the beavers are now free to chew as they choose."

More likely — given the difficulty in finding good, unoccupied beaver habitat in much of the country these days — they are afraid someone might find out that they dumped the beavers where they will starve, or where some big, bad resident beavers will let them know who's boss.

That's how nature takes its course out of sight of the Washington media.

□ Craig Medred is the Daily News outdoors editor and an opinion columnist.

## Oregon Blue Book Almanac



### Topics: Abbreviations through Counties

---

**Abbreviations, Oregon:** OR (postal)

**Airports:** 386

#### **Altitudes**

**Highest:** Mt. Hood (11239')

**Lowest:** Pacific Ocean (sea level)

#### **Animal, State**

The American Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) was named Oregon state animal by the 1969 Legislature. Prized for its fur, the beaver was overtrapped by early settlers and eliminated from much of its original range. Through proper management and partial protection, the beaver has been reestablished in



watercourses throughout the state and remains an important economic asset. The beaver has been referred to as "nature's engineer," and its dam-building activities are important to natural water flow and erosion control. Oregon is known as the "Beaver State" and Oregon State University's athletic teams are called the "Beavers."

#### **Apportionment, US House of Representatives**

1860-1880 1

1890-1900 2

1910-1930 3

1940-1970 4

1980-1990 5

#### **Awards (Nobel, Pulitzer)**

1934 - *Medford Mail Tribune* - Pulitzer, Journalism

1939 - Ronald Callvert, *The Oregonian* - Pulitzer, Editorial Writing

1954 - Linus Pauling - Nobel, Chemistry

1957 - Wallace Turner and William Lambert, *The Oregonian* - Pulitzer, Reporting (No Edition Time)

1962 - Linus Pauling - Nobel, Peace