

ews release from Barney Frank

Congressman, 4th District, Massachusetts

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400 Totten Pond Road
Waltham, MA 02154
(617) 890-9455

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 1981

CONTACT: JAMES DORSEY 617-890-9455

Frank attacks Watt's attempt to ban free speech

WALTHAM -- Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., said today that James Watt's effort to ban free speech from the House Interior Committee demonstrates again his unfitness to be Secretary of the Interior.

"Unfortunately, Secretary Watt already had made it clear that he fails to understand the importance of a balanced approach to protecting our nation's resources," Frank said upon learning Watt had threatened to kill an important Arizona water project unless House Interior Committee Chairman Morris K. Udall, D-Ariz., muzzled Interior Committee members.

"Now, by his crude attempt to extort Congressman Udall into preventing Interior Committee members from asking him tough questions, Secretary Watt shows us that he does not understand democracy, either," Frank added.

"Watt's gloating affirmation that he threatened to kill a major Arizona water project unless Udall gagged his committee members is only the latest in a series of bizarre actions that makes Watt's continued tenure as Interior Secretary an embarrassment to President Reagan and the nation," Frank said.

Sentinel and Enterprise

Sentinel Enterprise, Fitchburg, Mass., Friday, August 14, 1981 9

Frank Wants

Watt Fired

By BILL STERNBERG

Sentinel Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Rep. Barney Frank has called on President Reagan to fire his controversial Interior Secretary, James Watt.

Frank has one of 29 House Democrats who sent a letter to Reagan earlier this month urging the president to "make removing Watt your highest priority and cease to condone his policies."

Watt has come under severe criticism for his pro-development policies, but Reagan has given no public indication he is displeased with the secretary's performance.

Watt, claiming that past departmental policy has been dictated by "environmental extremists," has moved to increase offshore oil drilling, loosen strip-mining regulations and allow commercial activity in national parks.

In their letter, the congressmen charged the Interior Secretary was "undermining environmental goals supported by a vast majority of Americans."

"He is seeking to ignore decades of legislation designed to protect our country's natural resources," the letter continues. "Almost every facet of our environmental heritage is coming under attack, and Secretary Watt is the principal advocate of these destructive policies."

~~SECRET~~

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

July 31, 1981

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

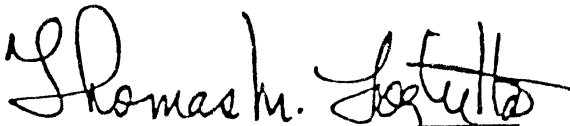
As Members of the Congress, we would like to join the many Americans who have already written you seeking the dismissal of Secretary of the Interior James G. Watt. He is undermining environmental goals supported by a vast majority of Americans. He is seeking to ignore decades of legislation designed to protect our country's natural resources. Almost every facet of our environmental heritage is coming under attack, and Secretary Watt is the principal advocate of these destructive policies.

We firmly support the policies this country has developed for managing the protection of our natural resources. We risk losing our natural heritage unless Mr. Watt is dismissed. Please make his removal your highest priority and cease to condone his policies.

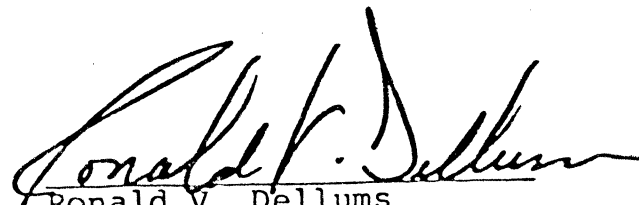
Sincerely,



Richard L. Ottinger
Member of Congress



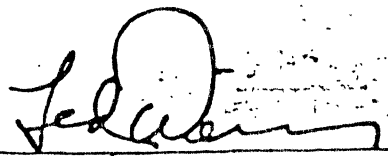
Thomas M. Foglietta
Member of Congress



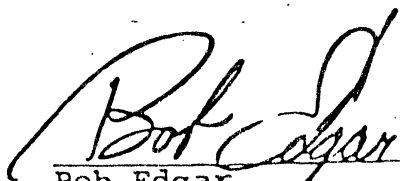
Ronald V. Dellums
Member of Congress

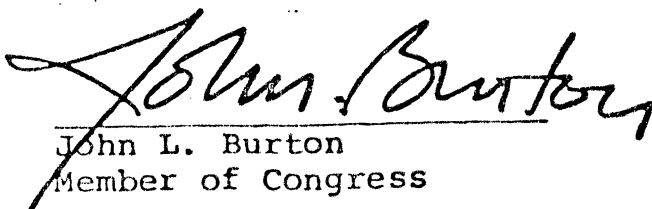


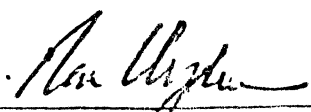
Michael D. Barnes
Member of Congress


Ted Weiss
Member of Congress

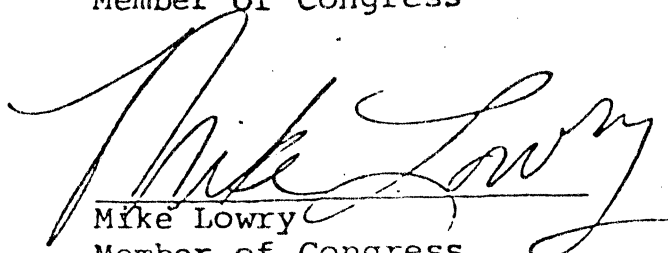

Robert W. Kastenmeier
Member of Congress

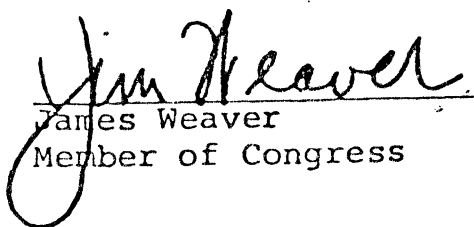

Bob Edgar
Member of Congress

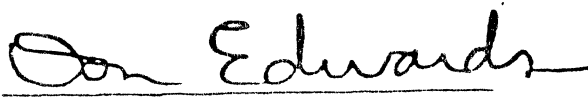

John L. Burton
Member of Congress

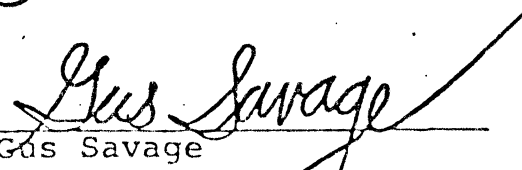

Ron Wyden
Member of Congress

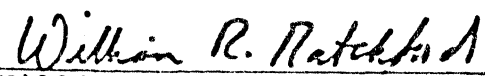

Barney Frank
Member of Congress

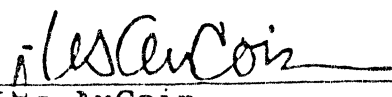

Mike Lowry
Member of Congress


James Weaver
Member of Congress

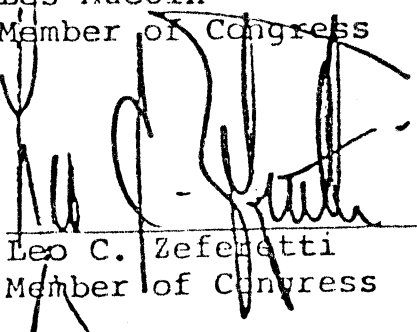

Don Edwards
Member of Congress


Gus Savage
Member of Congress


William R. Ratchford
Member of Congress


Les AuCoin
Member of Congress


William Clay
Member of Congress


Leo C. Zeffereetti
Member of Congress

Mr. Paul E. Healy -- Page 2

Thank you again for writing and feel free to contact me on this or any other matter in the future.


BARNEY FRANK

BF/nw
enclosure

BARNEY FRANK
4TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
JUDICIARY
AGING

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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617-342-8722
FRAMINGHAM, AREA TELEPHONE
617-879-4566

November 5, 1981

Mr. Paul E. Healy
City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

Thank you very much for writing to me.

I am in complete agreement with you about the disastrous environmental impact of the policies of Interior Secretary Watt.

I want you to know that I have co-signed the enclosed letter to President Reagan calling for him to replace Mr. Watt as Interior Secretary. I believe, as you do, that his policies do threaten to reverse wildlife and environmental protection and I assure you that I am opposing them in the Congress.

I serve on the Government Operations Subcommittee on the Environment, Energy and Natural Resources and I assure you that I will use this subcommittee's jurisdiction to fight in every way possible against Secretary Watt's damaging policies.

Specifically, I do oppose the resumption of importing kangaroo skins, the opening of marine sanctuaries and wildlife refuges to oil and mineral production, and the resumed use of 1080 chemical poison. I will also fight against the Interior Secretary's proposal to conduct strip mining in the Bryce Canyon.

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Comm. from Paul E. Healy, City Clerk, transmitting comm. from Rep. Barney Frank Re: resolution on Secretary of the Interior James Watt.

In City Council,

November 16, 1981

11/16/81

*Placed
on*

File