

Three cheers for Arizona Governor Fife Symington, who came forward and spoke about what I hope will soon become reality in our great nation.

Strong words about government and the environmental movement were heard from the governor on June 19 during an environmental policy meeting sponsored by the Heritage Foundation. If others believe in the governor's words as I do, then we will see overregulation of the environment come to a

screaming halt!

During this speech, Symington announced his support for the repeal of the Endangered Species Act. He noted that the act is a complete disaster and has become a tool for radical environmental groups to shut down industry. Also, his measures to help restore "self-government" decision about the environment deserve some looking into. These measures include:

- Imposing term limits on federal judges
 - Adopting a single coherent federal environmental policy
 - Streamlining the EPA by eliminating regional offices and establishing state offices co-located with the state agency. This would allow hand-in-hand decision making and eliminate a lot of second guessing.
 - Adopting expiration dates for all existing federal mandates that are of no use anymore.
 - Reviewing state laws mandating "environmentally conscious" public school curricula
- Reform such as what Governor

Symington is referring to is very much needed. The "environmental movement" as we see it today needs to be redirected. It indeed has some merit to it, but for now it is full of irrational reasoning. Respect for human nature must be given back to the people now. Who are better stewards of the land than those who live and work and play on that very land. It is time to return responsibilities when in comes to environmental protection back to the people.

On a more personal basis, I would like to thank all of you wonderful people in and around the little town of Hobe Sound who have made my move to the east coast an easy transition. At times, when I lived in Tampa, I would comment about how I never wanted to live on the east coast of Florida. Now that I am here, all I can say is, "Try it — you'll like it!"

To all of my friends back in the Tampa area that I never had the opportunity to say good-bye to, I want you to know one thing — the West Coast Chapter will always be very special to me. It is a great association, loaded with a lot of good superintendents and backed by a lot of vendors who truly care about our business. I miss you all, but remember — I am only a phone call away.

I am very much looking forward to serving as president of the FGCSA this upcoming year, but I am going to need some assistance from all of you. Anyone wanting to serve on a committee, please give me a call. The FGCSA is only as strong as the people who work for the association. Let's all get involved and work together in making the FGCSA the best it can be.

Environmental movement needs redirection



Greg Plotner, CGCSA
President
FGCSA