

THE GOLDEN FLEECE AWARD



Words Of Praise For Senator Proxmire and His Golden Fleece Award

"His Golden Fleece Awards have shaped up a generation of civil servants in bureaucracies prone to run aground."

"He has never been one to waste time -- or taxpayers money -- on the frivolous or the unimportant. Instead, he has devoted his considerable talents and limitless energy to the fundamental challenges that confront us."

Sen. Edward Kennedy

October 14, 1988

"Above all, Bill Proxmire has been an unexcelled defender of the American taxpayer. By fighting wasteful spending wherever he could find it, Senator Proxmire has helped to hold the line against higher taxes while, at the same time, guaranteeing taxpayers more value for each dollar of taxes they do pay."

Sen. Jake Garn

October 14, 1988

"Senator Proxmire's independence and integrity allowed him to be a strong leader on daunting issues, making progress and achieving change in areas that others might have forsaken.... Senator Proxmire is perhaps best remembered for his near fanatical devotion to saving taxpayer dollars."

Sen. Christopher Dodd

November 9, 1995

"Bill Proxmire has always been an advocate for the little guy- for the consumers, the workers, the housewives, the average men and women of America. He has been a voice of common sense and good judgment in the Senate. He is blunt and outspoken and he tells it like it is."

Sen. John Kerry

October 21, 1988

"Senator William Proxmire... has been a tireless watchdog when it comes to the Federal Budget, never hesitating to attack waste and mismanagement no matter how sacred the cow. His Golden Fleece awards have become famous, and have added an enduring phrase to our political lexicon."

Sen. Dale Bumpers

October 21, 1988

"Bill Proxmire is a man who calls it like it is. He's not afraid to take on seemingly insurmountable tasks. He's not afraid to push unpopular issues. And his focus is on people, on making the Government run efficiently, and saving the taxpayers' money."

Sen. Jim Sasser

October 17, 1988

"Bill has not just publicized the wasteful spending of the Federal Government, he has also attacked it on a personal and professional level."

Sen. Terry Sanford

October 14, 1988

"Only Bill Proxmire could have dreamed up the 'Golden Fleece' Award -- a phrase that became household words for 'waste, fraud, and abuse' in Government spending."

Sen. Robert J. Dole

October 14, 1988

"Senator Proxmire has always been regarded as a staunch opponent of Government waste.... Proxmire's monthly fleece awards have been an indication of his dedication to the American taxpayer and his overwhelming distaste for unnecessary expenditures."

Sen. Hecht

October 20, 1988

"This dedicated public servant has never hesitated to put principle above politics, to put a humanitarian cause above personal interests or convenience to make this a better Nation and to make our Government more responsible to the will of 'we the people.'"

Sen. Robert Byrd

September 15, 1988

"[T]he distinguished Senator from Wisconsin has been a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious Senator."

Sen. Robert Byrd

October 21, 1988

"I want to pay particular tribute to Bill Proxmire as the real driving force behind reducing the Federal budget deficit."

Sen. Dennis DeConcini

October 13, 1988

"He is a man of intelligence, common sense, good humor, deep integrity, and fierce dedication to the public interest and to public service."

Sen. Paul Sarbanes

October 14, 1988

"He is unique, he is virtually a public institution."

Sen. Alan Dixon

October 17, 1988

"'Golden Fleece' Awards... direct national attention to the unnecessary waste of taxpayer money."

Sen. Robert J. Dole

August 3, 1988

