

Reported Recommending
Ind. Postponed
Passed Senate
Failed to Pass Senate.....
Passed House
Failed to Pass House.....

S. J. R. 7

March 31, 1943.
Passed on File.

By AGRICULTURE 2.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the Standing Committee on Retrenchment and Reform to make an intensive study of the drainage laws of Iowa; to direct the Committee to arrange for and hold necessary public hearings on the subject in the City of Des Moines, Iowa, and to give timely notice of the time and place of such hearings; to empower the Committee to employ required professional and clerical help and to authorize the use of its appropriated funds for paying the salaries and expenses therefor; to prepare a proposed bill revising and codifying the laws of Iowa relating to such drainage districts and their improvement.

WHEREAS, the Drainage Laws of the State of Iowa have been in the process of development for many years; and,

WHEREAS, the present statutes relating to levee and drainage districts and the improvement thereof contain numerous conflicts, uncertainties and omissions which destroy efficiency, prevent economy and interfere with a practical and fair administration of the laws regulating the establishment of districts and to the making of assessments for their improvement; and,

WHEREAS, there are gross inequalities and injustices in the operation of the present drainage laws of Iowa, as interpreted by the Supreme Court of Iowa, which conditions should be corrected. Now, Therefore,

Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

- 1 Section 1. The Standing Committee on Retrenchment and
- 2 Reform is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to make
- 3 an early and intensive study of the drainage laws of the State

4 of Iowa as they now appear in the 1939 Code of Iowa and
5 Session Laws, and to make recommendations for their correction
6 and perfection, and to prepare one or more legislative bills
7 to effect such corrections and additions and recommendations
8 in an entire new drainage code, which code shall constitute
9 a complete revision and codification of the laws of Iowa
10 relating to all drainage and levee matters. Attached to each
11 bill so prepared shall be an explanation of the same, which
12 bills and explanations shall accompany and be made a part of
13 the committee report. All conflicting sections of the present
14 statute shall be removed. Apparent omissions or errors which
15 interfere with the efficient operation of such statutory
16 procedure shall be corrected. New or additional provisions
17 shall be inserted wherever necessary.

18 The committee is directed to arrange for and hold
19 necessary public hearings in the City of Des Moines, Iowa,
20 and to give reasonable notice of the time and place of such
21 hearings, at which hearings those affected by or interested in
22 such proposed legislation may be heard and have reasonable
23 opportunity to present their problems, make recommendations
24 and file with the committee proposed amendments pertinent to
25 the subject under consideration.

26 The committee shall, with the advice of expert and
27 professional employees, and after due investigation, research,
28 public hearings, and consultations with drainage engineers,
29 public officials and other experienced laymen, prepare and

30 submit to the Fifty-first General Assembly of Iowa all
31 corrections, additions or changes necessary to make the
32 operations of the drainage laws of Iowa more efficient,
33 equitable and economical. Said report shall be completed
34 and filed with the Governor of Iowa, not later than the
35 opening day of the convening of the Fifty-first General
36 Assembly.

1 Sec. 2. In carrying out the duties imposed upon it
2 by this resolution, the committee is authorized to employ
3 an attorney, engineer and such other persons as may be
4 required; and to incur such expenses as shall be necessary
5 to complete satisfactorily the work assigned, and within the
6 time allotted; such salaries and expenses to be paid out of
7 the fund appropriated to the Standing Committee on Retrenchment
8 and Reform, but not to exceed the total sum of \$3,000.00.