

S- P. 133 1/18/95 adopted

FILED JAN 12 1995

H- 2/1/95 Amend/Do Pass w/ H- 3010

H- 2/8/95 ADOPTED

(P. 304)

6

S- 2/23/95 adopted

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.

2 BY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

3 A Concurrent Resolution objecting to a plan proposed by

4 the United States Corps of Engineers to dramatically

5 alter the operation of the Missouri River, and to request

6 that the current operation of the river be maintained or

7 that an alternative plan be considered that does not

8 negatively impact upon the effective operation of the river.

9 WHEREAS, the Missouri River is a major waterway of

10 the United States, bordering the entire western side

11 of the state of Iowa for more than 200 miles; and

12 WHEREAS, the average volume of water that flows

13 past the cities of Omaha, Nebraska, and Council

14 Bluffs, Iowa, equals 32,120 cubic feet per second

15 which is equivalent to approximately 23 million acre-

16 feet per year; and

17 WHEREAS, the drainage area above Omaha, Nebraska,

18 and Council Bluffs, Iowa, equals 232,000 square miles;

19 and

20 WHEREAS, Iowa is one of the nation's preeminent

21 agricultural states, and consistently one of the

22 leading states in both corn and soybean production;

23 and

24 WHEREAS, Iowa and other upper midwestern states

25 bordering the Missouri River represent a major grain-

26 producing region of the United States; and

27 WHEREAS, the Missouri River is used to transport a

28 significant proportion of the region's grain bound for

29 export markets; and

30 WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers

S.C.R. 6

SCR 6

1 has completed a draft environmental impact statement,
2 containing findings embodied in a United States Army
3 Corps of Engineers study referred to as the Missouri
4 River Master Water Control Manual Review and Update;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the draft version of the environmental
7 impact statement analyzes a new method of operation
8 for the Missouri River system which will result in an
9 additional flow of water in the spring, shorter
10 navigation seasons, and further reductions in service
11 to navigation; and

12 WHEREAS, the rising river level in the spring as
13 contemplated in the plan proposed by the United States
14 Army Corps of Engineers will increase risks to land
15 along the river by causing additional flooding,
16 increasing groundwater tables, and reducing the
17 effectiveness of drainage systems, including the
18 effectiveness of gate valves along the river designed
19 to facilitate drainage; and

20 WHEREAS, reductions in support to navigation and
21 the lack of water flowing into the river during dry or
22 drought periods will reduce the commercial value of
23 the Missouri River to an extent that the continued
24 existence of vital barge traffic on the river will be
25 jeopardized; NOW THEREFORE,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
27 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the plan proposed by
28 the United States Corps of Engineers to dramatically
29 alter the operation of the Missouri River threatens
30 land neighboring the river and the vitality of

1 navigation on the river which is essential to
2 commerce; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States Army
4 Corps of Engineers is urged to reevaluate its proposal
5 and maintain the current operation of the river or
6 consider an alternative plan that does not negatively
7 impact upon Iowa and other states bordering the
8 Missouri River; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
10 resolution be sent to the President of the United
11 States; the Chief of Engineers, United States Army
12 Corps of Engineers; the Missouri River Division
13 Commander, United States Army Corps of Engineers; the
14 President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of
15 the United States House of Representatives; and
16 members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 6

H-3010

1 Amend Senate Concurrent Resolution 6, as passed by
2 the Senate, as follows:

3 1. Page 2, by inserting after line 19 the
4 following:

5 "WHEREAS, the Missouri River contributes between 40
6 and 50 percent of the water flow to the Mississippi
7 River south of the rivers' confluence, between St.
8 Louis, Missouri, and Cairo, Illinois; and

9 WHEREAS, the loss of water flow could reduce levels
10 at the Port of St. Louis by two to five feet, creating
11 significant increases in the cost of transporting
12 grain exports throughout the middle Mississippi during
13 peak shipping seasons; and

14 WHEREAS, the barge share of grain movements to
15 export ports increased from 43 percent in 1974 to 54
16 percent in 1991 and most of this barge grain traffic
17 is on the Mississippi River system; and".

18 2. Page 3, by inserting after line 8 the
19 following:

20 "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That if the plan proposed
21 by the United States Army Corps of Engineers is
22 adopted administratively, that the Iowa congressional
23 delegation cooperate to take all actions necessary to
24 ensure that moneys are not made available for the
25 proposal's implementation; and".

By COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
EDDIE of Buena Vista, Chairperson

H-3010 FILED FEBRUARY 1, 1995

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 6

H-3026

1 Amend Senate Concurrent Resolution 6, as passed by
2 the Senate, as follows:

3 1. Page 3, line 6, by inserting after the word
4 "that" the following: "recognizes the need to restore
5 habitat along the river, yet".

By FALLON of Polk

H-3026 FILED FEBRUARY 2, 1995

(P.304) 2/8/95 LOST

HOUSE AMENDMENT TO
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 6

S-3056

1 Amend Senate Concurrent Resolution 6, as passed by
2 the Senate, as follows:

3 1. Page 2, by inserting after line 19 the
4 following:

5 "WHEREAS, the Missouri River contributes between 40
6 and 50 percent of the water flow to the Mississippi
7 River south of the rivers' confluence, between St.
8 Louis, Missouri, and Cairo, Illinois; and

9 WHEREAS, the loss of water flow could reduce levels
10 at the Port of St. Louis by two to five feet, creating
11 significant increases in the cost of transporting
12 grain exports throughout the middle Mississippi during
13 peak shipping seasons; and

14 WHEREAS, the barge share of grain movements to
15 export ports increased from 43 percent in 1974 to 54
16 percent in 1991 and most of this barge grain traffic
17 is on the Mississippi River system; and".

18 2. Page 3, by inserting after line 8 the
19 following:

20 "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That if the plan proposed
21 by the United States Army Corps of Engineers is
22 adopted administratively, that the Iowa congressional
23 delegation cooperate to take all actions necessary to
24 ensure that moneys are not made available for the
25 proposal's implementation; and".

RECEIVED FROM THE HOUSE

S-3056 FILED FEBRUARY 10, 1995

*Senate
Concurred
2/23/95
(P. 444)*