

H. 4/27/99 adapted

APR 20 1999

H. 4/29/99 Agriculture
Do Pass

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S. 4/29/99 Do Pass
adapted

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.
 2 BY HAHN, WISE, COHOON, MASCHER, LARKIN, BUKTA,
 3 GREINER, RAYHONS, BRADLEY, HOLMES, BRAUNS, GIPP,
 4 THOMAS, JOHNSON, MARTIN, HEATON, WELTER, DOLECHECK,
 5 BLODGETT, HUSEMAN, DRAKE, REYNOLDS, MERTZ, MUNDIE,
 6 DAVIS, ALONS, EDDIE, BAUDLER, SUNDERBRUCH, ARNOLD,
 7 WEIDMAN, TEIG, MILLAGE, SIEGRIST, KLEMME, HOFFMAN,
 8 and TYRRELL

9 A Concurrent Resolution in support of maintaining the
 10 Mississippi River as a major transportation route
 11 for various products shipped into and out of the
 12 Upper Mississippi region.

13 WHEREAS, barges operating on United States inland
 14 waterways are the dominant carriers of United States
 15 grains to export port facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, the majority of this barge grain traffic
 17 traverses the Mississippi River system; and

18 WHEREAS, the Upper Mississippi River is the
 19 dominate originator of grain barge traffic for export;
 20 and

21 WHEREAS, 95 percent of the world's population live
 22 outside the United States; and

23 WHEREAS, economies and populations continue to grow
 24 worldwide and these agricultural export markets are
 25 essential to the economic future of the Upper Midwest
 26 including Iowa; and

27 WHEREAS, international markets are very competitive
 28 and opportunities can be gained or lost based on very
 29 small differences in price; and

30 WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers

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1 projects Upper Mississippi River barge traffic to
2 increase dramatically; and

3 WHEREAS, increased barge traffic will continue to
4 place a burden on the river transportation system
5 which is more than 50 years old; and

6 WHEREAS, the original design specifications for the
7 locks and dams have been surpassed by modern barge
8 technology resulting in delays because tows must be
9 broken down to move through the locks; and

10 WHEREAS, delays are projected to rise as high as
11 several million dollars per year; and

12 WHEREAS, shipping products by rail or truck would
13 significantly increase costs and consumption of fuel
14 and the emission of pollutants into the atmosphere;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, a consistent, economical, and reliable
17 inland waterway system is critical to our economy; and

18 WHEREAS, the national economic and public benefit
19 of the Upper Mississippi River system is more than \$1
20 billion per year; NOW THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
22 SENATE CONCURRING, That the maintenance of the Upper
23 Mississippi River system is essential to the economic
24 well-being of Iowa and the Midwest; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Congress is urged
26 to provide adequate funding for major rehabilitation
27 efforts on the Upper Mississippi River; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
29 Resolution be sent by the Chief Clerk of the House of
30 Representatives to the President of the United States;

1 the Chief of Engineers, United States Army Corps of
2 Engineers, North Central Division; the United States
3 Secretary of Transportation; the President of the
4 United States Senate; the Speaker of the United States
5 House of Representatives; and the members of Iowa's
6 congressional delegation.

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