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25 October 1967

U. S. HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

REP. JOHN I. RHODES, (R.-ARIZ.) CHAIRMAN • 140 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING • TELEPHONE 225-6168

10

HOUSE REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THE AIR QUALITY ACT OF 1967, S.780

The House Republican Policy Committee supports the Air Quality Act of 1967, S.780. This bill would encourage the solution of air pollution problems on a regional basis in accordance with air quality standards and enforcement plans developed by the States. It would provide \$362.3 million over a three year period for air control research, studies, planning and grants to States and air pollution agencies. Air pollution is no longer just a threat, it is a present menace to the health and well-being of the American people. Under this legislation, reasonable standards can be established and the States and Regions will be empowered to develop plans and programs to combat and reduce air pollution.

Approximately 130 million tons of pollutants are discharged annually into the nation's atmosphere, an average of 1,400 pounds for each American. This pollution is a by-product of our highly developed economy. It stems from the rising number of motor vehicles, and from the trend toward urbanization which concentrates the highest levels of pollution in the most populated areas. Economic and mechanical progress has meant the deterioration of our precious air supply. Smog, damage to health and property, and even death have resulted from the pollution of our air.

Steps must be taken to improve this nation's knowledge of and technical capability to meet the air pollution problem. In his 1955 State of the Union Address, President Eisenhower urged the enactment of air pollution legislation. With the support of Republicans of both Houses of Congress, the first legislation in this field was enacted by the 84th Congress. S.780 would materially strengthen and improve this basic legislation. We urge its adoption.





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Adopted by
The Republican Coordinating Committee
December 11, 1967

Presented by
The Task Force on the Functions of
Federal, State and Local Governments

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL: PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE

Prepared under the direction of:
Republican National Committee
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1625 Eye Street, N. W.
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WATER POLLUTION CONTROL: PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE

Today, as throughout the history of mankind, the well-being of society depends vitally on an adequate supply of clean water. Indeed, as our Nation has become industrialized, and as the economy has produced unprecedented leisure time, this dependence has taken on new dimensions. To the traditional demands of domestic and agricultural pursuits two new categories have been added: (1) large-scale water use for industrial purposes, and (2) greatly increased popularity of lakes and streams for recreation and sports.

As our economy and population continue to grow, the demand for water in all these categories reaches record volumes, and total demand begins to crowd total supply, creating greater competition among the various users of water.

But simply providing a supply of water without maintaining its quality is not enough, as any resident of the Northeastern United States will testify after the summer of 1966, when the ancient mariner's plight of "water water everywhere, nor any drop to drink" came perilously close to being a reality. Each category of water use requires an appropriate level of purity or quality, and a fundamental problem of water resources management today is that the same expanding economy and population that creates the demand for more water also contributes to the degradation of its quality through the increased discharge of soiled water.

The dilemma of increasing water usage and decreasing water quality has not occurred overnight, but is the product of years of neglect and mismanagement

as the careless pollution of lakes and streams often went unchallenged throughout most of the Nation.

As we now look with dismay at the degraded condition of many of our lakes and streams, we must realize a double responsibility: first, that of correcting past deficiencies by restoring the quality of water to desired levels; and, second, that of maintaining this quality in the years ahead. The wise use and preservation of this vital natural resource is a responsibility we owe to ourselves and to future generations.

WATER POLLUTION: THE PROBLEM

The principal sources of water pollution are household wastes, industrial discharges, and land drainage in both urban and rural areas.

Household wastewaters are carried off by municipal sewage disposal systems at the rate of approximately 100 gallons per day for each person, or 20 billion gallons each day nationwide. Wastewater treatment systems vary in their efficiency, and in some cases are non-existent. Despite substantial progress in recent years, it is estimated that communities representing a total population of 37 million are still without adequate waste treatment facilities.

Water-borne discharges from the entire range of manufacturing processes together with heated water from electric power plants combine to produce 100 billion gallons of industrial wastewater each day. In many cases, these flows are emptied directly into the receiving lakes or streams without adequate treatment or control.

Each year drainage of rainfall from land areas carries into lakes and streams a wide variety of undesirable substances including fertilizers and pesticides, farm animal wastes, street dirt, and acid and radioactive wastes from mining operations. Soil erosion and sedimentation degrades the quality of the

receiving waters, and leaves farm land scarred and less productive. These types of pollution present an especially difficult control problem, inasmuch as they are scattered, and in most cases not amenable to collection and treatment at central locations.

The adverse consequences of water pollution are numerous and widespread.

Household and domestic water users may find their health endangered by polluted water.

Industrial firms may encounter difficulties in utilizing polluted water due to its abnormal chemical or temperature characteristics and the resultant effects on manufacturing processes and equipment.

Farmers and growers may find polluted water harmful to livestock and other farm animals, and increased salinity in irrigation waters can lower crop yields.

Recreationists, sportsmen, and conservationists may discover that once pure lakes and streams are now polluted, affecting swimming, fishing and wildlife. Many historic and economically important fish runs have been destroyed by pollution.

All of us encounter polluted water that is offensive to smell, taste and sight.

A few specific examples of pollution and its effects serve to illustrate the problem:

- In 1961 a hepatitis epidemic in New York City was traced to contaminated shellfish taken from the polluted Raritan Bay.
- On Lake Erie, public recreation areas have been closed due to the severe water pollution problem in this Great Lake.
- In the Appalachian region, two-thirds of the streams and ponds tested in 1965 were so polluted by mine acids that fish could not survive.
- In some sections of the nation, wildlife and domestic animals have been killed by the development of poisonous algae in small lakes.

The foregoing analysis underscores the immense complexity of the water pollution problem -- in magnitude, in diversity of sources and causes, in multiplicity of unwanted effects, and in its nationwide impact. The management of water resources at appropriate levels of cleanliness is clearly a most challenging economic, technical, and administrative undertaking. The Republican Party is wholeheartedly committed to this task, and we call upon government at all levels, industry, and private citizens to join in championing this cause.

GEARING PERFORMANCE TO PROMISE

Since 1956 when the Federal Water Pollution Control Act was signed into law by President Eisenhower, governments at all levels have taken significant steps to advance the crusade for clean waters. Additional national legislation enacted in 1961, 1965, and 1966 has at each step increased Federal enforcement authority and augmented funding authorization for water pollution control grants and activities. Federal funding authorization for municipal wastewater treatment construction grants now totals \$3.4 billion for the four-year period 1968 through 1971.

State and local governments have also sought to increase their commitment to control the pollution of waterways within and adjacent to their boundaries. Local governments are intimately involved with efforts to deal with the problem. Total outlays for Federally aided municipal wastewater treatment works have exceeded \$3 billion since 1956.

Federal activities in recent years have been accompanied by a fanfare of Administration publicity designed to create the impression that pollution control panaceas have been devised, and that our lakes and streams will soon reflect a condition of absolute purity. This is an oversimplification of an

extremely complex problem requiring adjustments for a variety of social, economic, and political factors.

Evidence is multiplying that after eleven years of Federal activity in this field, performance in getting on with the job is not matching publicized promises. Certainly the situation cannot be comforting to those who have placed primary reliance on legislation broadening Federal jurisdictional authority, together with ever-increasing commitments of Federal funds, for hastening action. We believe that these programs should and can be redirected and improved to expedite the attainment of our water quality goals. The guidelines and specific recommendations set forth below constitute a Republican plan to gear performance to promise in water pollution control.

1. Setting Goals and Measuring Progress.

One of the basic deficiencies of present strategy and tactics is the obscurity of what should constitute appropriate national water quality goals. Granted the necessity of achieving cleaner waters, the questions are: How clean? And how quickly?

Thus far, Federal pronouncements and policies have contributed little to a clarification of this basic issue. They reflect an obsession with the notion that the Nation is confronted with a choice among absolutes -- of clean water versus dirty water or of fish versus factories -- instead of a rigorous examination of realistic alternatives and goals.

To be meaningful as guides to action, goals must be accompanied by periodic assessments of progress. Numerous and costly surveys have been initiated. But there is a lack of systematic means of measuring changes and appraising trends in water quality conditions in terms that can be related to national goals.

Recommendation No. 1. We call upon the Federal government, working in close consultation with the States, to define the aims of national water quality policy. Further, we recommend that an agency unprejudiced by regulatory responsibilities be assigned the task of assembling and evaluating data that will provide a periodic audit of the quality conditions of our water resources. In view of its half-century of experience and professional competence in the scientific assessment of water characteristics, this responsibility might appropriately be assigned to the U. S. Geological Survey.

2. Improving Federal Assistance Programs.

With the rapid growth in Federal funding authorization for water pollution control grants to States and localities, conditions have emerged which are complicating and slowing the pace of the overall effort.

The first is the questionable proliferation of grant programs among five Federal agencies. When the Federal assistance program was initiated in 1956 under Republican auspices, all grants were channelled through a single source. Since 1961, Democratic Administrations have spawned four entirely separate programs under different Federal agencies, in addition to the basic program administered by the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration (FWPCA). It is now possible to obtain municipal water and sewer grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, from the Economic Development Administration, from the Farmers Home Administration, and from the Appalachian Regional Commission -- in addition to FWPCA. Each agency has its own planning and review procedures, criteria for grant eligibility, and matching fund formula.

The confusion, delay, and frustration -- to say nothing of the added administrative expenses -- created at the State and local level as five Federal agencies compete, overlap, or pass responsibility in this field from one to the other, has been well documented in Congressional hearings and by

independent studies. The Bureau of the Budget has attempted to negotiate a "sewer treaty" among the five agencies, but this would not appear to be an effective or permanent solution.

Recommendation No. 2.a. In order to promote efficiency and increased effectiveness in the operation of Federal water and sewer grant programs, we recommend transfer to the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration of all such programs now administered by other Federal agencies. We believe this to be the first step in restoring some orderliness to Federal grant-making activities in this field.

In addition, all Federal grants should be allocated to local projects only after approval by the State as meeting an area-wide or regional pollution control plan.

A second problem is the paradoxical effect of Federal grant programs in sometimes causing delay in the construction of needed municipal wastewater treatment facilities. The legislation which first established the Federal grant program in 1956 was based on the proposition that a small amount of Federal "seed" money could be expected to produce a harvest of municipal treatment plants.

But since then many communities have failed to proceed with building necessary treatment plants until given a grant. As a result, Federal appropriations have been gradually escalated from \$50 million annually to \$203 million for Fiscal Year 1968. Moreover, the authorization for Fiscal Year 1969 is \$700 million. And no longer do communities regard the traditional 30 percent as providing sufficient incentive to get started; this year grants have been upped to as much as 50 percent of the cost of a project.

To the extent that Federal grant programs sap local initiative, they can prove to be a deterrent to progress. As one observer has concluded,

"So long as the hope for federal money exists, local politicians will find it suicidal to propose bond issues for immediately needed improvements and they will be delayed."

We believe that the solution to this dilemma may lie in use of financial need, priority criteria, and long-range programming by Federal and State authorities as the bases for making grants to local governments. In this way hold-ups by communities that can afford other financing and do not have adequate priorities can be avoided.

Recommendation 2.b. We recommend that Congress review the criteria, formulae, and long-range planning for Federal water treatment construction grants to ensure that such aid is a stimulant and not a depressant to local initiative. Consideration should be given to current local financial efforts and priority should be given to projects in areas where pollution problems are most urgent.

Consideration should also be given to encouraging States to advance construction of facilities by pre-financing against Federal reimbursement.

For example, at the present time one of the States has established a comprehensive program under the pre-financing plan that will clean up all of the waters in that State within six years. If all of the States would mount a similar program, the waters throughout America could be cleaned-up within the foreseeable future. This is in contrast to the present piecemeal approach to the water pollution problem that will take many years to complete at an escalating cost that may prove prohibitive.

3. New Organizational Approaches.

Effectiveness of pollution control is impeded by the fact that there is a lack of integration of the planning and operating functions of separate organizational entities in a watershed. Neither State nor Federal regulatory practices, which are directed to individual pollution cases are suitable for encouraging the design and application of comprehensive approaches.

One form of organizational framework that could lend itself to more effective water quality management is represented by watershed agencies empowered to plan, construct and operate a variety of physical facilities, and, most importantly, to finance them through service charges that relate benefits to costs. By combining these functions with regulatory powers, such agencies could provide integrated water quality management over an entire region or watershed area, and could receive and dispose of all municipal and industrial wastewaters generated within the same area.

Michigan and New York have already provided legislation to establish integrated State agencies of this type, while California, Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania are actively studying this approach. We commend these States for their initiative in this area.

On interstate waters, regional agencies established by compact among the contiguous States offer a mechanism for this purpose which has hardly been probed because of a preoccupation with expansion of Federal authority. The new Delaware River Basin Commission, the emerging Susquehanna River Basin Compact, and the proposed Potomac River Basin Compact hold great promise. We strongly endorse the interstate compact approach.

Recommendation No. 3. We urge that attention be directed to the integrated water quality management organizations now established or undergoing study at the State and interstate level. These agencies might well provide a model for similar action by other States.

4. Meshing Water Quality and Water Supply Planning.

Pollution control measures frequently are conceived in terms of reliance on a single technical approach, namely, traditional wastewater treatment systems. We have today at our command or under development a variety of technological alternatives for maintaining water of the necessary quality -- such as augmentation of stream flow from storage reservoirs, mechanical re-aeration of streams and lakes, programmed discharge of effluents, desalination, greater use of ground waters, and water re-use -- which alone or in combination may offer opportunities for maintaining desired quality conditions in a watershed at lower total costs than installation of treatment works at every waste source. Desalination, especially in the United States as well as in the Mid-East, as recommended by President Eisenhower, needs greatly increased emphasis.

At the Federal level, many of these approaches fall under the cognizance of water supply or water research agencies, rather than water quality agencies.

Recommendation No. 4. We recommend that the recently established Federal Water Resources Council emphasize procedures to promote development of coordinated water resource plans that will become the basis for program development and action by the various agencies. Planning for water supplies, water quality and water research must be combined into a total water resources program which evaluates the costs, feasibility, and benefits of a range of technological alternatives.

5. Improving the Federal Research and Development Program.

Federal research and development activities in the water quality field have grown rapidly in recent years. Today, there are fifteen Federal agencies conducting research and development directly related to water quality,

and three additional agencies are engaged in associated water resource R&D efforts. The total number of projects supported with Federal funds exceeds 1,500. The research and development budget of the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration alone now exceeds \$55 million compared to \$11 million just four years ago.

Moreover, these efforts are carried out through a variety of administrative instruments -- in-house, by grants, and by contracts with universities, industries and municipalities.

We are in full support of an aggressive and effective research and development effort in support of the pressing need to combat water pollution. However, the rapid growth and proliferation of these programs inevitably raises questions of possible duplication, lack of coordination, and overall effectiveness.

Recommendation No. 5. We recommend that the Federal Government sponsor a comprehensive, in-depth review of all research and development programs related to water quality management in order to achieve maximum possible economy and efficiency. This examination of the aims, procedures, and performance of these programs should be assigned to an independent organization such as the National Research Council, which is serviced by both the National Academy of Science and the National Academy of Engineering.

6. Tax Benefits for Controlling Pollution.

To date, water pollution control activities have concentrated on construction and improvement of municipal waste treatment plants, and Federal grants have been available to aid local governments for this purpose. In the case of industrial pollution, it is many times neither possible, due to location, nor feasible because of the nature of the discharges, to connect industrial plants to municipal treatment systems.

Under these conditions, the full capital costs of specialized pollution control equipment must be borne by industry, and by their customers through higher prices. One way to distribute more fairly the costs of combatting pollution in these circumstances is through a system of tax benefits to industry as partial compensation for outlays for pollution control devices. As of 1966, eleven States had adopted laws of this type.

Recommendation No. 6. We endorse legislation to permit an increased investment credit or to allow rapid depreciation on Federal tax returns, for outlays for pollution control equipment, in those cases where it is not feasible to accommodate industrial wastewaters at municipal waste treatment systems. Legislation of this type has been introduced by Republicans in both the Senate and the House and has received widespread support; we urge hearings and enactment of a bill embodying these principles.

7. Cleaning Up Water Pollution from Federal Installations.

In 1956, Congress included in the Water Pollution Control Act a provision requesting all Federal agencies to cooperate in preventing and controlling water pollution from Federal installations and activities. In response to this expression of Congressional intent, President Eisenhower ordered a comprehensive survey of pollution from all Federal installations. This 58 volume survey, completed in 1960, revealed that Federal installations were discharging 134 million gallons of untreated wastewaters each day.

Despite Executive Orders and directives issued under Democratic Administrations, there remain glaring examples of the Federal contribution to pollution of our waters. A 1966 sample survey by the House Committee on Government Operations identified 237 Federal installations still discharging into our waterways untreated or partially treated wastewaters. And despite promises

by the President that the Potomac will become a model river, the Federal Government continues to pollute it. As of September 1967, an official inquiry revealed that Federal government facilities each day discharge three-quarters of a million gallons of inadequately treated wastewaters into the Potomac Basin. Listed as violators in this report were the Pentagon, the National Zoo, and the yacht of the Secretary of the Navy.

If the Federal Government is going to legislate in the field of water pollution, it must in its own activities adhere to exemplary practices in controlling inadequately treated discharges from Federal installations. The present Administration has violated this principle.

Recommendation No. 7. We recommend immediate steps to eliminate water pollution from all Federal installations.

CONCLUSION

Effective control of water pollution can never be realized solely by issuing publicity statements, delivering verbal exhortations, passing new Federal legislation or authorizing the expenditure of additional Federal dollars. By stressing these approaches, the present Administration has extended its promise far beyond the reach of its performance. Water pollution control as practiced by this Administration presents another example of expectations raised but not realized, of public disappointment and disillusionment.

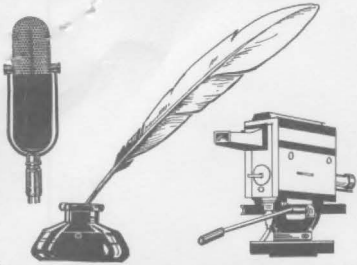
We believe that the answers lie in an emphasis, not on promises, publicity and pronouncements, but on far more effective day-to-day management of water quality programs at all levels of government. The key elements of this approach, as we have outlined in this paper, include the setting of realistic goals and schedules; employment of new organizational approaches to water

quality management on a regional or watershed basis; improving relationships among Federal, State and local governments; conduct of more effective research and development efforts; the use of tax advantages to encourage positive action by industry; and insistence upon exemplary performance on the part of Federal installations.

Of these proposals, none is more important than seeking to establish a more balanced and meaningful partnership among levels of government. Such a partnership in water pollution control is the most effective way of meeting this national problem.

Control of water pollution is not an end in itself. In considering the mechanics of reducing pollution -- the roles of government, organizational arrangements, methods of financing and so on -- we must never lose sight of the ultimate objective, which is to maintain water quality appropriate to human needs. For it is these human needs -- domestic comfort, recreation and sports, industry, agriculture, and aesthetic pleasure -- which provide a fundamental link between the quality of water and the quality of life.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

NEWS RELEASE

For Use Thursday, Feb. 22, 1968, and thereafter--

The Army Corps of Engineers plans to build two water reservoir complexes as the result of continuing studies of Grand River Basin development, Rep. Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids announced today.

One of the reservoir complexes would be constructed on the Grand River and the other on the Red Cedar River, Ford said.

Plans to build the reservoirs have arisen from a longrange study of Grand River Basin development needs. The study was initiated in 1962 under authority of a congressional resolution sponsored by Ford.

The Corps of Engineers has informed Ford that "three or four" sites are under consideration for the two reservoir complexes. Possible site locations cannot be made known at this time. Plans still are tentative and land speculation might result. None of the proposed sites is in Kent or Ionia Counties.

Primary purposes of the two reservoir complexes will be flood control and water quality control. The reservoirs also would be used for recreation and as fish and wildlife habitats.

A Lansing firm has been engaged to provide detailed aerial maps of the proposed site locations, the Corps of Engineers told Ford. Soil borings also will be taken, a spokesman added.

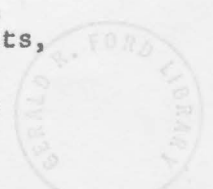
"We are in the process of refining our data," he said. "I would emphasize that our present plans are tentative. However, they do have the approval of representatives of the agencies involved (the State of Michigan and the Federal departments of Agriculture, Army, Commerce, Interior, the Federal Power Commission and Health, Education and Welfare).

The spokesman said the reservoirs "might possibly" also provide public water supplies for some communities.

"We would have to work with the local communities to see what their alternatives are," he said.

The Corps of Engineers expects that a comprehensive report covering water needs and uses for the entire Grand River Basin will be completed by July 1, 1969. Congress then would be asked to authorize the proposed construction projects,

(more)



with the work to be done under Federal supervision and in cooperation with local groups, the State and the local units of government.

(Note to Editor: CUT HERE IF SHORT ON SPACE)

The Grand River Basin is Michigan's second largest watershed. The Grand and its major tributaries--the Red Cedar, Rogue, Thornapple, Flat, Maple and Lookingglass Rivers--drain an area of about 5,570 square miles or roughly 10 per cent of Michigan's total land area.

The main stem of the Grand rises in the northeast corner of Hillsdale County, flows northward through Jackson and Lansing, then flows westward through Grand Rapids before emptying into Lake Michigan at Grand Haven.

The goal of the Grand River Basin study is to satisfy, ultimately, all the water-related needs in the basin. The reservoir plan would meet those needs up to 1985, the Corps of Engineers believes. Longrange needs covering the next half century would be sketched out in the comprehensive report.

The Corps lists the basin needs as flood and erosion control, drainage, municipal and industrial water supply, assimilation and transportation of water-borne wastes, irrigation, fish and wildlife conservation and recreation.

The Federal-State Coordinating Committee which has been making the study estimates that the Grand River Basin's population will climb from 1.1 million persons in 1960 to 2.1 million by the year 2000. Most of this growth will take place in the Grand Rapids, Lansing and Jackson metropolitan areas.

This, the committee states, "intensifies" the basin's needs in terms of water supply, water quality control, flood damage reduction, and expanded recreational facilities.

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For Use Thursday, Feb. 29, 1968 and Thereafter--

The Federal Government will join hands with State and local authorities to deal with an expected recurrence of the Lake Michigan alewife mess this spring and summer, Rep. Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids said today.

"The main burden will be on the State and the local communities, and the federal assistance will be modest," Ford said. "I think the kind of cooperation that is planned is a strong first step toward meeting the alewife menace."

Ford noted that the fiscal 1969 federal budget contains \$100,000 to be used to spot and measure alewife die-offs. State and local funds would pay for netting the dead fish and removing those that reach the beaches.

The federally-financed program will be carried out by the Ann Arbor laboratory of the Federal Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

J. L. McHugh, acting director of the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service, told Ford the federal funds will be used to measure the abundance of the alewives and to follow their movements to determine the areas and probable intensity of die-offs. He said methods will be tested to "lessen the problems associated with massive die-offs."

Gov. Romney is seeking a supplemental state appropriation of \$400,000 to combat the fouling of Lake Michigan beaches by dead alewives this summer. The proposal calls for the state financing to be matched by local governments affected. The overall result would be an \$800,000 state-local program.

"If all of the pieces fall into place, we will have a \$900,000 anti-alewife program this year, including the \$100,000 federal share," Ford said.

Ford noted that the alewife has increased explosively in Lake Michigan since it first was found there in 1949.

"The Michigan program to net the fish and to engage in immediate and massive cleanup of the beaches which are reached by dead alewives is the only immediate solution for the problem," Ford said. "I think netting the alewives as proposed by the governor is an excellent idea. Once they get on the beaches, they are a mess. Of course, the longrange solution is to get the fish population in Lake Michigan back into balance by continuing to control the sea lamprey and by expanding the numbers of Coho Salmon and lake trout which feed on the alewife."

Last summer contamination of Lake Michigan beaches by dead alewives was so severe that an estimated \$55 million in tourist business was lost.

The alewife also is found in Lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron and Superior, but the problem is the most acute in Lake Michigan. There is an annual die-off of the fish in the lakes where they have become very abundant.

For Use Thursday, Feb. 29, 1968 and Thereafter--

The Federal Government will join hands with State and local authorities to deal with an expected recurrence of the Lake Michigan alewife mess this spring and summer, Rep. Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids said today.

"The main burden will be on the State and the local communities, and the federal assistance will be modest," Ford said. "I think the kind of cooperation that is planned is a strong first step toward meeting the alewife menace."

Ford noted that the fiscal 1969 federal budget contains \$100,000 to be used to spot and measure alewife die-offs. State and local funds would pay for netting the dead fish and removing those that reach the beaches.

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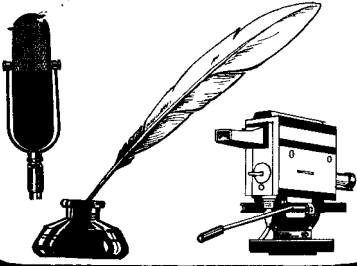
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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY--
4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 16, 1968

We are faced in Michigan with a grave crisis involving our most precious natural resource--water.

We have learned that unchecked pollution of Lake Michigan could turn it into another Lake Erie.

We are faced with an urgent need to avert the premature aging of Lake Michigan as a result of pollution.

Many communities in Michigan are struggling with various forms of water pollution and find themselves unequal to the task.

It is clear that the fight against pollution of our lakes and streams is a battle in which government at all levels must be linked and in which industry must join.

Unfortunately, the policy of brave rhetoric but poor performance on the part of the Johnson-Humphrey Administration has handicapped rather than helped the local communities and the states in the fight against water pollution.

The Great Society has come to mean "great backlog" to those communities standing in line for approval of sewage disposal projects by Washington.

For example, in the Housing Act of 1965 a total of \$200 million a year was authorized for 50 per cent matching grants for construction of local sewer systems. But the President requested only \$100 million each in 1965 and 1966 while seeking excessive funding for programs of lesser importance. For fiscal 1968 he could have sought \$400 million for sewage disposal but instead asked only \$165 million.

Currently the Housing and Urban Development Department has \$5.1 billion in project applications on file. The failure of the Johnson Administration to attach proper priority to the federal water pollution control program is holding up sewer construction all over the United States.

The long-range answer rests with Republican plans for sharing of federal income tax revenue with the states and local communities, so they may proceed with local projects on the basis of their own priorities.

Another possible answer is to provide industry with tax credits for installation of water pollution control equipment in amounts that will provide a real incentive. This plan is opposed by the Johnson-Humphrey Administration

(more)

because Lyndon Johnson wants to extract the greatest possible political benefit out of every dollar expended from the Federal Treasury. There would be no political rebate for a Democratic Administration in tax credits for industrial water pollution controls.

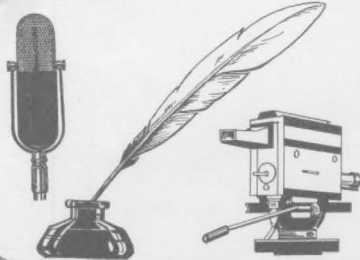
Meantime we must move ahead with the weapons at hand.

Republicans pledge to use all of the resources at their command to deal with all of Michigan's water pollution problems and specifically to restore Lake Michigan to health through coordinated federal, state and local attacks on the alewife menace and all other forms of serious pollution. We must save our lake...through an upgrading of treatment of industrial and municipal wastes, including removal of phosphates from the waste to discourage excessive growth of algae.

We are determined in our efforts to improve the quality of Michigan's waters, and to keep it a Water Wonderland.

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NOTE: Not Distributed



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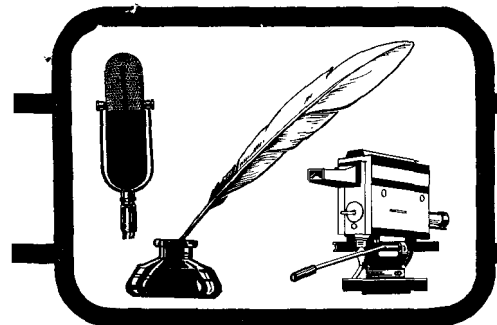
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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE IN PM's OF WEDNESDAY--
July 31, 1968

Statement by House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich.

It is long past time for the Congress of the United States to mount an all-out attack on pollution of America's most precious resource, its water.

As part of the effort, I today have introduced a bill to prohibit the dumping of spoil material from dredging operations into Lake Michigan or any other navigable water.

A number of my colleagues in the House have introduced a similar bill, but that measure would permit the Secretary of Interior to make exceptions by declaring that in some cases such dumping would not result in pollution.

My bill would impose a flat ban on dumping of dredged-up spoil material into navigable waters. There would be no exceptions.

The Army Corps of Engineers concedes that virtually all such material is polluted in some degree. In my view, it is ridiculous to dredge up polluted material from Lake Michigan and then take it out into deep water and dump it right back into the lake.

It is absolutely nonsensical for the Federal Government to dump polluted spoil material back into our lakes and streams while urging states and local communities to spend billions on sewage treatment systems. Of course the sewage treatment systems must be built. But the Federal Government should be setting an example for local communities instead of telling them, "Do as I say and not as I do."

Secretary of Interior Udall recently recommended that dumping of polluted dredging materials into Lake Michigan stop "as soon as possible." Then he added that the Army Corps of Engineers and the States should report "within six months" what they are doing to halt the dumping. After that, he continued, Federal and State officials would "consider adopting a coordinated approach to deal with this problem and a target date for getting a program under way."

The obvious lack of urgency on the Secretary's part leads me to believe that

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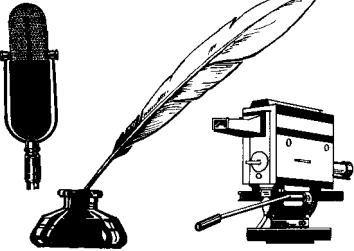
letting him decide what material could be dumped into Lake Michigan and other navigable waters would be a loophole big enough to drive a dredge through.

I believe we should start with the premise that there should be a flat ban on spoil material dumping into navigable waters and then determine whether it is economically feasible to carry out that objective in relation to the benefits to be achieved.

A 1967 report by the House Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Power declared that most of America's 100,000 lakes will soon be destroyed unless pollution is checked. This tragedy must not be allowed to occur.

We must all step up our anti-pollution efforts. My bill points up the fact that the Federal Government is one of the worst pollution offenders--and points to a remedy.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT--

The way is open for Michigan to launch a statewide water pollution control program if the voters so decide on Nov. 5, Rep. Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids declared today.

Ford said obstacles posed by a Johnson Administration bill changing the rules on payment of the Federal Government's share of sewage treatment plant costs have been eliminated.

"The Administration proposals have died in the House Public Works Committee, and the Senate abandoned them in the bill recently passed in that body," Ford said.

Ford vigorously attacked the Administration water pollution control amendments after Michigan officials testified against them and said they would wreck Michigan's plans for going ahead with a large-scale water pollution control program.

Gov. George Romney and the State Legislature propose a \$335 million bond issue for pollution control, including the pre-financing of half of the Federal cost-share of the program. The Administration water pollution control amendments would have banned pre-financing of the Federal cost-share of such programs.

The Administration bill also would have restricted Federal aid to communities in major metropolitan centers, which meant that only 14 of Michigan's 83 counties could have expected Federal assistance and 229 of 335 communities needing money for pollution cleanup would have been excluded.

The Administration further proposed to make taxable the State revenue bonds sold to finance such programs as Michigan's, figuring the Federal Government would come out ahead by paying the extra interest costs out of Federal taxes on the bonds.

Michigan and New York protested bitterly, and now the fight is won, Ford said.

"I feel this is a personal victory in view of the strong objections I voiced to members of the House Public Works Committee," Ford declared. "Now I am told

(more)

that Congressman (John) Blatnik, the chairman of the Water Pollution Control Subcommittee, plans to bring out a completely non-controversial bill."

State officials in Lansing are not completely satisfied with the water pollution control bill passed by the U.S. Senate, although it abandons the Administration approach. These officials point out that the Senate bill pledges payment of the Federal cost-share over a 30-year period but places a ceiling on amounts that can be committed for state programs. They said this legislation would not destroy Michigan's program but would slow it down.

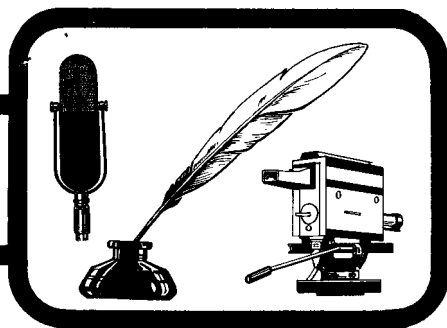
The existing Federal program permits state pre-financing of the Federal cost-share but does not guarantee Federal payment.

Michigan officials said they want legislation which guarantees payment to the states of the Federal cost-share but does not hamstring state programs with unrealistic ceilings on Federal funding.

"I feel sure this entire problem will be worked out to Michigan's satisfaction," Ford said. "I certainly am going to do everything I can to see to it that Michigan is in a position to go ahead with the kind of water pollution control program the people want."

Besides fighting the water pollution control amendments Michigan found objectionable, Ford recently introduced legislation to prohibit the dumping of spoilage from dredging operations into Lake Michigan and other navigable waters.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

For Use the Week of Sept. 1-7 and thereafter

Engineers
Report On
Lake Dumping

BY JERRY FORD

Would you believe that the Army Corps of Engineers and others dug more than 1 million cubic yards of polluted material out of Lake Michigan harbors last year and then dumped it back into the lake?

That's the story in a report I obtained from the Corps of Engineers the other day after I became aware of the Federal Government's role in polluting Lake Michigan.

I have been lighting fires under the Federal Government for contributing to Lake Michigan pollution, and it seems my efforts already are paying off.

For instance, the Corps of Engineers report on Lake Michigan dumping indicates that disposal of polluted material in the open lake this year will total only 359,000 cubic yards. I say "only," because this is a sharp drop from the grand total of more than 1 million cubic yards of polluted dredging spoil tossed back into the lake last year.

Meantime I have introduced a bill that would prohibit the dumping of any dredging spoil back into Lake Michigan. From the standpoint of cost and other considerations, it may be that material shown not to be polluted should be exempted from the proposed ban. But I think we should start out with the idea of banning all Lake Michigan dumping and force others to make a case for exceptions.

I am happy to report that the material dredged out of Grand Haven and Holland harbors in both 1967 and 1968 was classified by the Army Corps of Engineers as "not polluted." As a matter of fact, the worst instances of Lake Michigan pollution from dumping of dredging material occur in connection with Calumet, Green Bay, Indiana and Milwaukee Harbors.

In a letter to me accompanying his report, Col. F. E. Anderson, Jr. of the Corps of Engineers, asserted that "most of the grossly polluted dredging

(more)

spoil" goes into diked disposal areas instead of back into Lake Michigan. He emphasized that Corps of Engineers construction of diked spoil areas is being done only on a pilot basis for study purposes. There are no funds, he said, to build full-scale diked disposal areas at polluted harbors.

My comment is that the dumping of any polluted dredging spoil into Lake Michigan is a destructive activity. It helps to destroy one of our most precious resources -- water. It should be stopped.

We all know that the fight against water pollution costs money. But think of all the projects of dubious value on which federal funds are being lavished at present. Then ask yourself whether more should not be done about water pollution instead.

Polluting of Lake Michigan with dredging spoil is only part of the Lake Michigan problem, of course, and only a fraction of the overall water pollution problem facing communities throughout the State of Michigan.

What is required is that all of us assign top priority to the fight against water pollution and lend our support to a massive federal-state-and-local campaign to clean up our streams and lakes.

This is not just a Federal problem by any means. It is everybody's problem.

#

For Use the Week of Sept. 22-28 and thereafter

Ford Pledges
Personal Support
In Pollution Fight

BY JERRY FORD

I will vote Nov. 5 for the \$335 million state bond issue to fight water pollution.

Clean water is vital to every man, woman and child in Kent and Ionia counties and throughout the State of Michigan.

I am dedicating myself to the fight for clean water in Michigan and as part of that effort I am supporting the bond issue proposal on the November ballot.

Although no tax increase is involved, I would not presume to tell any other resident of Kent and Ionia counties how to vote on the bond issue question.

But I suggest we all consider that unless we act to halt pollution we will kill our rivers and make mammoth cesspools of our lakes.

We should consider that Lake Michigan is aging at 300 to 500 times its normal rate because of pollution...

That more than 900 miles of once-high-quality streams in Michigan are now degraded by untreated or improperly treated municipal wastes discharged into them..

That at least 150 Michigan communities currently are violating the state pollution control law, primarily for lack of funds.

The route to clean, usable water is really pretty simple. Keep the filth and pollution out of the water in the first place.

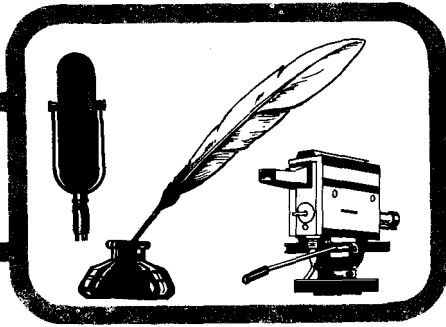
Unfortunately, keeping pollutants out of the water also is pretty expensive. It means building sewage collection systems, constructing sewage treatment plants, and getting others to treat industrial wastes, build power plant cooling towers and contain the threat of chemical pesticides.

If we in Michigan are to control municipal pollution adequately--even by 1980--we must build 210 new municipal sewage treatment plants, build sewers for an additional 3.5 million people and improve 126 existing sewage treatment facilities.

The \$335 million state bond issue will help do this and will provide \$50 million for small, hard-pressed communities without sewers.

There is much that must be done to clean up Michigan's waters. The \$335 million bond issue would be a giant step in the right direction.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--
Feb. 18, 1970

It's time to get tough--really tough--with the polluters of America's lakes and streams.

That's the major thrust of the Nixon water pollution control measures being introduced today.

There is a new awareness in the Nation of the need to restore, protect and preserve our most precious natural resource--water. This new awareness must give rise to effective enforcement of our pollution control laws. We must fashion a club that will swing polluters throughout the country into remedial action.

One of the most serious defects in our present system of water pollution control is the delay in taking an individual polluter to court. It now takes 18 months or longer to go through all the procedures involved before court action is possible. The hearing stage is at the root of the delaying action.

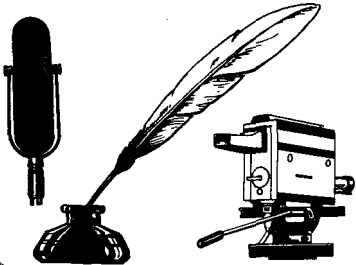
President Nixon would eliminate the hearing stage and take a case directly from an enforcement conference to the courts. I applaud this move. I also favor the President's attempt to give enforcement more clout by empowering the courts to impose fines of up to \$10,000 a day for non-compliance with responsible water quality standards.

In addition, the President has wisely recommended that the Secretary of Interior be authorized to seek court orders halting pollution immediately in emergency situations. These would be situations where severe water pollution constitutes an imminent danger to health or threatens irreversible damage to water quality.

We must protect our waters--and the public--in situations where time does not permit routine enforcement and normal court procedures.

I urge that the Congress give full backing to President Nixon's water pollution control proposals. We must have large-scale action against polluters of our streams and lakes.

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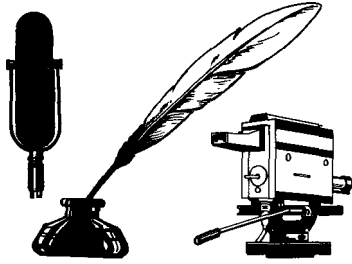
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**CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--
April 15, 1970**

**NEWS
RELEASE**

A Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U.S. House of Reps.

The President's Message on Great Lakes Disposal is another example of the tremendous leadership President Nixon is displaying in the effort to restore our environment.

For years I have urged a halt to the dumping of polluted dredged material back into the Great Lakes. I introduced legislation last year aimed at accomplishing that objective.

I am therefore greatly pleased that the President has thrown his support behind my efforts to stop this practice, which flies in the face of common sense.

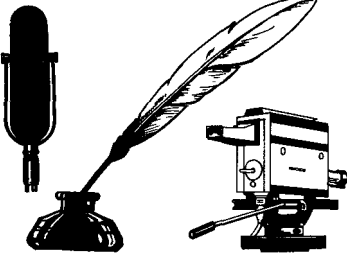
It it were at all feasible, I would favor a ban on dumping any dredged material back into the Great Lakes, whether such material was adjudged to be polluted or not. But of course finding adequate areas for land disposal of the dredgings is always a problem.

The Administration bill to stop the dumping of polluted dredge spoil into the Great Lakes is most welcome. The Federal Government should be setting an example for the States, localities and private industry in our efforts to restore and preserve our environment.

The question of polluted dredgings goes deeper, of course, than finding a place to dump such spoil. We should go behind that problem and prevent the entry of polluted soil into the lakes. Until the day arrives when we have accomplished that goal, however, it is vital that dumping of polluted spoil back into the lakes be stopped.

At the same time, we certainly need a study of ocean dumping as outlined by the President in his Message to the Congress. I am glad to see that the President has ordered such a study made.

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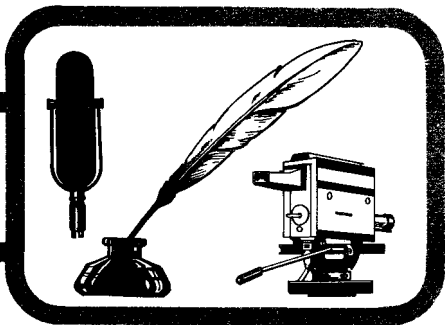
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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT--
Issued October 7, 1970

The oceans cannot hold out much longer against the flood of contaminants that is being dumped into them.

We must halt the dumping of wastes into the ocean. Such action would complement my bill, introduced Jan. 3, 1969, which would prohibit such dumping in the Great Lakes.

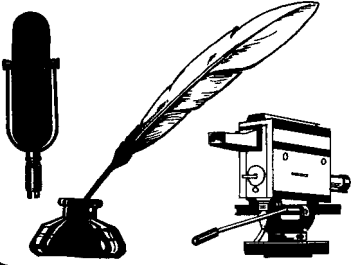
The situation is far more serious than most Americans realize. We must act before it is too late. We are in a race with time. If we do not act the oceans will become far more contaminated with raw sewage and other wastes than at present.

I would go farther than the President. I believe we must legislate a flat ban on the dumping of all harmful materials in either the oceans or the Great Lakes. Such dumping should not be sanctioned even by official permit, as is now done by the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Great Lakes.

I am pleased that the Administration acted last May 20 to deal with oil spills and proposed creation of an Environmental Protection Agency and a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) last July 9.

However, I view the matter of halting ocean dumping with greater urgency than that expressed by the Council on Environmental Quality. I repeat. There should be a flat ban on the dumping of harmful materials into the oceans and the Great Lakes, not a system of dumping by permit.

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CONGRESSMAN
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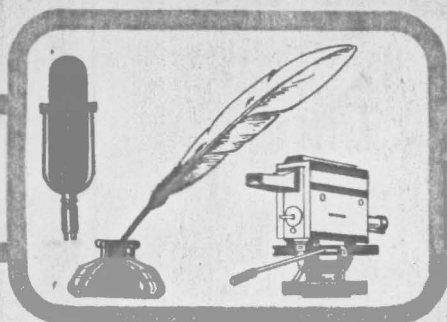
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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--
Dec. 23, 1970

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

I congratulate President Nixon on his decision to crack down on industrial pollution by invoking the Refuse Act of 1899.

In so doing the President has circumvented the refusal of the Democratic-controlled Congress to enact the enforcement provisions of the water pollution control legislation introduced last Feb. 18.

It is nothing short of disgraceful that the Congress has failed even to hold hearings on the President's water pollution control package, including new authority to develop comprehensive water quality programs and to enforce pollution control measures.

The President, then, has perforce acted on his own under authority of a 71-year-old law. This does not lessen the blame which must be placed upon Congress for failing to live up to its own responsibilities. Nor does it lessen the need for the Administration's entire water pollution control program.

The President can take only certain actions in the absence of a congressional mandate. His current crackdown on water pollution stands in sharp contrast with the record of the eight years preceding the advent of the Nixon Administration--and the American people should recognize the facts for what they are. The eight years prior to the present Administration saw destruction of our environment go largely unchallenged. That is not a partisan statement. The facts speak for themselves.

Saving the environment should not be a partisan issue. It now remains for the majority party in Congress to join hands with the Nixon Administration in an anti-pollution crusade. We must restore America the Beautiful.

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