

The need for such action is obvious. The environmental problems of this country are increasing daily and we must stop dealing with them only as they appear as blemishes on the national countenance. We must be far-reaching in our own efforts to establish a body with needed authority to view an immense problem from a comprehensive position and to develop effective solutions to complex and important problems.

(Prepared statement by Hon. James C. Corman is as follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES C. CORMAN, MEMBER OF
CONGRESS FROM CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman, I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.R. 14627, a bill I introduced January 16 of this year, to create in the Executive Office of the President a Council of Ecological Advisers.

The dictionary defines ecology as "the branch of biology that deals with the relations between living organisms and their environment; in sociology, the relationship between the distribution of human groups with reference to material resources and the consequent social and cultural patterns."

While our Nation has been blessed with an abundance of natural resources, our population has grown immensely and our environment has changed drastically. The responsibility to plan for these changes lies with all levels of government. And, we in the Congress must concern ourselves with the use and misuse of our resources as our population continues to grow and our environment continues to change.

We are now facing the problems created by air and water pollution, but we responded only after tremendous public outcries. And even here, our response has not been sufficient to permit real progress in the very near future, partly because we do not know enough about the ecology of our environment.

We must anticipate the problems that our changing environment will create so that these problems do not become insurmountable. Our knowledge in this area is scant. We must learn more if we are to provide a livable environment for ourselves and those who come after us.

My bill will take us in this direction.

Very briefly, it would create a Council of Ecological Advisers to the President. It would conduct studies of natural environmental systems; it would advise and assist the President on the formulation of national policy to protect, preserve and improve our national environment; it would seek long-range solutions to the problems created by man and nature; it would make such information available to all public and private organizations and individuals; it would coordinate research and promote cooperation among all agencies, organizations and individuals in the area of environmental study; it would give priority to the very important areas of air pollution, water pollution, solid wastes, atmospheric radiation and environmental noise.

The rapid rate of increase in population and the pressures on our natural resources and on our environment make the need for increased ecological research urgent. My bill will take the first step to meet this need.

Thank you.

Mr. DADDARIO. Our next witness is Dr. Richard Morse, who was the Chairman of the Panel of the Electric Automobile for the Department of Commerce, which recently published its report "The Automobile and the Air Pollution, a Program for Progress."

Dr. Morse, we are happy to have you here this morning and are anxious to hear from you.

(Dr. Morse's biography follows:)

DR. RICHARD S. MORSE

Born: August 19, 1911, Abington, Massachusetts.

Degrees:

S.B., M.I.T., 1933; Tech. Hoch, Munich, 1933-34.

D. Eng., Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute (honorary), 1959.

D. Sc., Clark University (honorary), 1960.

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