

Mr. Brown. As long as it is covered in the bill I don't object to whatever you call it.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Mr. Brown's statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF HON. CLARENCE J. BROWN, JR., A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
FROM THE STATE OF OHIO

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee: It is a pleasure to be able to appear before you today in support of a cause which has not only great nationwide support, but which is so popular and extremely desirable in my own district, the Seventh of Ohio.

I am here today to testify not only in support of scenic rivers legislation generally, but more importantly, to urge you to include the Little Miami of Ohio in any scenic rivers legislation which you may report. I say that my testimony in favor of the Little Miami is more important than that in favor of scenic rivers legislation only because I feel it has become generally recognized that legislation in this area is so desirable. I do not feel that I need spend much time on the urgency and importance of establishing a scenic rivers system. Nor am I really here to testify in favor of any one of the legislative proposals over another, but rather to explain why we in Ohio feel that the Little Miami should be, at the very least, included in the program for study.

I. WHY SCENIC RIVERS?

The need for sufficient recreational areas to meet the needs of our rapidly expanding population, largely concentrated in huge urban areas, is well chronicled. Population estimates tell us that our numbers may double by the year 2000. Planners and government officials at all levels tell us that today we do not have enough recreational facilities. Clearly we must make provisions to not only correct the "recreational gap" today, but to plan ahead so as to provide for tomorrow.

But it seems to me that the need for scenic rivers legislation goes beyond merely satisfying our recreation needs. Our rivers are a crucial part of our national character and it seems to be ironic that we should be willing to ruin by our industrial and population growth one of the very significant factors in that growth—our marvelous rivers.

Our few rivers which still remain in their natural state—rivers which are so much that part of our natural resources and history—should be preserved as outdoor natural museum pieces.

Finally, as in all conservation or preservation issues, the problem is truly "now or never." We can not go back, or at least not without an immeasurably greater effort and expense, to preserve what we have today. If we want to provide a recreational system more significant than crowded municipal parks, if we want to preserve a very significant factor in our American heritage, if we want to establish a national rivers system in much the same way that we have established our admirable national park system, we must act now, before pollution, industrialization, and dams, have destroyed our last truly pristine rivers.

II. WHY THE LITTLE MIAMI?

I am happy to have been able to distribute to the members of the subcommittee, in addition to my statement, the very fine brochure entitled: "The Little Miami of Ohio—A Study of a Wild and Scenic River." The Ohio University Development Planning Institute prepared this brochure for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. I feel that the brochure expresses much better than I could ever do, in both words and pictures, the story of our Little Miami and why many of us in Ohio feel it should be part of a national scenic rivers system. I hope that you take the time to look through this brochure. When you do, I feel sure that you, too, will agree that the Little Miami deserves inclusion in a national scenic rivers system.

The Little Miami, from its headwaters in the Seventh Ohio District near South Charleston in Clark County, to its mouth at the Ohio River near Cincinnati, winds 105 miles and descends from its source elevation of 1137 feet to the 448 foot level.