

The Suwannee River Authority is appreciative of the opportunity to present these views of the people of the Suwannee River Country and strongly urges that this committee recommend deletion of the Suwannee River from those bills which you are considering at this time.

My name is L. B. Gibson. Last year, 1967, the people of Florida through its legislature adopted a memorial to Congress asking Congress not to include our Suwannee River or any of its tributaries in the scenic rivers legislation. I mailed you 50 copies of this.

This was unanimously adopted by both the House and the Senate.

The Suwannee River flows through the district I represent as a senator. The people of my district have expressed to me that they are not for the Suwannee River or its tributaries being included in any wild or scenic rivers legislation.

It is our hope that, in your deliberations on this legislation, you will consider these expressions by the people of Florida through their legislative delegations.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(The memorial to Congress referred to follows:)

HOUSE MEMORIAL 2073

A memorial to the Congress of the United States objecting to the inclusion of the Suwannee River and its tributaries in "scenic river" legislation.

Whereas, the beautiful Suwannee River is a source of pride to those Florida citizens living near thereto as well as to all the citizens of Florida, having been immortalized in song, and

Whereas, this Legislature and the people of this state are aware of the benefits accruing to the state from this immortal river, and

Whereas, the Suwannee River, though having aesthetic and historical value, is also a useful and productive river of the state, and

Whereas, the Congress of the United States proposes to include the Suwannee River and its tributaries in "scenic river" legislation which would vest jurisdiction over it in the federal government, and

Whereas, this inclusion would impede the use and value of said river, as well as the conservational and recreational benefits that the citizens of Florida and visitors to this state have enjoyed for years, now, therefore, Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the Congress of the United States is hereby requested not to include the Suwannee River and its tributaries in "scenic river" legislation which would vest jurisdiction over it in the federal government.

Be it further resolved that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 2, 1967.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT T. PORTER, DIRECTOR, SUWANNEE RIVER CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Mr. PORTER. I am Robert T. Porter, director of the Suwannee River Citizens Association.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I have a statement to read.

We appreciate this opportunity to be present before you and to explain the position of our association. We are an independent, chartered organization, made up of thousands of members who are residents not only of the area immediately adjacent to the Suwannee River and its tributaries, but of the entire State of Florida, Georgia, and