

The bill directs the Secretary to issue regulations governing the discharge of litter, garbage, sludge, and other substances, other than oil and dredge spoil, from vessels whether such substance originate on the vessel or is transported by the vessel.

Before the Secretary issues any regulations he must consult with Defense and other interested Federal and State agencies and representatives of various interested industries.

The bill would authorize the Secretary to exempt certain classes of vessels.

Once the standards are issued, a program for certifying the adequacy of various devices will be initiated.

In addition, the Secretary of Transportation, operating through the U.S. Coast Guard, must also certify the device from a safety standpoint.

After the effective date of the regulations, it will be unlawful to pollute the navigable waters of the United States from vessels and to make any discharges from vessels into such waters, except in accordance with the regulations.

The bill establishes penalties for violations.

Detailed information about the problem to which H.R. 13923 and H.R. 16207 are directed is contained in the report, "Wastes from Watercraft," submitted to Congress in compliance with section 1 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended by the Clean Water Restoration Act of 1966.

OTHER PROVISIONS OF S. 2760 LAKE POLLUTION CONTROL AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION FROM ACID AND OTHER MINE DRAINAGE

Moving to the bottom of page 18 to the other provisions, I am not going to read that, Mr. Chairman, but this does describe in detail the provisions of S. 2760 with regard to lake pollution control and control of pollution from acid and other mine drainage.

These are vital provisions.

I would simply like to say in conclusion that I know this is a large order facing this committee to tackle these major bills.

Yet, I think this Congress has a wonderful opportunity to finish the work that was done in 1965 and 1966 with the Water Quality Act and with the Clean Waters Restoration Act. And I think if you will give us these tools to work with, that we can say with some confidence that we can move forward aggressively, working with the local communities, working with the States, in a unique partnership to clean up the lakes and the rivers and to protect the water resources of this Nation.

I believe I have the people here, Mr. Chairman, who can answer or try to answer any questions that you have, and we are delighted to be here this morning.

Mr. BLATNIK. Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. It is certainly a wide-ranging statement and certainly a statement that comes to grips with several important aspects of pollution, including financing which is a very troublesome problem.

Mr. Secretary, obviously, we will be able to ask some questions this morning, but obviously these different areas to which you have out