

The way I would like to put it, Governor, I know you will not object to the way I put it, is that New York is doing almost as good a job as New Hampshire! I know the Governor will not mind that, because he spent 4 years in New Hampshire at Dartmouth College.

The point I want to make is simply that the leadership the Governor has brought on a national level, through his very dramatic steps which have been taken in New York, has really helped us here at the national level in fighting this particular battle.

Mr. BLATNIK. Governor Rockefeller.

THE "WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1968"

STATEMENT OF HON. NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; ACCOMPANIED BY DR. HOLLIS INGRAHAM, COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH; JOSEPH H. MURPHY, COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; AND RONALD W. PEDERSEN, PROGRAM ASSOCIATE, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, STATE OF NEW YORK

Governor ROCKEFELLER. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Cleveland, and gentlemen: I appreciate what was said, Mr. Chairman, about New Hampshire. I was only sorry they did not recognize it 4 years ago. [Laughter.]

May I say that I have with me the Commissioner of Health, Dr. Hollis Ingraham, on my right; the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance, Mr. Murphy, also on my right; and Mr. Ronald Pedersen, a member of my staff sitting with me on my left.

I would like to say that the citizens of the State of New York, Mr. Chairman, are very grateful to you and to the members of your committee for the leadership in this field, which has resulted in our being able to undertake a program of major significance to the future of the State. And so it is in that spirit of gratitude and appreciation that I am delighted to have the opportunity of being here again before you, on your invitation, to testify on H.R. 15907, the proposed Water Quality Improvement Act of 1968.

If I may go through a little of this material I have, and then go informally to any questions.

This subcommittee and the Senate Subcommittee on Air and Water Pollution have been greatly responsible for the increased national awareness of the need to take prompt and comprehensive action to combat water pollution.

CONTRACT APPROACH CONSTRUCTIVE

A year ago, when I appeared before this subcommittee, I pointed out that recommended appropriation of fiscal 1968 was only 55 percent of the authorization, and, in my opinion, woefully inadequate.

At that time I also recognized, however, the difficult fiscal situation faced by the Federal Government.

I observed that consideration might therefore be given to new mechanisms which would make it possible for the Federal Government to finance its share of constructing sewage treatment plants at a more rapid rate.