

programs among Federal programs. Both the Water Quality Act of 1965, Public Law 89-234, and the Clean Water Restoration Act of 1966, Public Law 89-753, evidence your committee's diligence in seeking legislation to control water pollution.

NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The Water Quality Improvement Act of 1968, under consideration here today, is a necessary addition to the 1965 and 1966 acts.

This bill fulfills the promise of the sizable, but quite necessary, authorizations placed on the statute books in the 1966 act. In the new subsection 8(j) proposed there, the total cost of waste treatment plants and interceptor sewers would be financed by bonds. Federal assistance to a waste treatment project would not be paid by a lump sum grant as in the past, but by a series of annual payments over the term of the bond issue. These payments would cover the interest and amortization of principal costs on the Federal portion of the project.

By stretching Federal payments over a period of years, the number of projects fully aided by Federal funds could be increased tenfold or better.

We all know the problem of obtaining appropriations to match the increasing authorizations of the many progressive social measures which Congress enacted in the 89th Congress—not only to obtain clean water, but to better education, to build housing and other urban facilities as well.

In water pollution control, however, the budget restraint has been particularly severe. The heart of the Clean Waters Restoration Act of 1966 was a sizable stepup in the authorization for waste treatment facilities construction grants from \$150 million in fiscal 1967 to \$450 million in fiscal 1968 and to \$700 million in fiscal 1969. Budgetary restraint, however, has caused only \$203 million of the \$450 million fiscal 1968 authorization to be appropriated, and only \$225 million of the \$700 million fiscal 1969 appropriation to be requested by the President.

In short, the intent of this committee and of the Congress to see a threefold increase in waste treatment construction this fiscal year and nearly a fivefold increase next fiscal year, over the amount of construction in fiscal 1967, has been nullified.

The scarcity of Federal funds has created consternation in state water pollution control agencies and local sewerage commissions across the nation.

Pursuant to the Water Quality Act of 1965, high water quality standards have been set and approved in over half of the 50 States. To meet these standards, new waste treatment plants must be built, existing facilities must be improved, thousands of miles of interceptor sewers must be laid. Yet the Federal funds promised by the 1966 act to help finance this construction have not been forthcoming.

FACILITIES NEEDS IN WISCONSIN

In my own State of Wisconsin, the backlog of \$30 million of waste treatment facility construction awaiting Federal assistance when the 1966 act was passed has increased over the past year and a half to \$45 million. That's right—at this time the State of Wisconsin has applica-