

S. 3206 does envision a realistic approach to the problem—funding. By setting up 30 year interest-free loans available to the Standard Metropolitan Statistical areas and those population areas of at least 125,000 the contractual obligations could be more easily met by that public agency, which needs this federal money so desperately. I will not belabor the point of this need. The Nation is pretty well informed on the tremendous task ahead of it. The cities have the very disrupting problem of; separating storm and sanitary sewers; developing the essential technology and sophistication of methods to handle the myriad of chemicals now being introduced into our waters as waste effluents; treating the tremendous amounts of waste caused by an ever-expanding human population; and too, solving the aforementioned problems involving thermal pollution.

Mr. Chairman, it behooves this government to step in and take hold of the reins and guide the efforts of the United States toward these solutions and to maintain ceaseless vigilance over all of our waste discharges. The five steps that would be authorized in H.R. 15907 to fund the financial requirements of the borrowing municipalities, and other areas eligible to receive such funds, would provide a ways and means of alleviating much of the funding burden that is so painfully evident to our own government in the Vietnam situation.

We have seen estimates of the cost of making our waterways clean again amount to \$20 billion. The \$3.4 billion that had been set up to be spent through fiscal year 1971 must be appropriated to enable us to see the light of day in this tremendous task ahead of us. Too, we appreciate the extension of time allotted for the estuarine study as covered by the Section 5(a) amendment, as well as the provisions for research and training that are contained in Section 6. In Section 5(c) (3) may we suggest the word *conservation* to replace "preservation," so that part (3) reads: "Recommendations for comprehensive national program for the conservation study, use, and development of estuaries of the nation, and the respective responsibility which should be assumed by Federal, State, and local governments and by public and private interests." The word "preservation" to us means more of the sanctuary connotation that could mean such areas would remain inviolate to any human visitation. We feel that conservation, which provides for a wise use program of our renewable natural resources, is by far the better designation in this situation.

The Sport Fishing Institute wishes to go on record as solidly behind the intent and purposes of H.R. 15907 as being in the greatest public interest to America, with consideration given our suggestions, noted above, as strengthening measures.

Sincerely,

PHILIP A. DOUGLAS,  
*Executive Secretary.*

POSITION OF MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ON THE  
"WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1968"

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, D.C., April 22, 1968.

HON. GEORGE H. FALLON,  
*Chairman, House Committee on Public Works,*  
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN FALLON: Enclosed is a copy of a letter and statement I received from the Director of the Massachusetts Division of Water Pollution Control expressing his opposition to several features of H.R. 15907, which I understand is scheduled for hearings this week.

Mr. McMahon has requested that I forward his position to you and requests that it be given every consideration by the Committee.

With my very best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

SILVIO O. CONTE,  
*Member of Congress.*

[Enclosures.]