

section of S.B. 2760 and which have also been referred to the Committee on Public Works.

Summary.—The Huron River Watershed Council supports the establishment of a Federal Program of Research and Demonstration for the Control of Pollution in Lakes. At a time when real progress is being made on the control of pollution from large point sources—industry and municipalities—through the development and enforcement of Water Quality Standards, Congress needs to take action to develop programs that deal with lake pollution. Such programs must focus first on stimulating and assisting residents of inland lake communities and local governmental bodies and agencies to undertake cooperative planning and organized activities to bring about broad understanding and constructive local action programs of care, development and utilization of each inland lake as a natural resource and community asset. Secondly, a research program aimed at improving pollution control technology as it applies to lakes needs to be undertaken. Only *after* the Federal Government has been assured that the forces which originally brought about the deterioration of a lake have been eliminated and *after* it has been shown that a local lake community is organized to deal with lake management on long-term basis, should the Federal Government assist in financing specific remedial measures to improve the quality of a lake.

I. THE HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

The Huron River Watershed Council is an organization of local governments interested in promoting the wise and orderly use of the Huron River as a natural resource.

The Council was organized in 1965 under Public Act 253 (1964) of the State of Michigan, which provides the legal basis for representative water planning and management agencies. The Council replaced the Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee which was established in 1958.

The Council has served as a model for INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION and has been cited in many of the national information media, including *The Big Water Fight* by the League of Women Voters Educational Fund and in two filmstrips on Water Management distributed by University Media, Inc.

The Council has given top priority to the development of a demonstration program for the coordination of public and private forces on inland lake and shoreland management.

II. THE PROBLEM IN THE HURON RIVER BASIN

The 353 natural and artificial lakes of the upper Huron River Basin constitute one of the major water resources in the Detroit Metropolitan Area. Totalling nearly 24,000 acres, these lakes comprise about 4 percent of the total area of the Huron River Watershed. The shores and surrounding areas of these lakes are increasingly being used as year-round homesites for people who can commute to work in the Pontiac, Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor, or even the Wayne County areas, on the major new expressways. At the same time, this area of the Huron River Basin has a potential for a wide range of recreational opportunities for the rapidly expanding regional population with more money, leisure time and mobility.

1. Management needs

The increased utilization of inland lakes and shoreland for private homesites and the pressures for more usage for public recreation are creating critical problems. With a few exceptions, most of the suitable lake frontage and shoreland has already been developed or is designated for development (platted). Little or no regulation in the past has resulted in parcels of land that are often not large enough to accommodate the dwelling, water-well, septic tank and drain field, automobile parking and reasonable separation from neighboring dwellings. In many cases the natural beauty of the lake and shoreline has been destroyed. Health hazards are a constant threat due to the inadequacy or improper operation of individual waste water disposal systems.

Increased public recreational use has brought new problems to the area. Public recreational use of the lakes and shoreland is not always compatible with the private use of the same areas by local homeowners. At peak use periods there are conflicts for the use of the lake surface between fishermen, swimmers, water skiers, high-speed boaters, skin divers and others. The public shoreland support areas, such as public fishing sites and launching areas, are often unable to handle the large numbers of people wishing to use them.